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Friends of the National Libraries  
Saving the nation's written and printed heritage



Annual Report 2023





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Administrative Information

Friends of the National Libraries	PO Box 4291, Reading, Berkshire RG8 9JA
Founded 1931   Registered Charity Number: 313020	www.fnl.org.uk
	🐦 @FNL313
	admin@fnlmail.org.uk
<hr/>	
Royal Patron:	The Former Prince of Wales
Chair:	Mr Geordie Greig FSA
Honorary Treasurer:	Mr Charles Sebag-Montefiore CBE FSA FCA
Secretary:	Mrs Nell Hoare MBE FSA FIIC
Membership Accountant:	Mr Paul Celerier FCA
Honorary Expert Adviser:	Dr Matthew Payne FSA

Trustees	Scottish Representative
Ex-officio	Dr Iain Gordon Brown FSA FRSE
Professor Pedr ap Llwyd	
National Librarian, National Library of Wales	
Dr Jessica Gardner	
University Librarian, University of Cambridge	
Sir Roly Keating	
Chief Executive, British Library	
Mr Richard Ovenden OBE FSA	
Bodley’s Librarian, Bodleian Libraries	
Mrs Amina Shah FRSE	
National Librarian, National Library of Scotland	
Tina Morton (from August 2023)	
Secretary, Historic Manuscripts Commission	
Elected	
Mrs Joanna Barker MBE	
Mr Stephen Clarke FSA	
Mrs Sybil Kretzmer	
Mr Richard Linenthal FSA	
Mr Mark Stevens	
Mr Mark Storey	
Mrs Joan Winterkorn MBE FSA	
	Independent Auditors
	Knox Cropper LLP
	65 Leadenhall Street, London EC3A 2AD
	Investment Advisers
	Cazenove Capital Management
	1 London Wall Place, London EC2Y 5AU
	Principal Bankers
	CAF Bank Limited
	25 King’s Hill Avenue, West Malling
	Kent ME19 4JQ
	Design
	72ptdesign.com



## Annual Report for 2023

A total of 60 grants were offered to applicants during the year, the same number as in 2022. However, not all the recipients were successful at auction, with the result that the actual number of grants awarded for confirmed acquisitions was reduced to 46 in the year. The aggregate value of these grants was £261,661 which was financed by named (or restricted) funds. A total of 17 grants were awarded to county archive services; eight to national libraries, museums or heritage bodies; eight to non-national museums; seven to specialist collecting institutions and six to university libraries.

Of these, 45 are reported in this report as one purchase supported by FNL during 2023 had not been completed in time for inclusion in this report. In addition, two grants (the Garden Museum and Holst Victorian House) were accounted for in 2022, but as the purchases were not completed in time for inclusion in the 2022 report, they are recorded in this year's report.

Opposite: Title page of the autograph working manuscript of the ballet music for *The Perfect Fool*. An autograph presentation inscription pasted in: 'This copy ..... is the property of Mrs Louise Dyer to whom it is presented with all cordial greetings by her grateful friend Gustav Holst July 19 1929' (see page 42). Courtesy of Holst Victorian House.

Ballet from Opera  
*The Perfect Fool*  
Invocation

Dance of the Spirits of Earth  
Dance of the Spirits of Water  
Dance of the Spirits of Fire



Gustav Holst  
St Paul's Girls' School  
Brook Green  
W.C.

1918





## PRINCIPAL GRANTS FROM THE OPERATING FUND

A total of 36 grants were financed from FNL's Operating Fund, the total value of which was £180,389.

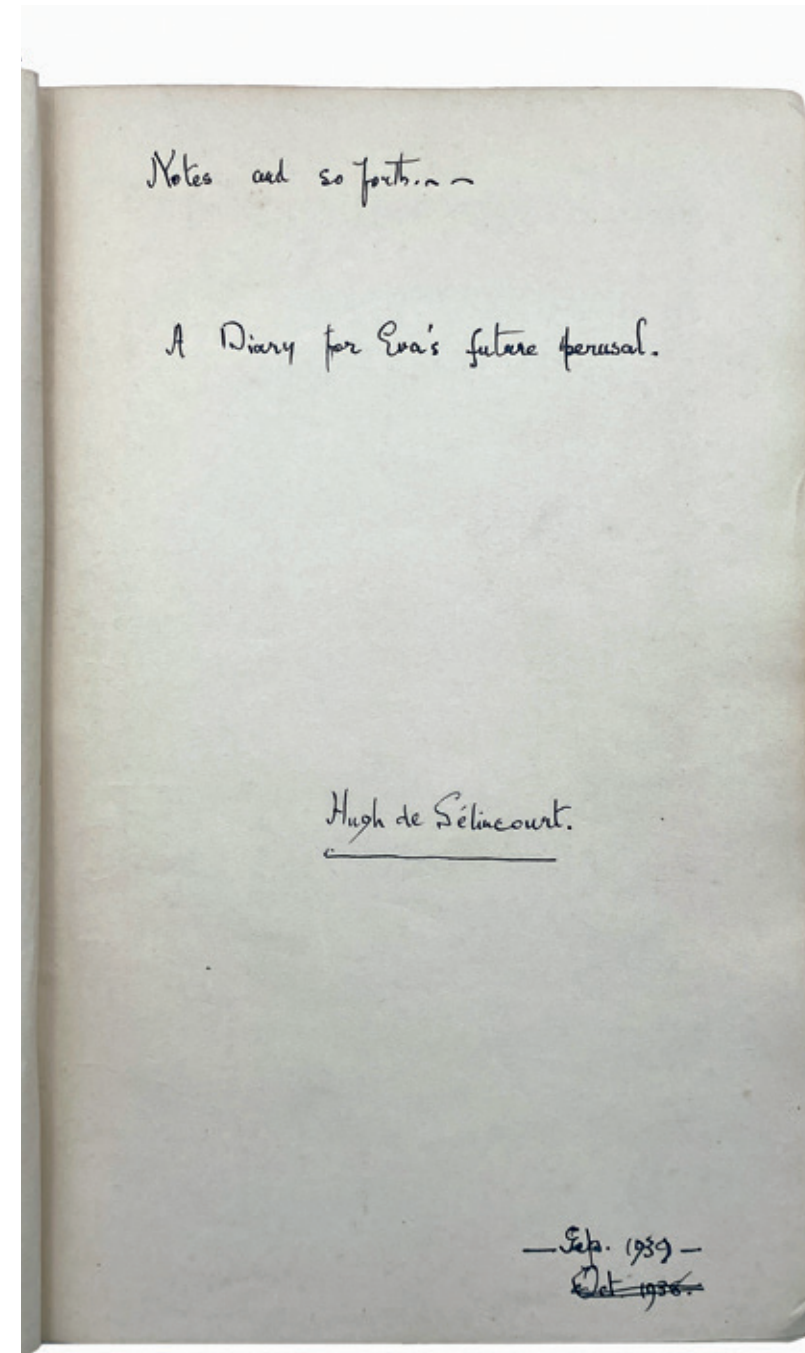
Three grants of £20,000 were awarded, one of which was to the major new museum in Blackpool, Showtown, enabling them to acquire the **Charlie Cairoli Collection (1780 to the present)**. Circus was one of Blackpool's most popular entertainments and this acquisition fills a significant gap in the museum's collections. The second was to the National Library of Scotland for **four letters of David Hume to Horace Walpole, 1766**, all of which refer to Hume's quarrel with the Genevan philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau. The third grant of £20,000 was to Greater Manchester Archives, for the purchase of the **Assheton of Middleton Estate archive (12th-19th century)**: this was financed equally from the Operating Fund and John R Murray Fund and is also mentioned in the John R Murray Fund section below.

Samuel Johnson's Birthplace Museum was able to acquire an **autograph letter written by Dr Samuel Johnson to Sophia Thrale (24 July, 1783)** thanks to a grant of £17,000. This charming correspondence shows Johnson's affectionate and paternal side and a softness not often associated with him. Continuing the correspondence theme, a grant of £3,204 helped the Royal Society to purchase a **collection of letters and manuscripts relating to the Herschel family**. The letters, up to 1,000 of them, shed light on the 'next generation' of family scientists. The collection contains significant material relating to the women of the Herschel family which has not been studied before and was previously absent from the Royal Society's Herschel collections. Dorset History Centre acquired a **letter from Thomas Hardy to Mr A C de Lafontaine regarding the construction of Athelhampton Church in 1860/61** (January 11, 1917). The letter confirms the author's close involvement in the planning and construction of the church, plans (probably drawn by Hardy) of which FNL helped Dorset History Centre to acquire in 2022. The National Library of Scotland bought an **autograph letter (1880) from Robert Louis Stevenson**



to **James Cunningham** (grant of £1,875) in which he reveals his justification for his take on Robert Burns in a recent article, and which foreshadows his plans to travel extensively.

There was a strong theme of family and estate archives and related material in our grants this year, with nine falling within this category. Three grants, to **Derbyshire Record Office, Greater Manchester Archives** and **Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre** are mentioned in the following section as the cost was also shared equally between the Operating Fund and the John R Murray Fund. Among the other grants in this category was one to the South West Heritage Trust (Devon Archives Centre) covering the full cost (£1,105) of **eleven volumes of estate accounts relating to the Seale family estate of Dartmouth 1745-1831**. West Sussex Record Office was awarded a grant of £3,500 towards their purchase of **deeds and papers of Great House Estate West Hoathly 1453-1964**. Royal Berkshire Archives (formerly Berkshire Record Office and re-named in 2023, its 75th year) was awarded a grant of £768 for the full purchase cost of an **18th-century estate map for Basildon, Berkshire**, which joins the archive of Basildon Park in its collections. Kresen Kernow (Cornwall Archives and Local Studies Service) was also awarded £4,000 to cover the full cost of purchasing the **manorial records of Arwenack and other associated Manors near Falmouth**, 17th to 19th centuries, which join their substantial collections relating to this estate.



Above: Diary of Hugh de Sélincourt, front page.

Left: Partition relating to the manor of Gravetye and houses and land in West Hoathly, East Grinstead, Tandridge and Lingfield, 1644 (see page 102).

Images courtesy of West Sussex Record Office.

Diaries and autobiographical material featured in a number of grants. The Foundling Museum acquired a very rare printed account by a female foundling ***The Child She Bare*, by a Foundling [Hannah Brown], 1919**. FNL's grant of £2,000 to the Foundling Museum was entirely covered by a generous donation from a FNL member. In **Eric Walrond's *Tropic Death* (1926)**, the author reflects on his experience of living within the British Empire as a Caribbean man. The volume was acquired by Wiltshire Museum (grant of £7,000), in the county in which Walrond eventually settled. The **Diary of Hugh de Sélincourt, 1939-1940**, with his detailed descriptions of life at this early stage of the Phoney War was acquired (grant of £1,200) by West Sussex Record Office to join other volumes of his diary. Finally, a grant of £2,500 helped the National Library of Scotland to purchase an **autograph diary excerpt of Robert Louis Stevenson (May-July 1872)**. Such diary fragments come to market rarely, this four-page manuscript was written when Stevenson was 21 and studying law in Edinburgh.



Many smaller grants were made towards the purchase of items or collections of local interest. Among these were: Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Archives for **19 plans and elevations of His Majesty’s Theatre, Aberdeen, dated 1905, drawn by Frank Matcham** (grant of £500); Camden Archives for a **map of St Pancras Parish, by Edmund Daw 1854** (grant of £943); Kresen Kernow bought **St Minver Parish, Cornwall, Surveyors of the Highways Accounts, 1768-1794** (grant of £550); Shropshire Archives acquired a **collection of 17th- and 18th-century deeds** (grant of £1,300) and Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre purchased the 1920s’ **accounts of Swindon Town Football Club** (grant of £450). This grant might not have been large but it has brought added benefits, having prompted a collaboration between the History Centre, Wiltshire Museum and Swindon Library.

The earliest known European illustration of an orangutan, a native species of Borneo, now figures in the collections of the Royal College of Physicians’ Heritage Library, thanks to a grant of £2,500 towards the purchase of **Captain Daniel Beeckman’s, A Voyage to and from the Island of Borneo, in the East Indies, 1714.**

The smallest grant awarded during the year (£307) was to the Captain Cook Memorial Museum in Whitby for a **manuscript navigation workbook and journal (1812) by T. Hugill with manuscript navigation workbook by W.P. Shuckburgh (1811).** These two manuscripts, whilst written 50 years after Cook’s apprentice days, are indicative of the levels of sophisticated study expected of those who aspired to command at sea and reflect Whitby’s reputation as a ‘nursery of seamen’.



An indenture between Richard Duke of Gloucester and Robert Legg, 20 February 1474 (see page 38). Courtesy of Greater Manchester County Record Office.

GRANTS FROM THE JOHN R MURRAY FUND

Five grants to a total of £29,500 were awarded from this fund during the year.

Three grants were awarded for the acquisition of important family and estate material; half of each of these grants was funded by the John R Murray Fund and half by FNL’s Operating Fund. A grant of £20,000 helped Greater Manchester County Record Office acquire the **Assheton of Middleton Estate archive (12th-19th century)**, an outstanding example of a medieval family archive with nationally important items relating to the English Civil War, the Middleton Bowmen, the Black Knight, and the royal court of the Plantagenets.

Derbyshire Record Office purchased the **records of the Manor of Duffield Fee (1595-1936)** thanks to a grant of £15,000. This archive had been on deposit since the 1970s and, thanks to FNL’s support, it will now remain there and be accessible in perpetuity. In addition, a grant of £6,867, enabled Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre to acquire (for a total cost of £13,734) various **documents relating to the Eyre-Matcham family of Newhouse, Whiteparish, Wiltshire (1661-1830s).**

There was a travel theme to two grants. The first, a grant of £3,213, enabled Griffith Institute, University of Oxford, to acquire an **album containing a selection of watercolours and drawings made by Edward William Lane (1801-1876).** In his day, Lane was the leading European Arabic, and although his works are primarily concerned with the modern Egyptians, they are of great value to Egyptologists.

The second, a grant of £1,920, allowed Jane Austen’s House, Chawton, to acquire a **biographical manuscript of Admiral Sir Francis Austen (1774-1865)**, Jane Austen’s brother, and an **album of 73 topographical sketches of the West Indies and Canada** by Francis and his daughter, Cassandra Eliza Austen (1814-49). These are significant additions to the museum’s collections.

GRANTS FROM THE B H BRESLAUER FOUNDATION FUND

Five grants were awarded from this fund to a total value of nearly £46,000 enabling the acquisition of very varied and significant items.

The previously unknown manuscript ‘**A pamflyt compiled of Cheese, contayninge the differences, nature, qualities, and goodness, of the same**’, c. 1580s, has been added to the Designated Cookery Collection at University of Leeds Libraries thanks to a grant of £8,000. It is probably the first comprehensive academic study of a single foodstuff to be written in the English language.

A uniquely surviving example of large-format colour printing from pre-Revolutionary France, **Perdoux’s *La Folie des hommes, ou le monde à rebours*, 1783**, joins Cambridge University Library’s outstanding collection of colour printed volumes thanks to a grant of £6,250. Only one other example of Perdoux’s printing is held in any of the major UK collections.

The ***Missale Romanum*, 1623** has returned to Moseley Old Hall thanks to a grant of £4,504 to the National Trust. Its original owner was John Huddleston (1608-98), chaplain to the Whitgreave family of Moseley Old Hall, who was instrumental in bringing Charles II to Moseley Old Hall after his escape following the Battle of Worcester in September 1651.

The ***Manuale quoddam secundum usum matris ecclesie Eboracensis***, printed in Rouen in 1530 for John Gachet in York, has been in Yorkshire since it was first imported from France nearly 500 years ago. A grant of £13,716 has ensured that it will remain in York Minster in perpetuity.

GRANT FROM THE PHILIP LARKIN FUND

One grant was awarded from the Larkin Fund, towards the acquisition of the substantial **archive of Raymond Chandler, 1888-1959** (£20,000 to the Bodleian Libraries), ensuring that the collection remains intact and will be permanently accessible to the researchers and the public.

GRANT FROM THE UNWIN TRUST FUND

Two enormously generous donations were received from the Unwin Charitable Trust, which enabled FNL to establish this new fund in 2023. The first grant was awarded from the fund at the very end of 2023, towards the acquisition of a very significant **archive of 120 letters written by Georgina Hogarth to Charles Kent (1867 to 1897)** (£2,782 to the Charles Dickens Museum, London). It is described as ‘a game-changing body of material’ that has significant research potential.



Letters written by Georgina Hogarth to Charles Kent (1867-1897; see page 26).  
© Christie’s and courtesy of the Charles Dickens Museum, London.



## Acquisitions by Gift and Purchase

Where items were acquired at auction the all-in cost of the purchase is given rather than the hammer price.

### FOR ABERDEEN CITY AND ABERDEENSHIRE ARCHIVES

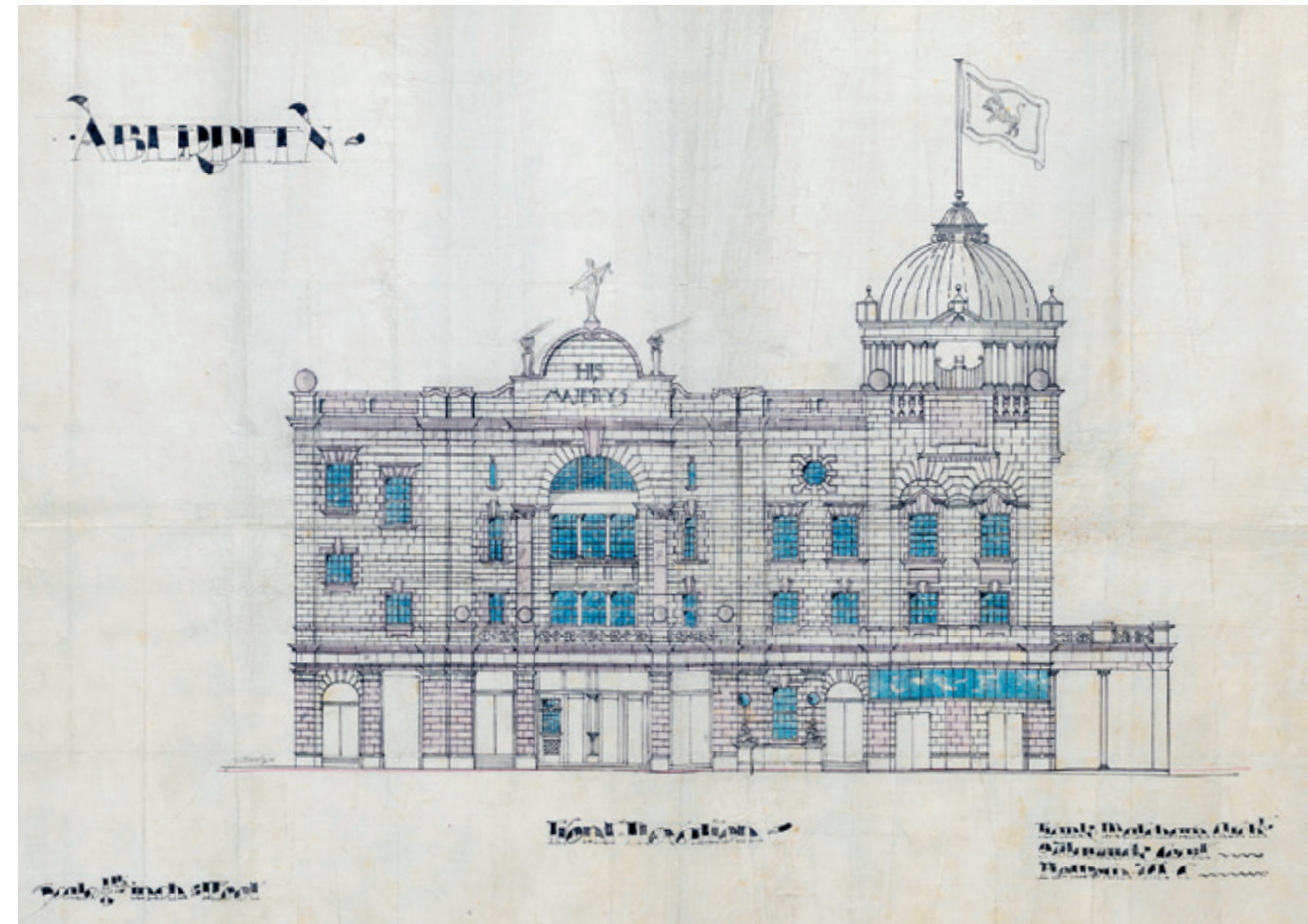
**Nineteen plans of His Majesty's Theatre, Aberdeen, 1905, drawn by Frank Matcham, Architect. Bought from a private vendor for £1,200 with the aid of a grant of £500 from Friends of the National Libraries.**

*Phil Astley, City Archivist, writes:* With an audience capacity of 1,400 people, the category-A listed His Majesty's Theatre is the largest theatre in the North-East of Scotland. Built at a cost of £35,000 and opened in 1906, it is still in use today and is one of Aberdeen's most iconic buildings occupying a prominent position in the city centre adjacent to two buildings of a similar vintage, the Central Library and St. Mark's Church. Together, the trio of structures are known locally as 'Education, Salvation and Damnation'.

Originally built as a replacement for the former Her Majesty's Theatre (now the Tivoli), His Majesty's was designed to fulfil the need for a larger venue and better staging facilities. Robert Arthur, the theatre impresario, submitted the plans for the new theatre in 1901. Construction started in 1904 and it opened on 3 December 1906 with a production of the pantomime *Little Red Riding Hood*.

The architect responsible for the plans of the theatre was Francis (or Frank) Matcham who specialised in the design of many well-known theatres and music halls, including the Hackney Empire, the Coliseum and the Palladium in London, as well as the Tower Ballroom, Blackpool, and the Theatre Royal, Norwich.

The drawings are very similar in appearance to those within the extensive series of building warrant plans for domestic and public buildings that are held by Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Archives. Until this acquisition, however, the archive did not hold any plans for His Majesty's Theatre.



Front elevation of His Majesty's Theatre, drawn by Frank Matcham. Courtesy of Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire Archives.

The plans were purchased in 1983 by a former employee of His Majesty's Theatre at a sale held in the Grand Central Cinema, George Street, Aberdeen. They were part of a much larger lot comprising many items owned by the Donald family (the previous owners of the theatre). The purchaser was initially unaware of the presence of the plans and it was not until some years later that he discovered them.



## FOR THE BODLEIAN LIBRARIES, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

### Archive of Raymond Chandler. A private treaty purchase made with the aid of tax remission and of a grant of £20,000 from Friends of the National Libraries

*Susan Thomas, Head of Archives & Modern Manuscripts, writes:* With the generous support of the Friends of the National Libraries, the Bodleian Libraries is delighted to have purchased the papers of the great American-British writer, Raymond Chandler.

The Chandler archive is substantial, consisting of c.130 boxes of material. The working papers of two of Chandler's agents form the core of the archive: Brandt & Brandt in the US, and Helga Greene in the UK. Greene – Chandler's fiancée at the time of his death – inherited his estate, and so the archive also includes a good tranche of personal papers, as well as personal correspondence between the two during the final years of Chandler's life.

The business correspondence (including original or draft letters by Chandler) offers good insights into Chandler and his writing process: he often dictated letters late at night whilst drunk or unable to sleep, and the letters frequently veer off into reflective soliloquies. The collection also includes important literary papers, such as: two surviving working notebooks (many were destroyed after the death of Chandler's wife, Cissy); drafts and fair copies of poems and short stories; 300 discarded typescript pages from *The Long Goodbye*; and three film scripts of the acrimonious collaboration with Alfred Hitchcock for *Strangers on a Train*. Finally, the archive is an excellent source of pictorial evidence of Chandler's life, with around 140 photographs of Chandler from babyhood until the last year of his life. The images capture Chandler as a boy at Dulwich College, in war-time uniform, at the oil wells and alongside other writers. There are also images of other significant people in his life, such as his wife, Cissy, and Helga Greene.



Raymond Chandler in RAF uniform, First World War (unknown photographer).  
Courtesy of the Bodleian Libraries, University of Oxford.

The Chandler archive is a much-valued part of the Bodleian's literary holdings, with much of the material having been cared for by the Library since 1983 and used in scholarly and public contexts ever since. The archive also connects with our wider archive holdings, and especially the archives of Stephen and Natasha Spender, who came to know Chandler towards the end of his life.

The FNL's early support of our fundraising campaign gave us important momentum and helped us establish a strong foundation from which to work towards our funding goal. We are also grateful to several other supporters who helped make the acquisition of the archive possible including: the National Heritage Memorial Fund, the ACE/V&A Purchase Grant Fund and the Friends of the Bodleian Library. It is wonderful to conclude 2023 knowing that the long-term future of the archive is secure and that the material will continue to be accessible to scholars and the public for many generations to come.

## FOR CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY LIBRARY

Pierre-Fiacre Perdoux (1743-1808), *La folie des hommes, ou, Le monde à rebours* (Orléans, Perdoux, 1783). Bought from Hunersdorff Rare Books for £12,500 with the aid of a grant of £6,250 from Friends of the National Libraries [B H Breslauer Foundation Fund]

Emily Dourish, Deputy Keeper of Rare Books and Early Manuscripts, writes: Cambridge University Library is very grateful to the Friends of the National Libraries for its grant enabling the acquisition of this uniquely surviving example of large format colour printing from pre-Revolutionary France. It comprises a composite sheet of paper almost 1.5 metres long, woodblock printed in four sections and pasted together. The images are charmingly simple, using four colours stencilled over a line drawing with captions in rhyming couplets explaining the scenes.

Pierre Perdoux was one of the leading printers of decorated papers in Orléans, with the majority of his surviving works being smaller format items on religious subjects, and some 500 examples of *papiers dominotés*. Only a handful of these oversized prints are preserved; they were frequently used as decoration around fireplaces or on the frame of a bed, and simply disposed of in the fire when soot rendered them too dirty to read. It is believed that this and a handful of other examples have survived as remainders from Perdoux's workshop, which would explain its excellent condition.

The illustration gives an insight into the structure and characteristics of society in the years just before the French Revolution by presenting the *Le Monde à rebours*, the world turned upside down. The trope, common since the Middle Ages, is expressed through the order of society and nature being inverted: the son teaches his father to read; the ox is pulled on a cart by two men; buildings are in the sky and the sun and moon drop down to earth. There is a preponderance of horses and donkeys in this particular set of images, suggesting perhaps an interest in the natural world over human politics. Other examples of this large format produced by Perdoux depicted the Great Flood, the Virgin of Sorrows and the Prodigal Son.

The characters of this world turned upside down are depicted in a colour palette which appears on many examples of printing from the period, in what is described as *l'imagerie orléanaise*. Perdoux's blocks were reused some 30 years later by Michel Rabier-Boulard, another printer from the same city, suggesting the ongoing appeal of gently mocking established society after the radicalism of the Revolution.

Despite being a prolific printer, with many examples of his work preserved in French museums and libraries, there is only one example of Perdoux's printing in any of the major UK collections. This unique survival finds a natural home at Cambridge as a complement to our outstanding collection of some 15,000 colour-printed volumes given by Norman Waddleton, covering all subjects and most parts of the world. It will also be an excellent demonstration item for students in our Historical Printing Room, for those studying French politics and society of the Revolutionary period, and for comparison to similar contemporary prints produced elsewhere in Europe at the same time held in our Broadside collections. *Le Monde à rebours* will be available for all to view on the Cambridge University Digital Library.



*La folie des hommes, ou, Le monde à rebours* (1783) and a detail (right).  
Courtesy of the Syndics of Cambridge University Library.





## FOR CAMDEN LOCAL STUDIES AND ARCHIVES CENTRE

**Map of St Pancras Parish, 1854, by Edmund Daw. Bought from Sworders Fine Art Auctioneers (10 October 2023, Lot 81) for £1,087, with the aid of a grant of £943 from Friends of the National Libraries [John R Murray Fund].**

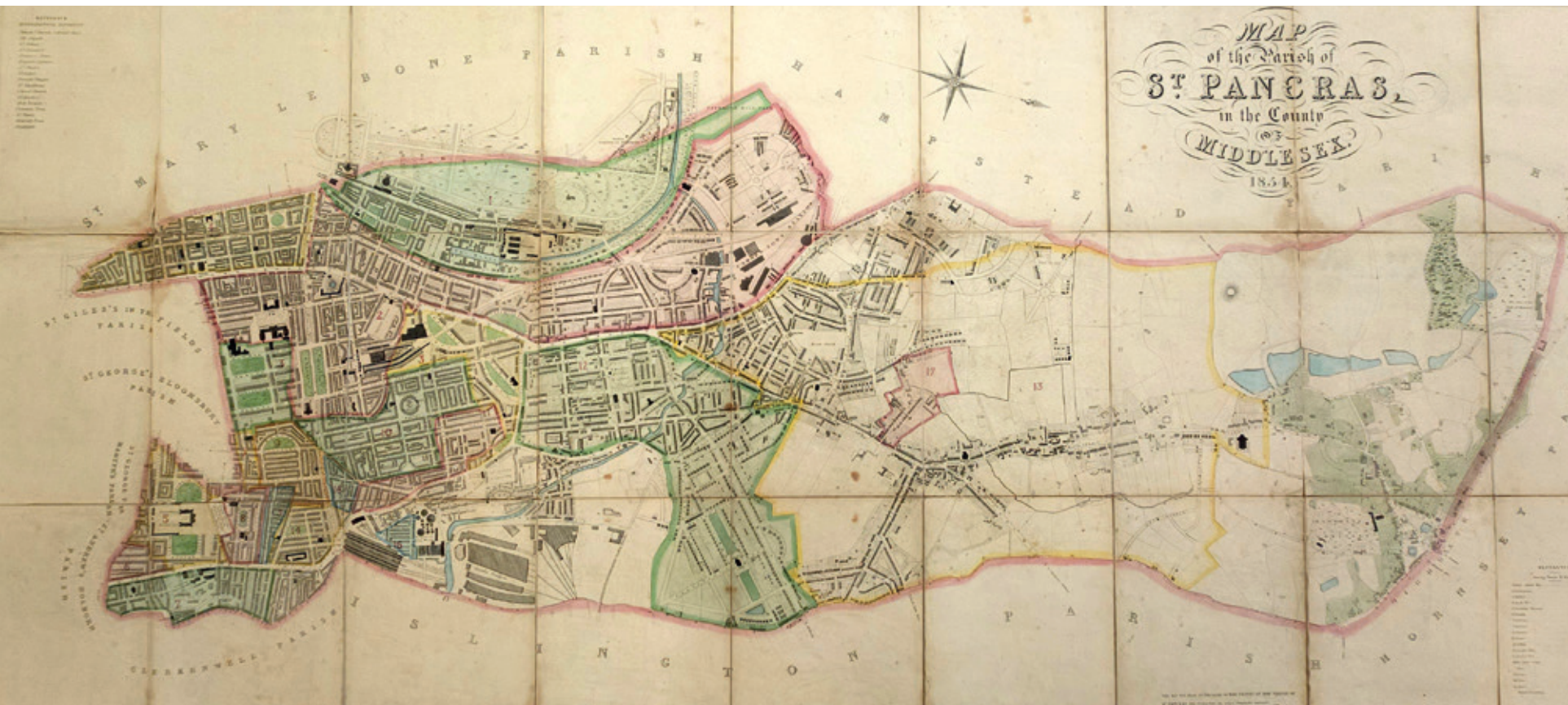
*Tudor Allen, Local Studies and Archives Manager, writes:* The collections of Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre are continually growing as we take in new historical material which becomes available. The vast majority of these accessions are donations but occasionally we purchase items. A special document recently came up for auction which we thought it important to try to acquire. This was a rare map of St Pancras which we did not already have – a hand-coloured Edmund Daw map of the parish dating from 1854. We had maps of the area by this cartographer for 1849 and 1860 but not this 1854 edition.

We expected the map to be well out of our price range so we put a bid in to the FNL. I am pleased to say the bid was successful and the FNL kindly agreed to provide 90 per cent of the cost. The total price was £1,087, but thanks to the FNL's generosity it cost the Archives Centre only £144.

Some major changes are quickly apparent from a comparison of the 1849 and 1854 maps. By the time of the later map the Smallpox and Fever hospitals shown at King's Cross in 1849 have gone, while King's Cross Station and its goods yard and hotel, absent from the earlier map, are all clearly shown on that of 1854. But there will be other less obvious differences and the new map will be invaluable for researchers trying to pinpoint dates of changes within the parish.

Though the map is in good condition it would be damaged by regular handling. We will therefore be scanning it and printing a facsimile for use by researchers.

We are very grateful to the FNL, without whose help we would not have been able to acquire this splendid addition to our collections.



1854 map of St Pancras Parish by Edmund Daw.  
Courtesy of Camden Local Studies and Archives Centre.



FOR THE CAPTAIN COOK MEMORIAL MUSEUM, WHITBY

Manuscript navigation workbook and journal (1812) by T. Hugill with manuscript navigation workbook by W.P. Shuckburgh (1811). Bought from Charles Miller Ltd. (14 November 2023, Lot 7) for £471, with the aid of a grant of £307 from Friends of the National Libraries.

*Richard Kornicki, Chair, writes:* As a young man in 1746, James Cook was apprenticed to master mariner and shipowner John Walker. In Cook’s time at Whitby, one in five of the population was an apprentice and the bulk of those would have been in marine trades. There was no grammar school in the town but mathematical and marine education were paramount in Whitby and Cook studied navigation in Walker’s house where he lived when not at sea.

Although the two manuscripts are half a century later than Cook’s apprentice days, they are indicative of the levels of sophisticated study expected of those who aspired to command at sea and reflect Whitby’s reputation as a ‘nursery of seamen’. They contain the theoretical basis of trigonometry and navigation, as well as complex worked examples of problems such as determining latitude by the meridian altitude of the moon, a star or a planet; navigation by plain, traverse or parallel sailing; and dealing with variation of the compass or watch.

Both are carefully transcribed as fair copies for future reference. Hugill’s includes a journal of a return voyage to Madeira with himself as a mate, possibly a practical exercise for him, with a manuscript chart of the voyage.

Hugill has signed the volume with the date 31 January 1812 giving Bilsdale as his address – this is only 20 miles from Whitby. His is a common North Yorkshire name and it is hoped that further research may identify him.

The Museum has no other marine educational materials and intends to use these as examples of the levels of astronomy, trigonometry and navigational science that underpinned the daily life of mariners at this period. Younger visitors will be astonished at the complex calculations and mastery of advanced trigonometry that their forebears were expected to command – without the aid of calculators, Apps or GPS systems.

Poignantly, Hugill’s workbook has, on the final leaf, a metrical setting of Psalm 28 ‘O Lord my rock to thee I cry’. When all other navigational aids have failed, prayer remains the resort of seamen in distress.



The navigation workbook and journal. © Charles Miller and courtesy of the Captain Cook Memorial Museum.

FOR DERBYSHIRE RECORD OFFICE

Records of the Manor of Duffield Fee (1597-1936). Bought from the owner for £35,000, with the aid of a grant of £17,500 from Friends of the National Libraries [of which, half was financed from the John R Murray Fund and half from the FNL General Fund].

*Sarah Chubb, Archives and Local Studies Manager, writes:* The records of the Manor of Duffield Fee consist of 55 volumes of court rolls (1597-1935), two volumes of manor customs and duties (c1596-18th century), enfranchisements, deeds and other papers (18th century-1936). The archive had been on deposit at Derbyshire Record Office since the 1970s, and when the owner notified us that he wished to sell the records, he was keen to arrange a private sale so that we could retain the archive in the county for the benefit of the people of Duffield. We are delighted that, with the generous support of the Friends of the National Library and the ACE/V&A Purchase Grant Fund, we were able permanently to secure the collection for Derbyshire.

The Manor of Duffield Fee was a unique institution in the county. It was in effect a collection of manors under the ownership of one lord, which were managed as one administrative unit (the Fee); the manors or sub-manors lying within the Fee were Alderwasley, Belper, Biggin, Duffield, Heage, Holbrook, Hulland, Idridgehay, Southwood, Turnditch and Windley. The Lords of the Manor of Duffield Fee have included the Duchy of Lancaster (1399-1628), the Corporation of London (1628-1629), the Leche/Leech family (1629-1673), Sir Ambrose Phillips (1674-1678), the Jodrell family (1678-1891) and the White family of Salle Park, Norfolk (from 1891).

A substantial portion of the Duffield Fee lies within the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, where Sir Richard Arkwright established the first water-powered cotton mills along the river. Predating the establishment of the mills by 175 years, the Duffield Fee manorial records therefore document land ownership and use in the pre- and post-industrial landscape. The archive is of particular relevance today, as climate change and environmental concerns drive research about water management, landscape changes, agriculture and river pollution in the Derwent Valley.

The records are not just about land use, however, but bring a human dimension to the story of the area. They contain unique information about local society and peace-keeping before the industrial communities grew up with the mills along the valley. Examples include John Harrison being fined for making an assault on Richard Duffield and drawing blood in 1604, and Mary Webster being fined for being a scold to her neighbours in 1626.

There is an active research community within the Derwent Valley, and the purchase has spurred new interest in the research possibilities of the Manor of Duffield Fee archive. We are extremely grateful for FNL's support, which has enabled us to keep this archive publicly accessible in Derbyshire.

Below and overleaf: detail of the records from the Manor of Duffield Fee. Courtesy of Derbyshire Record Office.





in this Court...  
the following Numbers...

Richard Paul Jones  
Ryder Jnr.

In this...  
contained the following Numbers:  
217, 218, 219, 220,  
221, 222, 223, 224, 225, 226, 227,  
228, 229, 230, 231, 232, 233,  
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## FOR CHARLES DICKENS MUSEUM, LONDON

Archive of 120 unpublished autograph letters from Georgina Hogarth to Charles Kent, dating from 1867 to 1895. Bought for £6,048 from Christie's (online auction 22135, December 2023, Lot 92) with the aid of a grant of £2,782 from Friends of the National Libraries [Unwin Trust Fund].

*Dr Cindy Sughrue, Director, writes:* Georgina Hogarth (1827-1917) is one of the most intriguing, yet little known, women of the Victorian age both in relation to her brother-in-law, the great writer Charles Dickens (1812-1870), but also in her own right as a single woman navigating the social constraints of the age to forge and maintain a stable position for herself.

Georgina moved into the Dickens household aged just 15 as lively company for the young family and to help her older sister, Catherine, in the running of the household. Over a period of nearly 30 years, Dickens and Georgina shared a home and became close friends. When the Dickens's marriage failed and Charles and Catherine separated, Georgina remained with Dickens as 'servant housekeeper' but also as confidante and advisor, a role she maintained until Dickens's death in 1870. Dickens described Georgina in his will as his 'truest and best friend' and made her guardian of his youngest child, as well as leaving her the modern equivalent of £1 million. Georgina was appointed co-executor of Dickens's will along with his close friend John Forster, and she was a key figure in safeguarding his reputation and legacy until her own death in 1917.

Charles Kent (1823-1902), the recipient of these letters, is also of significance for the Museum due to his lengthy friendship with both Charles Dickens and Georgina Hogarth. Kent was an English poet, biographer and journalist who became editor of *The Sun* newspaper and contributed to Dickens's weekly magazines, *Household Words* and *All the Year Round*. As this acquisition reveals, Kent and Georgina began writing to each other while Dickens was still alive, and were later able to share their profound grief on his sudden death, as well as discuss their subsequent efforts to preserve Dickens's reputation and promote his work.

A particularly moving letter, on mourning paper, is written on the first anniversary of Dickens's death, in which Georgina expresses that if it weren't supposed to be wicked to wish for one's own death, she would, as life is proving to be almost unbearable. Another letter talks about giving a keepsake, Dickens's penknife, to Kent, and another refers to Kent's plan to stage theatrical readings in Dickens's memory.

Georgina Hogarth was a major figure in Dickens's life and household, and although the Museum holds 23 letters from Georgina to a number of correspondents, these are largely brief administrative documents, with Georgina's voice featuring in only a small number. This collection of 120 letters is a game-changing body of material that will allow us to reassess Georgina's life, the domestic circumstances of the Dickens family and her friendship with Dickens in her own words, as well as illuminating her central role as a guardian of Dickens's reputation and legacy.

The letters have significant research potential and will enhance the Museum's primary research, temporary exhibitions and permanent displays.



A selection of the letters written by Georgina Hogarth to Charles Kent (1867-1897).  
© Christie's and courtesy of the Charles Dickens Museum, London.

FOR DORSET HISTORY CENTRE

Letter from Thomas Hardy to Alfred de Lafontaine of Athelhampton House, Dorset, 11 January 1917. Bought from Duke's of Dorchester (8 December 2023, Lot 21) for £4,680, with the aid of a grant of £1,600 from Friends of the National Libraries.

Sam Johnston, Service Manager for Archives and Records, writes: This single letter (accession 11995) ties Thomas Hardy's career as a budding architect to one of the key Dorset structures on which he is known to have worked. Athelhampton church, located some four miles east of Dorchester close to the elegant country house of the same name, was constructed in 1861-62. The plans for the church in Hardy's own hand were purchased by Dorset History Centre in 2022 with substantial support from the FNL (2022 Annual Report, p.36). Acquiring this letter (Vol V, p.198, of the *Collected Letters*), in which Hardy writes to Alfred de Lafontaine the then owner of Athelhampton, confirms the author's close involvement in the planning and construction of the church. It helps to inform us of Hardy's earlier incarnation as aspiring architect and draughtsman before the literary calling took over. It is particularly gratifying to have been able to acquire the plans and the letter in such quick succession, although the provenance in each case was very different. Hardy's appreciation of, and strong opinions on, the built environment were things that stayed with him throughout his life.

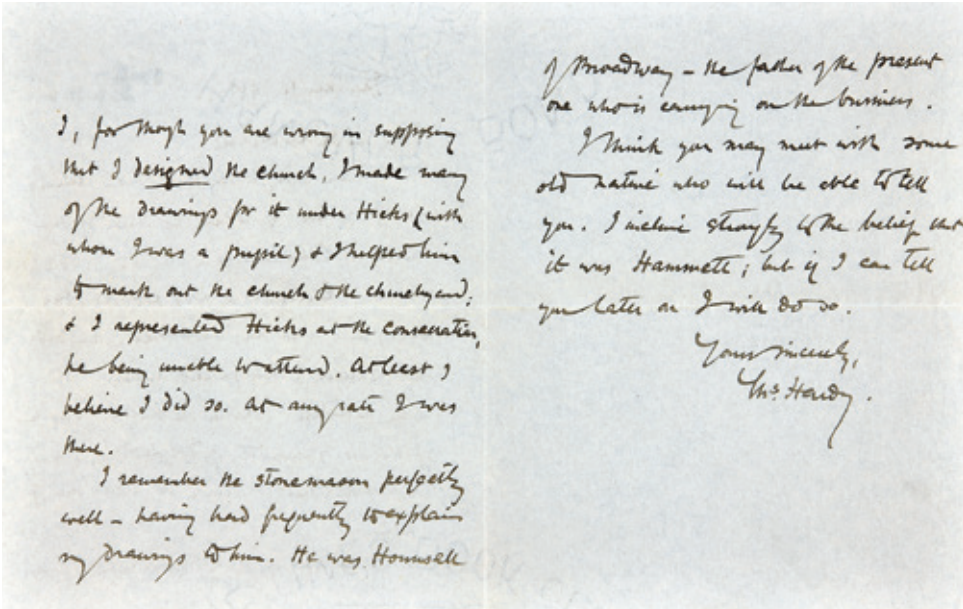


Right: Thomas Hardy, c.1885. Courtesy of Dorset Museum and Art Gallery (held by Dorset History Centre). Far right: Letter from Thomas Hardy to Alfred de Lafontaine of Athelhampton House, Dorset, 11 January 1917 (Accession 11995).  
Courtesy of Dorset History Centre.

In the letter, written from his home at Max Gate on 11 January 1919, Hardy apologises for failing to remember the name of the builder of Athelhampton Church in 1861/2 and goes on to comment that he should remember, 'for though you are wrong in supposing that I designed the church, I made many of the drawings for it under Hicks (with whom I was a pupil) & I helped him to mark out the church & the churchyard....at any rate I was there. I remember the stonemason...Hounsell of Broadway...I incline to the belief it was Hammett; but if I can tell you later on I will do so'. He concludes with a typically Hardyesque line 'I think you may meet with some old native who will be able to tell you'. Here was Hardy looking back over 55 years and at the height of his acclaim as a novelist and poet at his youthful experience as apprentice architect.

The letter will join the substantial UNESCO-inscribed Hardy archive at DHC. The service has raised sufficient funding to begin a long-anticipated cataloguing project in early 2024. This will bring all 150 or so boxes of the author's archives to greater prominence and accessibility via a full online catalogue.

Dorset History Centre is extremely grateful once again to the generosity of the Friends of the National Libraries and for its support and encouragement in acquiring this material.





## FOR THE FOUNDLING MUSEUM, LONDON

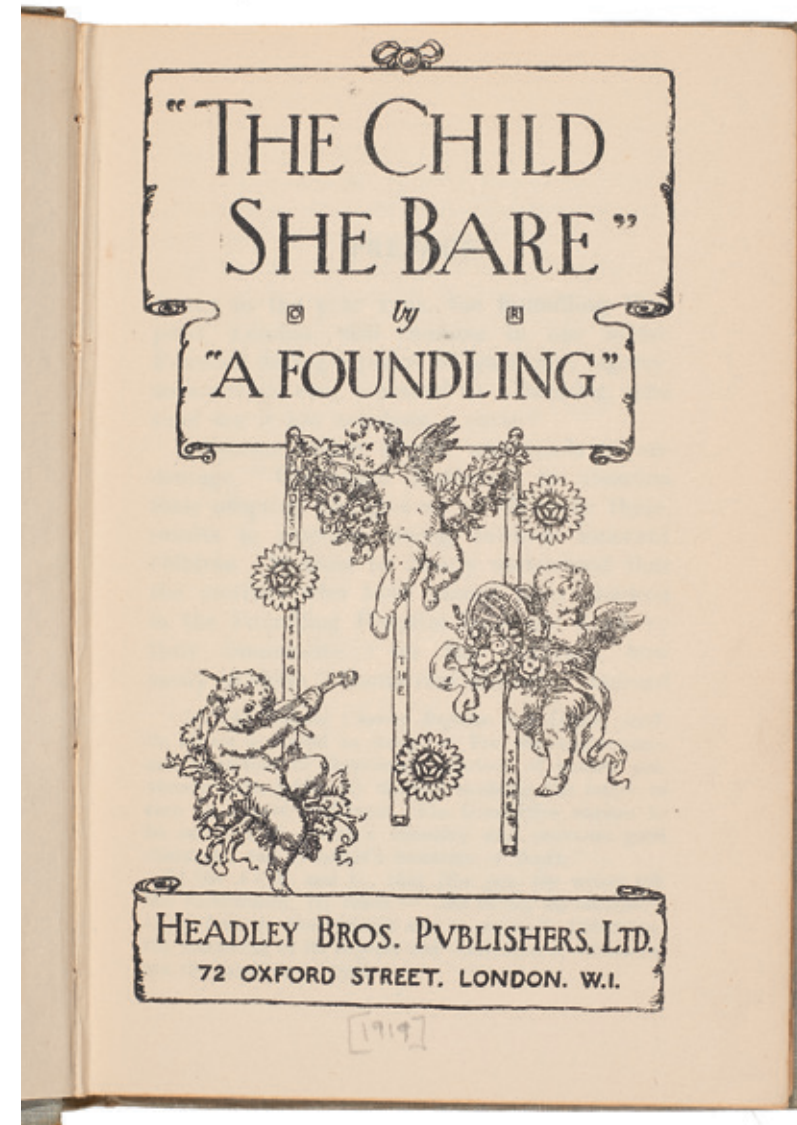
A first edition copy of *The Child She Bare* by A Foundling [Hannah Brown], 1919. Bought from Honey & Wax booksellers for £2,532, with the aid of a grant of £2,000 from Friends of the National Libraries [this grant was covered in full by a donation from a generous FNL member].

Alison Duke, Collections Manager, writes: Hannah Brown (1866-1973) entered the care of the London Foundling Hospital in 1866 as her mother, Emma Johnson, as a single mother had few other options to care for her child. After leaving the Hospital, Brown entered domestic service before having a happy marriage and a career late in life as a self-taught artist. The hardships of her early life led her to campaign for vulnerable children. In 1922, she was invited to make a submission to a Parliamentary Select Committee looking into recommendations for the protection of adopted and other care-experienced children. In 1919, Brown published an anonymous memoir of her time at the Foundling Hospital under the name of 'A Foundling'.

Brown's book is the only known first-hand account of a 19th-century foundling child. Such accounts are extremely rare and, in the first 180 years of the Foundling Hospital's existence, there are only two accounts of life at the Hospital from the perspective of a foundling child – Hannah Brown's and that of George King, an 18th-century foundling whose handwritten 'autobiography' is part of the Foundling collections.



Girls in the London Foundling Hospital schoolroom, 20th century. Courtesy of Coram.



Title page of *The Child She Bare* by a Foundling [Hannah Brown], 1919. Image © The Foundling Museum, London.

The Museum has created an archive of oral histories from former Foundling Hospital pupils, who grew up in the Hospital in the 20th century. By acquiring *The Child She Bare* we are now able to bridge the gap between the beginnings and final decades of the Foundling Hospital, and offer a fascinating comparison between the similarities and differences in the children's lives and experiences.

The Foundling Hospital story has been overwhelmingly told from a male perspective: only men could be governors until the 20th century; all bar one of the Hospital's 18th- and 19th-century portraits are of men, all are by male artists; all the 20th-century published accounts by former pupils are written by men. Having Brown's account significantly helps us to redress the balance and support the Museum's wider project better to represent women in our historic story and collection.

This acquisition has enabled us, for the first time, to bring Brown's remarkable life to the attention of our visitors and a small display is now on show in our Introductory Gallery. Supported by curatorial research from Rosie Canning, of the University of Southampton, and Dr Josie Orrell-Pearce, we have sourced images of Hannah Brown for this display alongside an account of her extraordinary life, with the volume of *The Child She Bare* taking centre stage.

## FOR THE GARDEN MUSEUM, LONDON

*Carnations Cultivated by Richard Hammond of Coddensham in the County of Suffolk, 1733* by Richard Hammond (1692-1773). Bought from Peter Harrington Rare Books for £14,000, with the aid of a grant of £4,000 from Friends of the National Libraries [John R Murray Fund].

***This grant was awarded in 2022 and accounted for in that year, but the purchase was not completed in time for inclusion in the 2022 Annual Report.***

Molly Prentice, Development Manager, writes: The Garden Museum is incredibly grateful to Friends of the National Libraries for their generous support with this acquisition – a unique volume and incredible historical resource. The *Carnations* manuscript provides a fascinating, personal insight into early 18th-century floristry and religious belief, from shoemaker and amateur botanist, Richard Hammond.

*Carnations* is a significant acquisition for the Garden Museum and will be displayed as part of our permanent collection. The museum is rich in papers from the 19th- and early 20th-century botanical and horticultural clubs but material is very sparse from the 1700s. There is relatively little information about early florists and few records exist detailing the societies to which they belonged. As such, this manuscript is incredibly rare and invaluable in illuminating this period of the history of horticulture in Britain and beyond.

Hammond's watercolour illustrations, whilst naïve, are beautiful, remaining vibrant and intact. *Carnations* records his experiences in the cultivation of carnations, roses, annuals and perennials. The manuscript has 18 illustrations and mostly focusses on his special interest, the aforementioned carnations, but gives wider information about plants grown to accompany them, as well as pests, pollination and early applied taxonomy. This is all accompanied by Hammond's written notes and musings on religion, philosophy and rural life in 18th-century Suffolk. The variety of plants discussed adds to our understanding of the diversity of the plants which regional growers from less affluent backgrounds were able to acquire and grow at this time. Meanwhile, we also see Hammond's personal contemplations on the trials of his lower middle-class social context, as his scribbles lament 'A precaution against tomorrow's evils' and 'Advice to parents to take well the death of their children'. The above represents a golden

combination of horticulture and social history, which is of great interest to the Garden Museum's audiences.

An additional historical quirk of the manuscript is that the title page is, rather unusually, printed, a practice that is rarely seen. It was likely produced by John Bagnall of Ipswich, who founded the Ipswich Journal, the town's first paper. Bagnall printed advertisements for Hammond's Florist Feasts and it therefore records an important relationship between Hammond and the printing industry as means of distributing information and widening interest in, and access to information about, floristry – without which perhaps the Garden Museum would not exist!

The acquisition of *Carnations* offers numerous opportunities to engage the public as part of new and existing programmes. Our school sessions explore concepts of science, art and horticulture through objects in the collection. Hammond's *Carnations* is a valuable additional resource for our existing taxonomy and biology lessons for secondary school children, deepening their understanding of plant classifications and giving historical context for how these concepts developed throughout history. It also provides a firsthand glimpse of historical contexts for modern methods of garden management, and the long-standing frustrations inherent in floristry.

Children also learn about habitats, biodiversity, pests and methods of control. In one illustration of *Carnations*, Hammond records with humour and exasperation 'O Look what the earwig have done!'. In addition, the watercolour illustrations will be used to inspire painting classes for younger children and families, hosted in the Museum.

The Garden Museum is grateful to Friends of the National Libraries, not only for their financial aid, but for their enthusiasm and encouragement around the acquisition, which we share wholeheartedly.





Prince of Orange

- 57 The Old Levell in Trivmph
- 58 Alderman Pearsons
- 59 Countice of Strafford
- 60 Westons King
- 61 Barran House
- 62 Westmester Grafton
- 63 The Horwich Blasse
- 64 Potters painted Lady
- 65 Hewmans feeding
- 66 Winsor Pavilion
- 67 The Sultans Beasont
- 68 Winsor Pavilion
- 69 Queen of Shebey
- 70 glory of London Brandford



## FOR GLAMORGAN ARCHIVES

**Manuscript Book of Reference to the Maps of the Manors of St Donats and Sully and other Lands in the County of Glamorgan, the property of Thomas Drake Tyrwhitt Esquire (1776). Bought from Francis Edwards Booksellers of Hay-on-Wye for £2,500, funded in full by a grant from Friends of the National Libraries.**

*Laura Cotton, Glamorgan Archivist, writes:* This book of reference relates to surveys undertaken in 1776 by Edward Thomas of Margam, Land Surveyor. Thomas is well known in the local area and is mentioned several times in the book 'Glamorgan Estate Maps' by Hilary Thomas. He also surveyed land in the surrounding area within the Dunraven Estate, and this newly discovered volume adds to our knowledge regarding his work in the locality.

The survey covers land held at St Donats Manor as well as land in the parishes of Llantwit Major, Marcross, St Andrew and Sully. Within the volume are recorded details of tenements and tenants, field names, acreages, cultivation and the total acreage of constituent parts of the estate.

The small volume also includes images of two paintings at the front, showing the North Gate at St Donats Castle and the castle viewed from the North West, both painted by the Surveyor.

The survey was undertaken on behalf of Thomas Drake Tyrwhitt to detail the lands in the Vale of Glamorgan inherited in 1776, when he adopted the name Tyrwhitt in order to inherit the estates of his cousin Sir John de la Fountain Tyrwhitt, of which the lands depicted by this survey were part. Thomas Drake Tyrwhitt also served as Sheriff of Glamorganshire for the year 1786-87, and inherited his main estate of Shardeloes in Buckinghamshire upon the death of his father in 1796.

The family sold the estate in the 1860s, by which time the castle was partially in ruins. It was later reconstructed and restored by various owners, including William Randolph Hearst, the American newspaper tycoon. Today, the castle is home to Atlantic College.

Glamorgan Archives holds some material relating to the Tyrwhitt Drake estate in Glamorgan, and this small volume adds to the breadth of knowledge about the area at this date. The survey fills in gaps in our knowledge about the area, providing information that has hitherto been unavailable, and has also enabled us to re-date another piece already held. We have also corresponded with colleagues at Buckinghamshire Archives, as the holders of the Buckinghamshire portions of the Tyrwhitt Drake estates. It is a valuable addition to our collections relating to the area and to this estate specifically.



Hand-coloured frontis of North Gate and St Donat's Castle viewed from the North West by E Thomas, 1776. Courtesy of Glamorgan Archives.



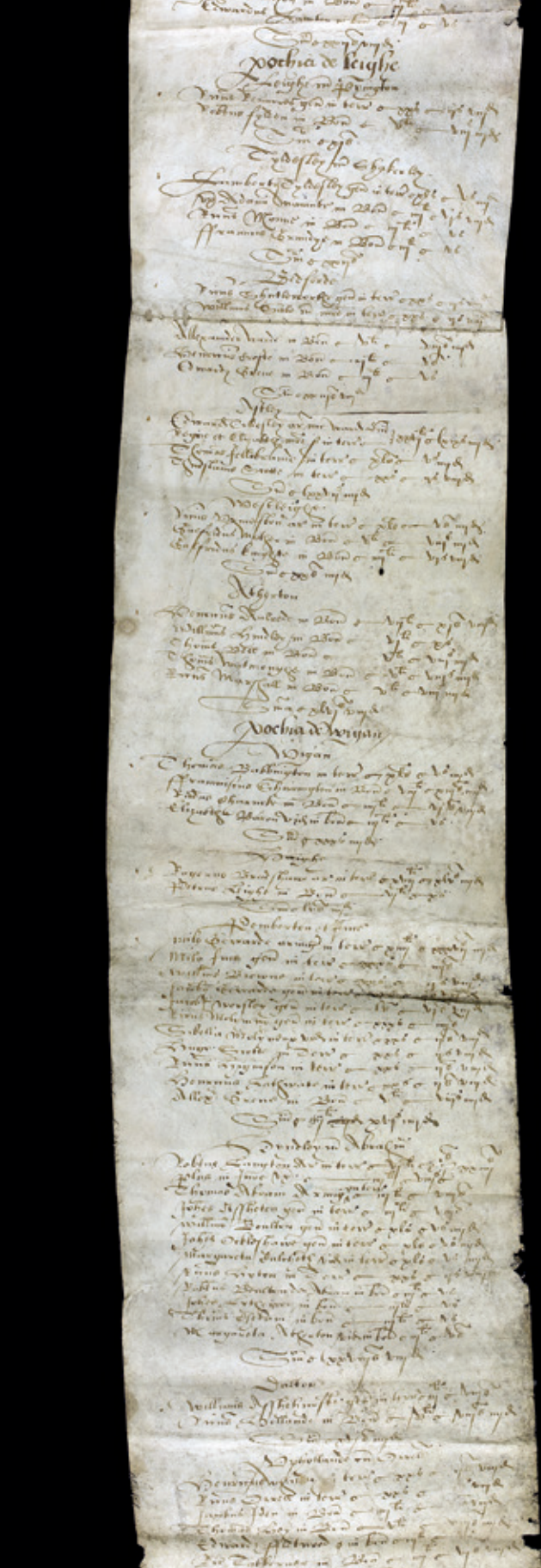
FOR GREATER MANCHESTER COUNTY RECORD OFFICE

Assheton of Middleton Estate Collection. Bought by private sale, with the aid of a grant of £20,000 from Friends of the National Libraries [of which half from the John R Murray Fund and half from the FNL General Fund].

*David Govier, Archivist, writes:* Greater Manchester’s oldest surviving archive collection, the Assheton of Middleton estate archive, has been saved for posterity. The archive, which has been purchased by Manchester City Council, will now have a permanent home in the Greater Manchester County Record Office at Manchester Central Library, ensuring that people in Greater Manchester and beyond will continue to have access to this outstanding local history resource. The purchase of the 1,400 items was made possible by generous support from the Friends of the National Libraries, The National Lottery Heritage Fund, the ACE/V&A Purchase Fund and Manchester Central Library Development Trust. The National Lottery Heritage Fund grant will also enable Archives+ (an exciting purpose-built showcase and repository for the region’s archives and family history at Manchester Central Library) to invest in the collection, developing a programme of education and outreach activities aimed at schools and local communities in Middleton, Rochdale, and Manchester.

The archive sheds light on local life in the medieval and early modern era, between Greater Manchester’s better-known Roman and Industrial Revolution stories. It is an outstanding example of a medieval family archive with nationally important items relating to the English Civil War, the Middleton Bowmen, the Black Knight, and the royal court of the Plantagenets, as well as unique local history sources recording the local Middleton population.

The collection contains some fascinating items including the earliest surviving written document, the 1197 Articles of Agreement which divided lands within the Assheton estate between Roger de Middleton and William de Radcliffe. It was witnessed by ‘Adam, parson of Middleton’ so it is also the earliest evidence of a church in Middleton.



Sir Ralph Assheton (1421-1486) fought in the capture of Berwick-upon-Tweed and held several offices under Edward IV, including High Sheriff of Yorkshire. Under Richard III, Ralph was rewarded for his loyalty to the Yorkist cause with the offices of Vice-Constable of England and Lieutenant of the Tower of London. Ralph’s death at Ashton-under-Lyne is commemorated by the Black Knight Pageant in the town.

Ralph’s grandson Sir Richard Assheton (1483–1549) was an English soldier who fought at the battle of Flodden in 1513. Richard raised a company of archers from Middleton; these longbowmen (renowned nationally as the Middleton Bowmen) were crucial in the victory against the Scots. One of the stand-out documents in the collection is the contract of 1474 for Robert Legg to serve Sir Ralph Assheton in the king’s wars under the Duke of Gloucester, the future Richard III. Richard Assheton commissioned the ‘Flodden Windows’ at St Leonard’s Church in Middleton depicting himself, his wife and 17 captains of the archers, commemorating them each by name in stained glass; the windows are one of the oldest war memorials in England. To find out more about the Assheton collection (GB124.E7: 1197-1837) and to make an appointment to view items from it, please visit: [gmlives.org.uk](http://gmlives.org.uk).

Estreat roll collected by Richard Assheton, 1589 (E7.15\_2\_2). Courtesy of Greater Manchester County Record Office.

## FOR GRIFFITH INSTITUTE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

**Album of Watercolours and Images (c. 1820s) of Edward William Lane (1801–1876).** Bought from Forum Auctions London (25 March 2023, Lot 14) for £4,284, with the aid of a grant of £3,213 from Friends of the National Libraries [John R Murray Fund].

*Jen Turner, Administrator, writes:* On 25 March 2023 the Griffith Institute acquired at auction Lane’s album of watercolours and images thanks to a generous grant of the Friends of the National Libraries (75%) and a number of donations to the Griffith Institute Archive (25%).

Edward William Lane (1801–1876) was a British scholar born in Hereford on 17 September 1801, the son of Theophilus Lane, a military officer and prebendary of Hereford Cathedral, and Sophia Gardiner. After being educated at the Grammar Schools of Bath and Hereford, he joined his brother in London as an engraver, but abandoned that career owing to ill health. He learned Arabic and went to Egypt between 19 September 1825 and 7 April 1828. He was based in Cairo and made voyages up the Nile, firstly from 15 March to 28 October 1826, where he went as far as the Second Cataract, and again from 23 June to 19 December 1827 with Robert Hay (1799–1863), up to Abu Simbel. Lane returned to Egypt from 13 December 1833 to 29 August 1835 and shortly afterwards in 1836 published *Manners and Customs of the Modern Egyptians*. He was again in Egypt from 19 July 1842 to 16 October 1849 compiling his great Arabic dictionary, *An Arabic-English Lexicon*, funded by Algernon Percy, the Duke of Northumberland. It appeared in parts from 1863–1893. Lane was the leading Arabic scholar of Europe, and although his works are primarily concerned with the modern Egyptians they are of great value to Egyptologists as he was closely associated with Hay and Sir John Gardner Wilkinson (1797–1875).

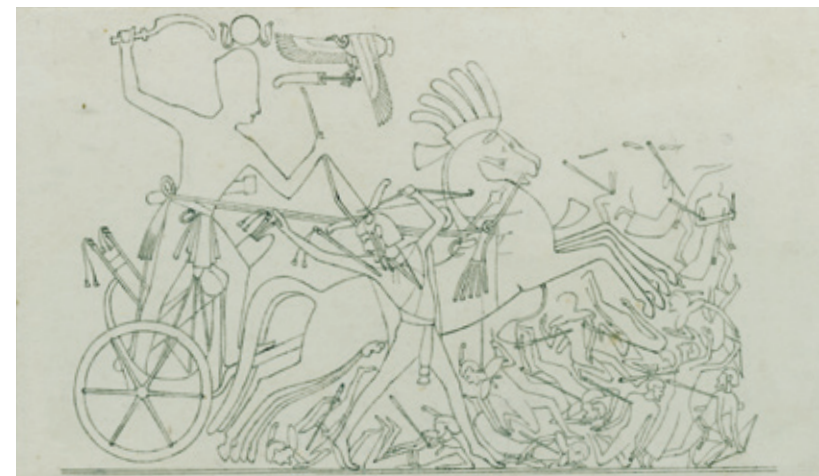
This presentation album comprises material created during the periods Lane lived in Egypt between the mid-1820s and the late 1840s. It includes 23 fine original studies comprise the photographic portrait of a sculptural bust of Lane, two fully worked drawings with watercolour, 11 monochrome watercolours with pen and ink landscapes and views of the pyramids, the Great Sphinx of Giza and other colossal sculptures, and ten pencil studies of wall reliefs. Many of these images include handwritten captions in pencil on the opposing page of the mounted image. The album also includes an image of a bust of Lane now

in the Bodleian Library in Oxford. Inside the album are handwritten notes from the former owner Mrs May Charlotte Buckton.

Lane was already prominently featured in the Griffith Institute Archive: the collection includes 22 diaries and journals from his first and second trips to Egypt, 11 additional notebooks, six packets of camera lucida cards, six notebooks for Modern Egypt and 93 items of personal correspondence. Most of these documents were donated to the Griffith Institute in 1942 and 1947 by Mrs Charles Larcom and Austin Lane Poole, the children Lane’s great-nephew Reginald Lane Poole (1857–1939).

The album reached the Griffith Institute on 27 April 2023 and was immediately assessed and subsequently digitised in the summer of 2023. This album has been placed in the Griffith Institute Archive alongside the collection of notebooks, drawings and manuscripts of Edward Lane ([archive.griffith.ox.ac.uk/index.php/edward-william-lane-collection](http://archive.griffith.ox.ac.uk/index.php/edward-william-lane-collection)). This acquisition has prompted the archive team to complete conservation, full digitisation and cataloguing for the entire Lane collection, which is currently being worked on to make it fully accessible online for early 2024.

The Griffith Institute staff would like to express their immense gratitude to the Friends of the National Libraries for once again making possible the acquisition of a precious document for the Archive that contributes to the Edward William Lane collection of archival material held by the Griffith Institute.



Battle scene of Seti I in a chariot, from temple wall at Karnak. Courtesy of Griffith Institute, University of Oxford.



## FOR THE HOLST VICTORIAN HOUSE, CHELTENHAM

Louise Dyer Archive, 1920s Bought from a private dealer for £85,000, with the aid of a grant of £20,000 from Friends of the National Libraries

This grant was awarded in 2022 and accounted for in that year, but the purchase was not completed in time for inclusion in the 2022 Annual Report.

*Laura Kinnear, Curator, writes:* In 2023, the Holst Victorian House was fortunate to acquire one of the most significant archives of Gustav Holst-related material to come up for sale in decades. Consisting of over 30 items, and including two autograph manuscripts, the collection highlights the important relationship between the composer and his supporter, Louise Dyer.

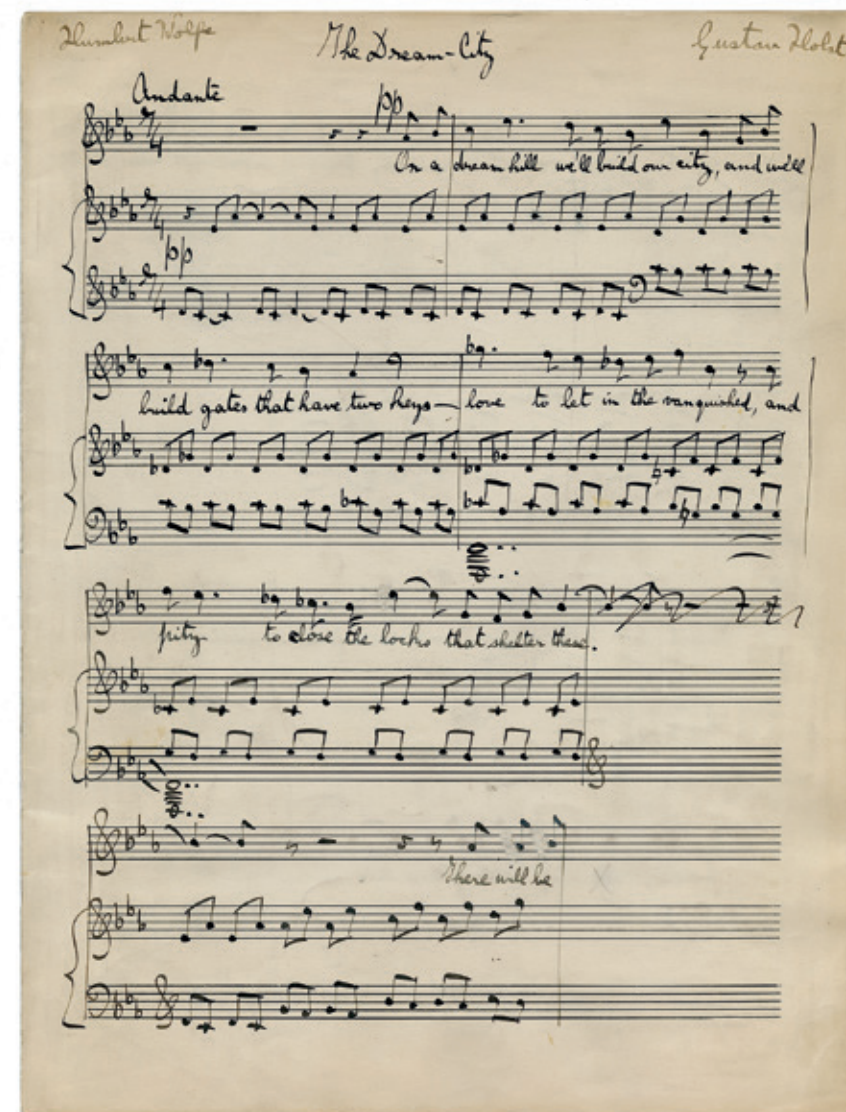
Australian-born Louise Dyer first met Gustav Holst in 1924, a year which he spent mostly alone in Thaxted recovering from a serious nervous breakdown. At a time when he had had to give up most of the teaching activities which had both exhausted and stimulated him during the previous 20 years, her detailed interest in and enthusiasm for his music helped kick-start the next stage of his career. In Australia Dyer arranged several early performances of Holst's music, including his most famous work, *The Planets*, and she published a catalogue of his compositions which is included in the collection.

In 1929 Holst composed *The Dream City* song cycle for a housewarming party for Louise and her husband James Dyer's magnificent new home in Paris. In a five-page autograph letter in the archive Holst explained to Dyer: 'The writing of it corresponded with your visit to London and ended on your last day here. It was the first music I had written for 13 months and the first song for 13 years and the first song with piano accompaniment for 20 years.'

Most of Louise Dyer's extensive musical collection, including letters from Holst, has been held at the University of Melbourne since 2005. But the 34 items in this new collection remained in her family, including Holst's gift to her of the autograph manuscript score of his *Perfect Fool* ballet music, one of his most popular works. It sheds significant new light both on the mutually supportive relationship between Dyer and Holst and on his development as a composer during the last decade of his life. Apparently unknown to Imogen Holst when

she prepared her thematic catalogue of her father's works for his 1974 centenary celebrations, this archive is a fitting and permanent celebration for 2024 – the 150th anniversary of Gustav Holst's birth.

The archive will be displayed in summer 2024 in an exhibition co-curated by Holst expert, Philippa Tudor. Philippa will write a booklet to accompany the exhibition, exploring the impact of the relationship between Louise Dyer and Gustav Holst.



Autograph working manuscript of *The Dream-City*; this work was given its premiere at Louise Dyer's home in Paris on 9 November 1929. Courtesy of Holst Victorian House.

## FOR JANE AUSTEN'S HOUSE, CHAWTON, HAMPSHIRE

A biographical manuscript of Admiral Sir Francis William Austen R.N. and an album of watercolour sketches by Francis Austen and his daughter Cassandra. Bought at Bonhams (21 June 2023, Lots 63 and 64) for a total of £6,400 with the aid of a grant of £1,920 from Friends of the National Libraries [John R Murray Fund].

*Professor Kathryn Sutherland, Jane Austen's House Patron and Acquisitions Advisor, writes:* In June 2023, Jane Austen's House acquired a manuscript book containing a laudatory biography of Jane Austen's fifth brother Admiral Sir Francis Austen (1774-1865), and an album of watercolours and drawings by Francis and his daughter Cassandra (1814-49).

The biography (dated c.1863) is written in the third person but is likely Francis Austen's own account, describing his life and family relations as well as observations on historical events within his knowledge and impressions of the countries he visited. The album contains 73 topographical watercolours and drawings, mainly of the West Indies and Canada, made by Francis Austen and his daughter Cassandra Eliza Austen in the 1840s.

These objects are significant additions to the Jane Austen House collection, offering new insights into Jane Austen and her family and new avenues for research. In part this is a family story. An understanding of Francis's life and objects associated with him are vital to the stories of Jane Austen herself and her house. Of all Jane Austen's brothers, Francis (known in the family as Frank) is the most intimately connected with the domestic lives of the Austen women. They shared a home with Frank and his wife in Southampton from 1806, and from 1809 - 1817 his growing family of children regularly visited or lived near to the Austen women, either at Chawton House or in Alton. In 1828 Frank married as his second wife Martha Lloyd, one of Jane's closest friends who had long been part of the Austen female household at Chawton Cottage.

Professionally, Francis Austen's life is of great importance to Jane Austen's world view and to her writings. Frank had a long and distinguished naval career, rising to Admiral of the Fleet and becoming a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath. He served against the French Revolutionary and Napoleonic sea forces and was one of Nelson's commanders at Trafalgar. He travelled the world from the North Atlantic and West Indies to India and China. A keen abolitionist, after the cruelty he witnessed in the West Indies, he was also employed on missions by the East India Company. His life illuminates an interesting and increasingly examined period in British history: when abolition of the trade in slaves intersected with the rise of the British Empire. His domesticity and skilled craftsmanship have long been seen (including by Francis himself) as the original for the characterisation of Captain Harville in Austen's last published novel, *Persuasion*. Domestically, and nearer to home, his lifelong intimacy with his sister Jane, and the fictional use she made of it, makes his story a vital part of hers.

Jane Austen's cultural reach is global. Her story is both domestic and international. The house where she lived and wrote attracts large numbers of visitors from across the world (in person and online). A greater understanding of Frank's story – a complicated one of an abolitionist deeply invested in imperial expansion – will help us to explore in pertinent detail the Austen family's place within the wider narrative of Britain's trade and foreign policy in the 19th century.

We are delighted that this timely acquisition allows us to display both objects in 2024, the 250th anniversary of Francis Austen's birth, as part of an exhibition telling his extraordinary story and its relationship to Austen's novels – a story that is both international and precisely local. Alongside exhibition of both items, we will digitise the manuscripts and invite our audiences across the world to help us in producing a transcription of the biography, which will in turn be published online, enabling further research.





Watercolours of St George's Bay, Grenada, and St Pierre, Martinique, by Francis Austen and his daughter.  
Courtesy of Jane Austen's House.



A selection of cartoons from the Lawrie Siggs Archive. Courtesy of Kent University.



FOR KENT UNIVERSITY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS AND ARCHIVES

Lawrie Siggs Cartoon Archive: a complete collection of artworks and archive papers belonging to the cartoonist Lawrence Hector Siggs (1900-1972). Bought from the family for £35,000, with the aid of a grant of £10,000 from Friends of the National Libraries.

Karen Brayshaw, University of Kent Special Collections and Archives Manager, writes: Lawrence Hector Siggs (1900-1972) was a cartoonist and illustrator who used a gentle humour in his work, often inspired by domestic scenes and observation of everyday life. He worked for *Punch* for 35 years as well as various newspapers, including the *Daily Telegraph*, *Daily Express*, the *Evening Standard* and *The New Yorker*. He was a significant cartoonist working in the post-war period, and this collection represents what is estimated to be an almost complete archive of his work, published and unpublished.

Dating from approximately the 1930s to the 1970s, the collection includes roughly 1,300 original cartoon artworks. The majority are pen, ink and wash drawings on board measuring approximately 25 x 20cm. They are signed by Siggs and marked up for printing with pencil captions and measurements. Some have dates, page numbers or reference numbers added and a few have *Daily Telegraph* ink stamps.

There are also approximately 1,600 rough sketches, 25 sketchbooks, 300 pull proofs of published cartoons and several scrapbooks of cuttings. Further, there are notebooks of draft captions, a cash book containing records of income from the sale of cartoons and a notebook recording where the roughs were sent. The archive includes letters from contemporary cartoonists, friends and employers or editors sent to Siggs, and (after his death) the correspondence of his wife and his daughter Jill Jenkins, which relates to Siggs, his work and his daughter's publication of his work (*Promise Me You Won't Laugh: A Cartoon Collection by Siggs, 2000*).

The collection is in very good condition overall, although it requires some re-boxing and re-packaging. At some time in the past, the main part of the collection was sorted by the family and transferred to archival-standard boxes.

The works have been arranged into general themes such as 'Pets, Children and Animals' and 'Politics, Work, Law, Friends and Relationships', 'RAF' and the 'Second World War'. The rough sketches have yet to be sorted and repackaged. Some of the correspondence and paperwork has been arranged into categories, but most is loose with cuttings and other items included.

The collection has remained with the family of Lawrence Hector Siggs since his death in 1972. For many years it has been stored at the home of his daughter Jill, who recently passed away.

The archive of Lawrie Siggs will provide new and significant material for further original research, and will improve the understanding of people, events and attitudes in the period which he illustrated. It provides a depth of content that will contribute to research and study of cartooning in practice, the business of cartooning and the editorial process. The unpublished elements of the collection have not been publicly available and therefore will be of huge interest in engagement events and in teaching about cartooning in this period.

A selection of letters from the Lawrie Signs Archive. Courtesy of Kent University.





FOR KRESEN KERNOW, CORNWALL ARCHIVES  
AND LOCAL STUDIES SERVICE

1. Manorial records of Arwenack and other associated Manors near Falmouth, Cornwall, from the Earl of Kimberley/Wodehouse estate archive, 17th-19th centuries, purchased from a private vendor for £4,000, funded in full by a grant from Friends of the National Libraries.

*David Thomas and Kate Rose, Archivists, write:* In early October 2023 it came to the attention of Kresen Kernow that a private vendor in the Home Counties was offering for sale on eBay a quantity of manorial estate records from the Manors of Arwenack and other associated land holdings, part of the Kimberley/Wodehouse estate. We contacted the vendor and successfully persuaded him to withdraw the collection from open public sale, pointing out the legal stipulations and obligations relating to manorial documents. The Friends were also immediately contacted and very generously agreed to support the purchase of the archive for the full sum of £4,000.

The former Cornwall Record Office at Truro had already received no fewer than five deposits of Kimberley estate records in 1972-1973, with three further substantial accessions of items from the Kimberley family in 2010 and 2012. Additionally, in early 2019, Kresen Kernow was able to acquire from an East Anglian book dealer a quantity of some 260 estate archival items consisting of Arwenack Manorial rentals and accounts for 1740-1900. These records had originally been sold by a Swindon auction house in 2009. Furthermore, in late 2019 FNL very generously provided grant assistance of £500 towards the purchase of an additional quantity of Arwenack estate records, including a very fine survey book of c.1737 which had been offered to Kresen Kernow, having been tracked down by an enthusiastic local historian who wished to ensure their permanent public availability and preservation.

In spite of the acquisition of this material by Cornwall’s archive service, it was believed that there were still other ‘missing’ Kimberley estate items which had so far ‘escaped the net’ and the collection now under review indeed proved to fall within that category. Supporting paperwork indicated that it had originally been sold by Sotheby’s in December 1991. The archive consisted of a very large

vellum bound ledger of leases, dated 1648 on its front cover, as well as a similar volume commencing in 1786. In addition, there was a mid-18th-century survey book for the manors of Arwenack, Mylor, Tregenvor, Trevethan, Trescobeas, Prisla and Treganiggey. Other records include 25 letters from the 1730s from Martin Killigrew to a Mr Hall, three undated lists of Falmouth houses, a manor of Arwenack field book for 1820-1821, a report for new buildings and improvements at Falmouth in 1812-1826 and seven rentals from 1877-1899.

Kresen Kernow was keen to acquire the items, as the 17th-century material represented some of the earliest known surviving estate management archives for Arwenack Manor. The collection is also significant for the study of the family, community and property history of the Falmouth district. The port of Falmouth, as a Packet Station, rose to maritime pre-eminence in Cornwall during the period represented by the collection, which archivally charts its municipal growth. We were determined to rescue this additional portion of the estate archive from potential dispersal on the open market, making it available for public consultation, and we very gratefully acknowledge FNL’s timely and generous assistance in enabling us to achieve that goal.

Arwenack Manorial lease record book, commencing in 1648 (accession 10838). Courtesy of Kresen Kernow.





2. Volume of rates and accounts 1768-1794 for the Surveyors of the Highways St Minver parish, Cornwall. Bought from Jarndyce for £550, funded in full by a grant from Friends of the National Libraries.

David Thomas, Archivist, writes: In August 2023 a very public-spirited local historian alerted Kresen Kernow to the fact that a well-known London bookseller was offering a volume of rates and accounts relating to the Surveyors of the Highways for the North Cornwall parish of St Minver Highlands. We agreed with him that the book, which appeared to be a stray from the parish chest collection, ought to be in our collections and sought grant aid from FNL to facilitate the purchase. FNL very promptly and generously offered a full grant to cover the cost of acquisition, for which we are most grateful.

Kresen Kernow wished to secure this volume for our holdings for two reasons: firstly because it would augment a fine parish archive; secondly because the service did not already hold very many examples of Cornish highway surveyors' accounts and rates.

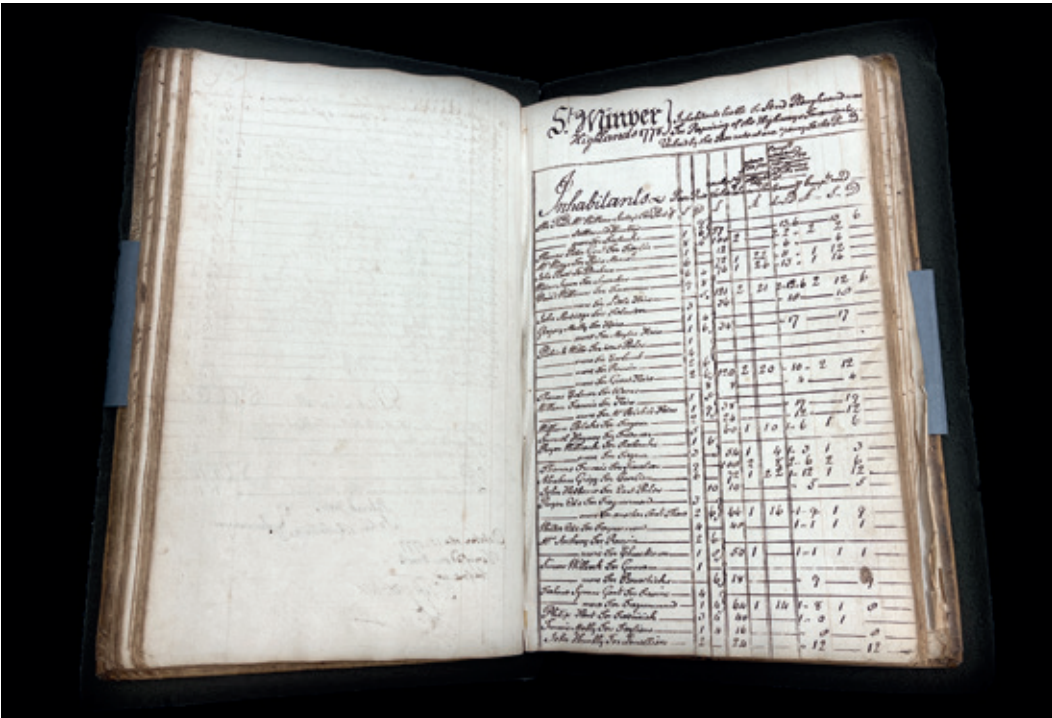
The volume, bound in cream vellum, opens with the words 'St Minver 1768 Inhabitants liable to send plows for the reparation of the Highways. Tenements valued by the Poor Rate at one penny to the pound.' It records, for a period of 27 years, the names of the inhabitants, tenement names, their poor rate, yearly value, number of ploughs, number of men, the composition due and the composition received. Arrears are also noted. Much of the volume is recorded in very neat and stylised handwriting and the annual accounts are signed by the local Justices of the Peace.

When the book arrived and was unpacked a bundle of 26 additional folded documents dating from 1768-1814 was found tucked inside its front cover, consisting of lists of inhabitants liable for highways repairs, lane measurements, road completion agreements, compositions and arrears, highway order repairs and even a list of parish tools. It also contained several items of correspondence; one in particular, dated 23 March 1788, from William Sandys the vicar to Gregory Mably, Surveyor of the Highways in the St Minver Lowlands Division is worthy of note. Sandys quotes the Act of Parliament of 18 George III for highway repairs and gives notice to Mably that unless he forthwith proceeds to repair the

highways in his Division according to that Act and perform his office as therein directed, he would move the Quarter Sessions to punish him 'for your notorious neglect of duty in your office, in almost every particular - having viewed the said highways which are in many parts much out of repair thro your neglect'.

Another of the papers tucked within the book, a 1775 list of inhabitants liable to plough labour on the King's high roads, is indicative of the highly organised manner with which such repairs were conducted. The ploughs were to 'meet tomorrow at Dinham Clift at a place called Sand Gate by 8 o'clock in the morning and to work eight hours, and each plough to have two sufficient labouring men'.

This archive provides fascinating insights into 18th-century road maintenance in a North Cornwall rural community, and will be valued by family, property and social historians.



List of inhabitants liable to send ploughs and men for repairing the highways, St Minver Highlands, 1778 (P154/21/18). Courtesy of Kresen Kernow.

## FOR LEEDS UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES, SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & GALLERIES

Manuscript 'A pamflyt compiled of Cheese, contayninge the differences, nature, qualities, and goodness, of the same,' 112 pages, circa 1580. Bought from Dominic Winter (17 May 2023, Lot 165) for £58,500, with the aid of a grant of £8,000 from Friends of the National Libraries.

Tim Procter, Collections & Access Manager, writes: Unknown and thought to be unpublished, this 112-page vellum-bound manuscript was written probably around the 1580s. The manuscript, in Secretary hand, is probably the first comprehensive academic study of a single foodstuff to be written in the English language, which gives it particular significance for food historians. Although cheese has formed part of the human diet since the introduction of farming in the prehistoric periods, there is little early evidence of its character and places of production in Britain except for entries for anonymous cheeses in household accounts. It also gives a unique insight into the food habits of the general population, as the author visited several localities and talked to locals making cheese as part of their survey. The author is currently unknown, but it is hoped that further research will uncover their identity. However, the manuscript passed through some influential hands. It was circulated in the group around the Dudleys, the family of courtiers whose influence throughout the Tudor period was at a peak around the time of the manuscript's creation. In a note on the flyleaf, Clement Fisher, MP for Tamworth, asks for the book to be returned to him when it has been 'perused'; Walter Bayley, whose name appears at the end of the text, was Regius Professor of Medicine at Oxford and physician to Elizabeth I; and Edward Willoughby of Bore Place, Kent, came from another family of parliamentarians.

A pamflyt compiled of Cheese,  
contayninge the differences,  
nature, qualities, and  
goodnes, of the same.

Galen in his tenth booke De simpl. med.  
facult. writeth, that cheese is milke  
coagulated, or congealed. by mingling  
of doct. yowes to vnderstande, that  
to make cheese, we must turne the  
milke, and separate the curdes from  
the other partes, and so of the curdes  
and grosse partes, in milke, to make  
cheese. And it is certayne that cheese is  
made of the thicke substance of milke,  
for milke is not one simple thinge, but



before a moate better in eib onno  
 kinde, but not so dolingstfull  
 to the nature of ym weing dole  
 take git.

*Of the vertues of  
 cheese used as a  
 medicine.*

Rhasis in 3. ad Alimanforem more  
 tote, feat also reose weing eat  
 more umote dole, greato good  
 orsen the stomato id repleated  
 with plogmo, for by age reose  
 more searpen and weolter:  
 with the searpenes, git rustole

The 'Pamflyt' follows typical Elizabethan practice of collecting all available information from Classical authors such as Galen and Virgil - it opens with the Greek philosopher-physician Galen's broad definition of cheese as 'milke coagulated, or congealed' - as well as the Persian philosopher-physician Abu Bakr al-Razi, and contemporary physicians at the University of Salerno. There is also a section on 'the vertues of cheese used as a medicine', with the effects of cheese on people of different temperaments based on the theories of the bodily humours put forward by Galen and his predecessors.

To gain practical information, the author then went on to 'diligently inquire of country folke, who gave their experience in theis matters.' The text discusses subjects including curds ('or cheesye partes of milke') and whey; and the many different cheeses found throughout England and Wales, their ingredients, methods of production and merits. The author makes several regional observations, for example that butter was currently being made from 'boiled milk', in other words, clotted cream, a practice that was still followed in the West Country well into the 20th century, or that most Welsh cheeses were made of mare's milk, some adding goat's milk. The best British cheeses were Banbury and Cheshire, followed by Llanthony and Caerleon, later known as Caerphilly, from Wales.

The 'Pamflyt' will join the Cookery Collection at University of Leeds Libraries, one of the great assemblies of printed and manuscript material relating to domestic science. Blanche Legat Leigh presented her collection of 1,500 printed cookery books and manuscripts to Leeds in 1939, and the collection was greatly enhanced in 1962 by John F. Preston, who donated 600 British cookery books printed before 1861. The Chaston Chapman Collection added an extensive library of books on brewing and the brewing industry, wine and winemaking, and drinking customs. Its holdings continue to grow, with the acquisition in the 1980s of the Camden Library cookery collection covering the later 20th century, and the arrival of the library of the food writer and journalist Michael Bateman in 2011.



FOR MOSELEY OLD HALL, NATIONAL TRUST

*Missale Romanum* (Paris, 1623) formerly owned by John Huddleston (1608-98), chaplain to the Whitgreave family of Moseley Old Hall. Bought from Cato Crane Auctioneers (30 March 2023, Lot 58) for £9,192, with the aid of a grant of £4,504 from Friends of the National Libraries [B H Breslauer Foundation Fund].

*Tim Pye, National Curator, Libraries, writes:* The National Trust is exceedingly grateful to FNL for a grant that enabled the acquisition of this hugely significant 17th-century missal for the collection at Moseley Old Hall, Staffordshire. The grant from FNL was complemented by an anonymous donation.

John Huddleston (1608-98), the missal’s original owner whose inscription can be found on the title-page, was a Benedictine priest famous for the role he played at several key moments in the life of Charles II. Huddleston was the chaplain and tutor to the Catholic Whitgreave family and was in residence at their Moseley home at the time of Charles II’s famous escape following the Battle of Worcester. Huddleston was instrumental in bringing Charles to Moseley Old Hall early on the morning of 8 September 1651 and was his constant companion during the king’s two-day stay, which included use of the priest hole.

It is known that Charles consulted books in Huddleston’s library and it is possible that the collection included the recently-acquired Parisian missal of 1623. The missal may also have been a witness to the end of Charles II’s life. Huddleston was summoned to the king’s deathbed in February 1685 to hear the king’s confession, administer the Eucharist and officially receive him into the Catholic Church. In his recounting of the occasion, Huddleston records that he ‘read the usual prayers’, perhaps from the present missal.

The story of the missal’s present-day survival is serendipitous, having been rescued by its previous owner from a Liverpool bookseller’s bargain bin in the 1950s. The years before its rescue were not kind to the volume and it is missing any evidence of its original binding. But the text within preserves much evidence of its value to Huddleston and the way in which it was used. Dates of births and deaths of those dear to the priest are recorded in his hand within the calendar section of the book, while numerous candle wax drips provide

incredibly tangible insights into the reading of the text, which often must have taken place in a clandestine manner.

The story of the book, its survival and the role it played in a key period of British history, are central to the themes that Moseley Old Hall is currently exploring. The missal’s display will help tell important stories of sanctuary, the persecution of minorities and the significance of the written word. These and other contemporary values inherent in Huddleston’s missal may explain why the acquisition captured the attention of the general public and the media. Several outlets, including *The Times*, *The Guardian* and *The Telegraph*, ran substantial stories on the missal, and it was a featured story on Radio 4’s Sunday programme at the beginning of July, 2023.

‘The Huddleston Missal is a wonderful acquisition for Moseley Old Hall. The way in which Huddleston has inscribed and annotated his missal highlights just how precious and personal this book would have been to him’. *Tim Pye, National Curator, Libraries.*



Above: The King’s Room at Moseley Old Hall. © National Trust Images/Andreas von Einsiedel.  
Left: The prayerbook, published in Paris in 1623, bears the signature and annotations of Father John Huddleston, a Benedictine priest who lived at Moseley Old Hall and helped save the life of Charles II. © National Trust Images/James Dobson.



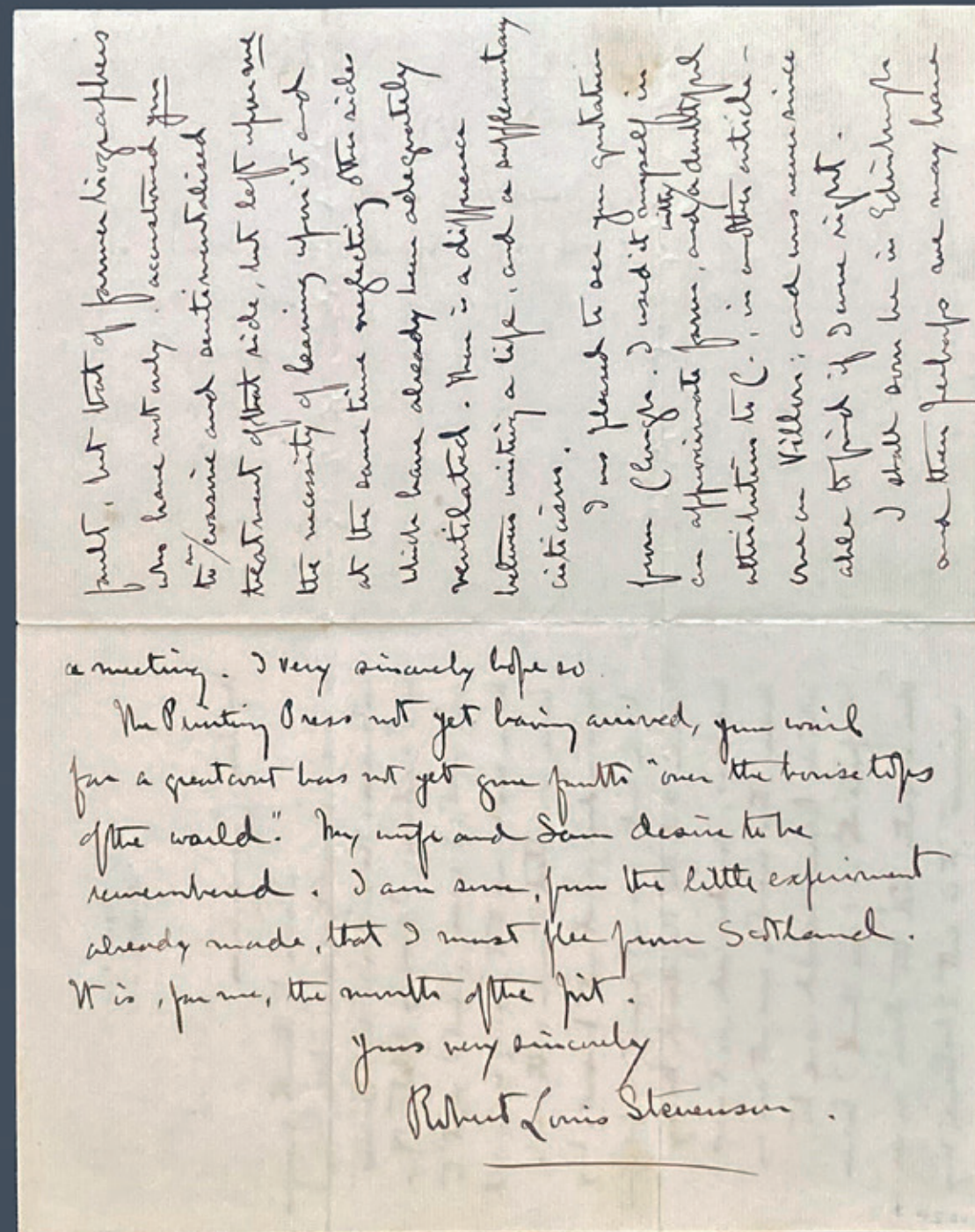
## FOR THE NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND

1. Autograph letter from Robert Louis Stevenson to James Cunningham (1880). Bought from James Cummins Booksellers for £5,575, with the aid of a grant of £1,875 from Friends of the National Libraries.

Dr Colin McIlroy, Curator of Modern Literary Manuscripts, writes: This letter is an oft-quoted missive, revealing Stevenson's justification for his take on Robert Burns in a recent article, and with a foreshadowing of his plans to travel extensively. It provides a rare example of two of Scotland's most important literary figures featuring in one manuscript letter, and its acquisition is evidence of the National Library of Scotland's continued commitment to ensuring our most important cultural figures are preserved for future generations.

The letter is Stevenson's response to James Cunningham, having sent Cunningham his essay 'Some Aspects of Robert Burns', published in the *Cornhill Magazine* in October 1879. Stevenson thanks Cunningham 'for a rare commodity: some intelligible criticism'. He then rails against Burns's biographers for their 'evasive and sentimentalised treatment' of what he terms Burns's 'Don Juan business'. While the letter has been published, the significance of Stevenson discussing Burns means the capture of this manuscript for the nation will repay research scrutiny from scholars and fans alike.

Stevenson met Cunningham on August 7, 1880, on a transatlantic voyage back home from a rest cure in California with his new wife, Fanny, with the two spending the journey together followed by several visits and an exchange of letters, of which this is one. In addition to his thoughts on his Burns essay, Stevenson suggests that he is about to set out from Scotland for further travels. In search of fairer climes for the treatment of his lung ailment, he stayed first at Davos, and then the South of France, Bournemouth and America. Referring to these travels, Stevenson closes the letter with a clear outline of his future intentions and a less than flattering description of his home country: 'I am sure, from the little experiment already made, that I must flee from Scotland. It is, for me, the mouth of the pit'. And Stevenson did leave Scotland, moving to Bournemouth in 1884, before leaving Britain for the last time in 1887 for the South Seas and Vailima, his eventual home in Samoa, where he died in 1894.



Robert Louis Stevenson autograph letter to James Cunningham 1880. Courtesy of the National Library of Scotland.



2. Jane Porter, *Thaddeus of Warsaw* (London: A Strahan for T N Longman and O Rees, 1803). Bought from Peter Harrington for £14,812 with the aid of a grant of £2,500 from the Friends of the National Libraries.

Graham Hogg, *Curator for 19th-Century Printed Collections and Photographs*, writes: This four-volume set is an important first edition by an influential author who is usually considered to be Scottish. The author, Jane Porter (1775?-1850), moved when she was three or four with her widowed mother and sisters to Edinburgh, where she stayed until 1785. According to the *Oxford Dictionary of National Biography* 'An old woman, Luckie Forbes, told them stories of ancient heroes, especially William Wallace. Their mother was acquainted with Walter Scott's mother, and he is said to have played with the girls when he was a boy (Scott, however, makes no reference to the family in his letters or journals).' Porter maintained a strong attachment to Scotland for the rest of her life.

Set during the Second Partition of Poland in the 1790s, *Thaddeus of Warsaw* is one of the earliest examples in English of the historical novel, introducing the new stock figure of the noble exile. Despite being commercially published, this work did not have a large initial print run. It did, however, become enormously popular and successive editions were rapidly produced. Porter is best known now for her second major novel, *The Scottish Chiefs*, based on William Wallace and Robert Bruce.

The women, like Porter, who preceded Walter Scott as authors of historical fiction are increasingly popular subjects of research interest and are being reclaimed by a wider audience. *Thaddeus of Warsaw* received its first scholarly edition in 2019, after having been out of print for more than a century, and other works of Jane Porter have recently received modern editions. This title is of especial interest as it connects Jane Porter and early Scottish historical fiction to Poland, and because of our own Polish collection, which was originally presented to the Signet Library in Edinburgh by two Polish political exiles. This collection contains material reflecting the same period of Polish history as is covered by the novel.



Only two copies of this edition are recorded elsewhere in the UK: at the University of Birmingham and with the National Trust. WorldCat identifies one copy in the USA and one in Poland. There are also known copies in the Corvey collection in Germany and the Huntington Library in California. It is therefore by any standard a rare book. No copy of the first edition has been recorded at auction since 1975. Housed in a custom blue quarter-calf solander case, all four volumes of this copy have the armorial bookplate of Edward Southwell Trafford (1838-1912), a Norfolk landowner and judge.

The four-volume set of *Thaddeus of Warsaw*. Courtesy of the National Library of Scotland.



3. Autograph manuscript fragment (May-July 1872) of a diary of Robert Louis Stevenson. Bought from James Cummins Booksellers for £9,000, with the aid of a grant of £2,500 from Friends of the National Libraries.

Dr Colin McIlroy, Curator of Modern Literary Manuscripts, writes: It is rare that Robert Louis Stevenson diary fragments, or manuscripts of more than a single page, come to market. This four-page manuscript of diary entries covers the period from May 9th to July 5th, 1872, when Stevenson was 21, living in Edinburgh, and studying towards his law degree.

The diary excerpts have been published, but not in their entirety. The extract as it appears in Balfour's *The Life of Robert Louis Stevenson in Two Volumes* (London: Methuen & Co., 1901) omits 11 lines of Stevenson's original text, pertaining to the marriage of a Miss Fairfoul, and finds Stevenson relaxed and conversationally at ease. He states: 'Miss F. was a good friend of mine and I do not think she will disgrace her new what's-his-name [sic]'.

He goes on to provide details of a day spent with his father following a church visit, and his inebriated state after dinner with a colleague, where 'we were both rather better than good' (Volume One, pp.107-109). He comments on the mundanity of office work where 'one simply ceases to be a reasoning being', yet this is 'a consummation devoutly to be wished for'.

His observational skill is evident when hearing a young boy call for his dog, identifying 'a quaint, little tremolo in his voice that gave it a longing, that was both laughable and touching. All the rest of the way in, his voice sang in my memory and made me very happy'. The manuscript offers research interest to Stevenson scholars and readers and is a significant addition to the Library's existing holdings of Stevenson material.



Robert Louis Stevenson diary fragment, 1872. Courtesy of the National Library of Scotland.

4. Indenture for the Camden Estate, Trinidad (1807-1819). Bought from E J Morten Booksellers for £8,500, with the aid of a grant of £1,500 from Friends of the National Libraries.

Ralph McLean, Manuscripts Curator for the Long 18th Century, writes: The document is an indenture of release between William Lushington (1747-1823) and the Scotsmen John Stewart (1754/5-1826) and Alexander Fraser of Inchcoulter (1759-1837), which ultimately transferred ownership of the Camden Estate on Trinidad, and the enslaved workers, from Lushington to Stewart and Fraser.

Following the legal description of the plantation and ownership rights of both the physical plantation and the enslaved workers, there are four schedules containing information on the enslaved workers. The first schedule provides details on name, age, employment, split into men and women and boys and girls. The second (and largest) schedule is a ‘List of Families of slaves on the Plantation Camden’ containing information on first names, surnames, colour, employment, age, stature (height), Country (African Mandingo, African Congo, Creole of Trinidad, etc), Marks (distinguishing features), Relations (family connections on the estate). The third schedule is less than one page of the document and provides information on names, ages and occupations only – in addition to four ‘runaways’. The fourth schedule is less than half a page and refers to 25 enslaved people brought from the Endeavour estate on Mustique.

This indenture provides a level of detail on the enslaved people not always evident in such documents. This is important in helping to read against the grain: for example, the list of ‘runaways’ demonstrates resistance to enslavement. The detailed listing of skilled occupations, such as carpenters, masons and blacksmiths, illustrates the technical proficiency of the enslaved workers. As such, it is an important source in recovering silenced voices. The Scottish connection is further apparent given the number of Scottish surnames – Robertson, Murray, Mackenzie, Campbell, etc – imposed on the family groups of enslaved workers.

Although they are not mentioned in the document, a further two Scots, James Evan Baillie (1781-1863) and Hugh Duncan Baillie (1777-1866) received financial compensation in 1834 following the emancipation of enslaved workers on the Camden plantation. They used the sums received to buy up land in Scotland (predominantly in the Highlands) between 1835 and 1838. Therefore the document is an important source that provides evidence of the extent to which Scottish infrastructure and commercial development benefitted from the proceeds of enslavement.

The National Library of Scotland holds significant collections relating to the Scottish involvement in slavery and the slave trade. These collections are contained in many of the family papers held at the Library, in addition to individual manuscripts that have been acquired over the years. As a result, the Library possesses one of the largest collections in the world recording the complicity of Scots in the Atlantic slave trade. This document complements those existing collections, and, given the level of detail which it contains, greatly enhances them. The Library is very grateful to the Friends of the National Libraries for their assistance in the purchase of this manuscript.



Third and Fourth schedules for the Camden Estate with cover letter acknowledging the transfer of the estate to Stewart and Fraser. Courtesy of the National Library of Scotland.

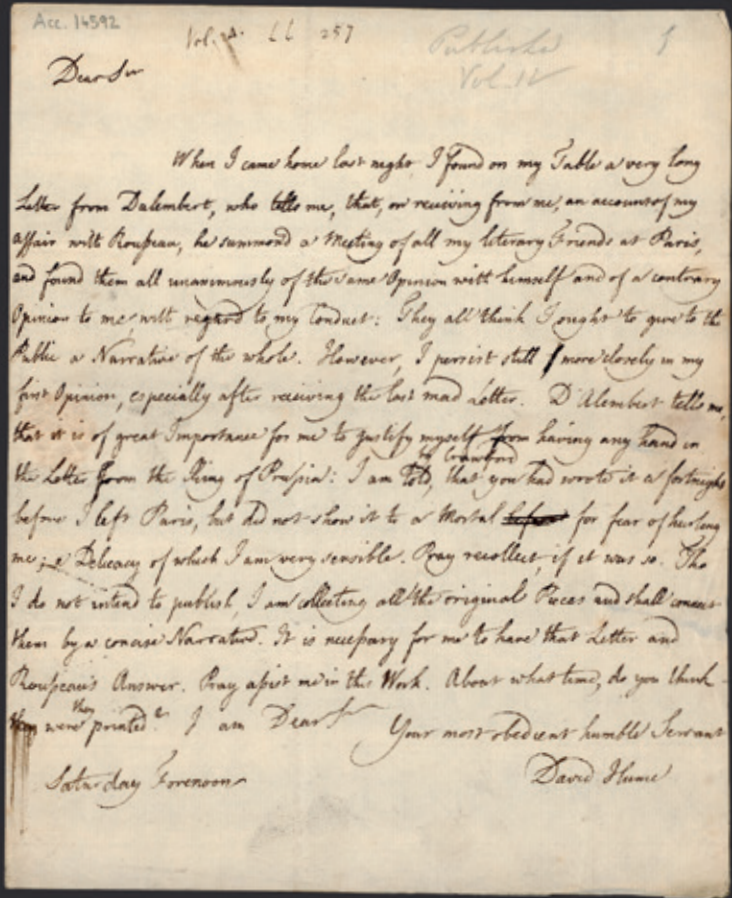


5. Four letters of David Hume to Horace Walpole on Hume’s philosophical dispute with Jean-Jacques Rousseau, 1766. Bought from Bonhams (14 November 2023, Lot 59), for £127,400, with the aid of a grant of £20,000 from Friends of the National Libraries.

Ralph McLean, Manuscripts Curator for the Long 18th Century, writes: All four of Hume’s letters refer to his quarrel with the Genevan philosopher Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Following an initially friendly relationship, Rousseau attacked Hume in a letter accusing him, among other things, of trying to sideline him. The quarrel became an 18th-century cause célèbre and attracted the attention of philosophers and literary figures all across Europe. Hume corresponded with many of his friends throughout the continent before finally publishing his response to Rousseau’s accusations.

The letters cover important milestones in the unfolding quarrel. In the first letter, of 26 July 1766, Hume notes that all his literary friends in France encouraged him to publish a response to Rousseau. He also references the ‘King of Prussia’ letter, a piece mocking Rousseau, which some thought Hume had written, but in fact was by Walpole himself. The second, dated 30 October, relates that the French *Philosophes* including D’Alembert have published in support of Hume, and that Walpole’s response to Hume acknowledging his own authorship of the ‘King of Prussia’ letter has been added to this. The third letter, of 4 November, recounts the publication in Paris of the piece in defence of Hume, and conveys Hume’s hope that there will be no need for a London edition. The last letter, of 20 November, contains a long description of the unfolding events in Paris following the publication, and outlines Hume’s reluctance to publish his own account of the quarrel, although he ultimately decided to do so.

These four letters have been published in J Y T Greig’s standard edition of *The Letters of David Hume* (1932). However, Greig did not have access to the original letters and relied on Mary Berry’s *The Works of Horace Walpole, Earl of Orford* Vol.4 (1798), which was the last time the location of the originals was known.



The National Library of Scotland holds the most significant collection of Hume manuscripts to be found anywhere in the world and is the premier destination for those studying his life and work. In the Royal Society of Edinburgh Hume Papers, held on deposit at the Library, are significant collections of letters, including the original letter Rousseau sent to Hume outlining the charges against him, some of which directly address the quarrel with Rousseau, and the letters which Walpole sent to Hume in answer to these four letters. The Library also owns a copy of Rousseau’s letter with notes in the hand of Hume refuting the charges against him as he prepared his response. These letters greatly complement those existing collections and complete the sequence of correspondence between Hume and Walpole on this philosophical affair. The National Library of Scotland is extremely grateful to the Friends of the National Libraries for their generous contribution to the acquisition of these Hume letters.

David Hume to Horace Walpole on his quarrel with Jean-Jacques Rousseau. Courtesy of the National Library of Scotland.

## FOR PETERSFIELD MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY

*Art of This Century. Objects – Drawings – Photographs – Paintings – Sculpture – Collages 1910 to 1942.* Edited by Peggy Guggenheim, 1942. Bought from Beaux Books for £600, with the aid of a grant of £500 from Friends of the National Libraries.

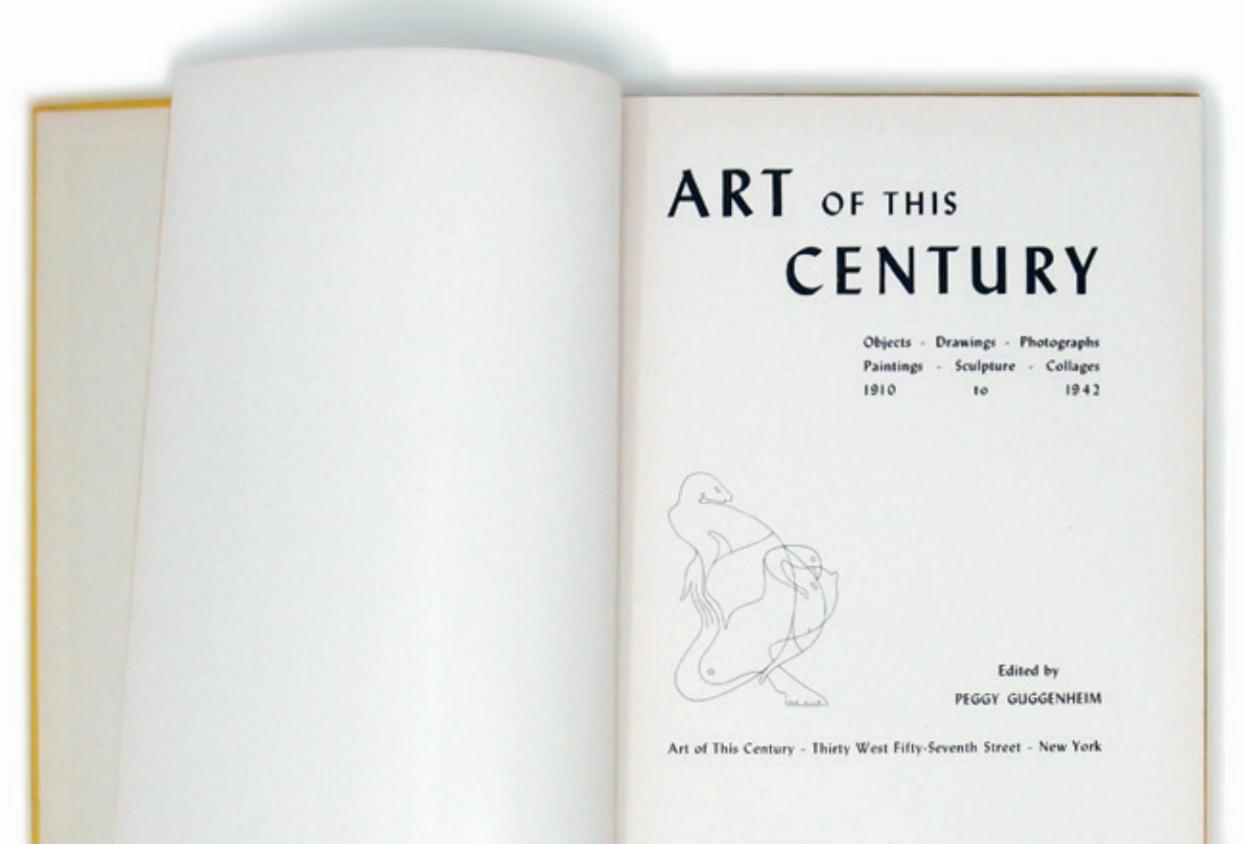
Louise Weller, *Head of Collections and Exhibitions*, writes: This limited-edition book is a valued addition to Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery's archive and will form an important element of our exhibition *Peggy Guggenheim: Petersfield to Palazzo* (15 June – 5 October 2024). The book, which serves as a catalogue of Guggenheim's personal modern art collection, was published in the same year that Guggenheim opened her ground-breaking gallery (also called *Art of This Century*) in New York. Peggy Guggenheim, a world-renowned art patron and collector, began her lifetime commitment to art in the 1930s when she lived for five years at Yew Tree Cottage, Petersfield, between 1934 and 1939.

The exhibition will highlight this often-overlooked connection between Peggy Guggenheim and Petersfield in Hampshire. During this period, Guggenheim opened her first gallery *Guggenheim Jeune* in Cork Street, London, which held exhibitions by European artists, including Jean Art and Yves Tanguy, alongside modern British artists, including Henry Moore and Julian Trevelyan. Guggenheim had an ambition to open a modern art museum in London, but these plans were interrupted by the outbreak of the Second World War. Guggenheim moved back to Paris where she began to buy art, often directly from the artist's studio, with increasing haste. She negotiated safe passage out of German-occupied France to New York for these works by avant-garde artists and they formed the basis for her collection, which she continued to grow and display. The book stands as a testament to her vision and determination to support modern art and artists at a time when much of their work was, at worst, denigrated or merely misunderstood and undervalued.

In 1949, Guggenheim left New York and moved to Venice, where she found a home for herself and her collection, at the Palazzo Venier dei Leoni. Today, it is part of the Solomon R. Guggenheim Foundation and one of the most visited museums in the world.

Including this extraordinary book in the Petersfield exhibition is central to telling the fascinating story of Peggy Guggenheim, a woman who, in the male-dominated art world of the 20th century, established a leading modern art collection, and committed herself and her financial resources to the support of emerging and avant-garde artists. Our visitors will have the rare opportunity to see this book, which Peggy Guggenheim edited herself, alongside artwork from the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, Venice. Importantly, after the end of the exhibition, the book, the purchase of which was made possible by the generous support of FNL, will remain in our archive, and serve as a lasting connection between the history of Petersfield and the international life of Peggy Guggenheim.

*Art of This Century* 1942 edited by Peggy Guggenheim. Courtesy of Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery.





## PETERSFIELD MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY: EDWARD THOMAS STUDY CENTRE

First edition (1901) publication of *Polyphemus and Other Poems*, by R. C. Trevelyan (1872-1951), with designs by R. E. Fry (1866-1934) and signed and dated (1901) by the writer, literary critic and poet Edward Thomas (1878 – 1917). Bought from Cox and Budge Bookseller Limited for £375, funded in full by a grant from the Friends of the National Libraries.

Jeremy Mitchell, *Chair of the Edward Thomas Fellowship and Keeper of the Collections in the Edward Thomas Study Centre*, writes: The Friends continue to be most generous to Petersfield Museum and Art Gallery and The Edward Thomas Fellowship as we add manuscript and signed books to the collection of the late Tim Wilton-Steer held in the Edward Thomas Study Centre at the Museum and Gallery.

Whilst other repositories holding Edward Thomas material, such as the National Library of Wales and Cardiff University, have a wide range of signed or manuscript items, our own collection has few such items and we have embarked on a policy of seeking to increase interest in the collection through the addition of examples such as this.

Edward Thomas was a literary critic, writer and, ultimately, poet who was killed in the First World War at the beginning, literally, of the Battle of Arras on Easter Monday, 9 April 1917.

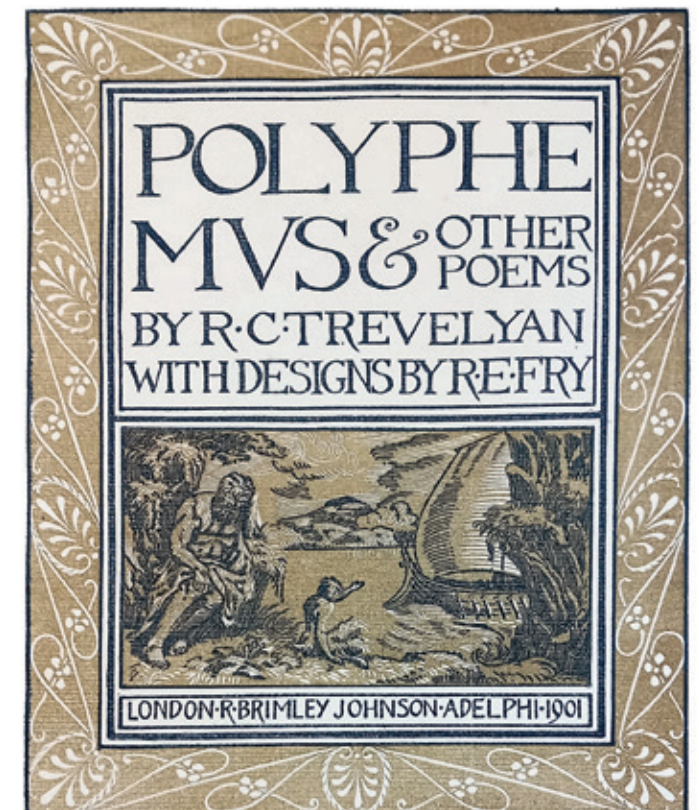
Prior to December 1914, when he began to write the 144 poems for which he is now most well-known (*Adlestrop*, *Tall Nettles* and *As The Team's Head Brass*, for instance), it was as a literary critic and reviewer for publications such as the *Daily Chronicle* (from as early as 1900) that Thomas made his name as one of those from whom a favourable review was most widely sought.

A look at the *Daily Chronicle* archives shows that between 1900 and 1913 barely a day passed without a review by Thomas and one of those, in March 1902, was of *Polyphemus and Other Poems*, by R C Trevelyan. Early in 2023 the very copy that Thomas had reviewed (as evidenced by his signature and date, 1901) was offered for sale by Cox and Budge Booksellers.

Whilst Trevelyan himself may not currently be amongst the most collectable of poets from that period, there is a wider connection between him and Thomas – Trevelyan and Lascelles Abercrombie together compiled *An Annual of New Poetry* in 1917 which included 18 of Thomas's poems (published for the first time but still under the pseudonym of Edward Eastaway) – making this association copy an important acquisition.

The book has wider interest thanks to the Roger Fry illustrations, which are early examples of his art, and which possibly make the book more collectable on that account than Trevelyan's erudite poetics.

Consequently, we are thrilled to have been able to add this book to our collection and once again thank FNL for their generosity in making this acquisition possible.



## FOR THE ROYAL ACADEMY

Thomas Rowlandson (1756-1827), *The Exhibition Stare Case*, c.1811. Bought from Haldane Fine Art for £5,000 with the aid of a grant of £3,000 from Friends of the National Libraries.

*Mark Pomeroy, Archivist, writes:* Rowlandson's satire on the experience of visiting the Royal Academy's exhibition at Somerset House is very well known and has been reproduced in all major publications on the history of the Royal Academy, but the hand-coloured etching itself is very rare. The only impression in a UK public collection is held by the British Museum, and the only public collections in the US to own impressions are the Metropolitan Museum in New York and Princeton University. The original watercolour by Rowlandson is at the Yale Center for British Art.

The institution's home at New Somerset House had been designed by Sir William Chambers RA and opened in 1780. Chambers conceived the building as an ascent to the 'Parnassus' of the Great Room on the top floor which hosted the main part of the exhibition each year. But the elegant staircase which he designed to fit into the semi-circular space was notoriously steep and narrow. Rowlandson uses the staircase to take aim at the high-minded rhetoric of the Academy, striking a contrast with the decidedly earth-bound experience of the average exhibition visitor; contemporary press reports frequently characterised the exhibition as a site of almost febrile social uncertainty. Rowlandson was in a good position to pass comment, as he had sustained a close relationship to the institution during the earliest phase of his career. The RA Archive contains a letter by his aunt, Jane Rowlandson, dating from 1772 and seeking his entry to draw in the Duke of Richmond's sculpture gallery, his name appears in the RA Schools' register that same year and as a student he would have consulted books and prints in the Royal Academy, many of which remain in its possession. Between 1775 and 1787 Rowlandson was a frequent exhibitor in the exhibition and doubtless an even more frequent visitor throughout his life.



Thomas Rowlandson, *The Stare Case*, c.1811, hand-coloured etching on paper. Courtesy of the Royal Academy of Arts, London.

It is unsurprising that the Royal Academy chose not to procure a work of such biting satire upon its original publication. But, given that it was produced by a former student and that it engages directly with the institution's reputation and early history, this etching is a highly significant acquisition for the Royal Academy's Library, Archives and Collection. One of the three strands of our collecting today relates to the Academy's institutional history and social and cultural context. The acquisition of the *Stare Case* complements our collection as, in addition to archival material, it joins an important group of paintings, watercolours, drawings, and prints depicting the Academy and its premises in the late 18th and early 19th century by artists including E F Burney, Johann Zoffany and James Gillray. Our Library and Archive holdings are regularly consulted by scholars of the 18th century and beyond, as well as current staff and students of the Royal Academy. A sophisticated on-line catalogue, with an ever-increasing selection of images, allows a global audience remote access to our holdings.



FOR THE ROYAL BERKSHIRE ARCHIVES, READING

A hand-drawn colour plan of Upper House Farm, Basildon, Berkshire, 1733. Bought at auction from Bonhams for £768, funded in full by a grant from Friends of the National Libraries

*Mr Mark Stevens, County Archivist, writes:* This plan is a unique, contemporary representation of a property then known as Upper House Farm. The farm sits within the ancient parish of Basildon, which is to the west of Reading and bordered by the Thames. The plan shows the farm buildings in elevation, field names, acreages and the state of cultivation. It was drawn for its owner, William Rawstorn, a London merchant. It consists of two membranes of parchment pasted together, measures 1345mm by 745mm and is surveyed at a scale of 40 inches to one mile.

The owner was the son of Sir William, who served as master of the Worshipful Company of Grocers and was Sheriff of London, 1677-1678. Rawstorn junior died in 1747 and Upper House Farm was subsequently incorporated by the 2nd Viscount Fane into his adjacent Basildon estate.

As part of that estate, the farm was sold in 1771 to the nabob, Sir Francis Sykes, who built its mansion house known as Basildon Park. Sykes expanded the estate further, as did his successor, James Morrison, a wealthy London draper who purchased it in 1843. In 1929, Morrison’s descendants sold the estate to the 1st Baron Iliffe, a newspaper proprietor who never lived at Basildon. Both Iliffe and his successor, George Ferdinando, sold off parts of the estate, including Upper House Farm and the mansion’s contents. What remained was reacquired after the Second World War by the 2nd Baron Iliffe and later given to the National Trust. Upper House Farm remained in private ownership.

Today, the property is known as Hillfields Farm and is an event venue and equestrian centre. The buildings shown on this plan still stand. The principal range is immediately to the northwest of Basildon Park.

The surviving Basildon estate records exist mostly in two collections at the Royal Berkshire Archives: one maintained by the Morrison family and another by the 2nd Baron Iliffe. Both include material for Upper House Farm and William Rawstorn’s plan is presumed to be a stray from one of these collections. Almost certainly, it shows the farm’s extent as it stood at the point of acquisition by Sir Francis Sykes. It provides a valuable addition to our understanding of how the wider Park was formed and remodelled during the later in the 18th century, and to how the spoils of the East India Company were reinvested in English property.



Plan of Upper House Farm, Basildon, 1733. Courtesy of Royal Berkshire Archives.

### FOR THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF PHYSICIANS HERITAGE LIBRARY

Daniel Beeckman, *A voyage to and from the island of Borneo in the East-Indies: with a description of the said island giving an account of the inhabitants, their manners, customs, religion, product, chief ports, and trade* (London, 1718).

Bought from Marshall Rare Books for £5,500, with the aid of a grant of £2,500 from Friends of the National Libraries.

Katie Birkwood, *Rare Books and Special Collections Librarian*, writes: This book, an account of a journey to Borneo and other locations in modern Indonesia via the Canary Islands and the Cape of Good Hope, was written by a captain in the East India Company. It features the earliest known European illustration of an orangutan, a native species of Borneo.

This copy of the book was owned by George Edwards (1694-1773), a significant character from the history of the Royal College of Physicians (RCP). Edwards was a noted naturalist and ornithologist: the author and illustrator of the four-volume *A natural history of uncommon birds* (1743-51) and the three-volume *Gleanings of natural history* (1758-64). He was made 'Bedell' of the RCP in 1733: a role comparable to a beadle, with responsibility for college property, security and administration. As part of this role, he also took on responsibility for the college library, styling himself Library Keeper for nearly 30 years.



Edwards' ownership is shown by the presence of his engraved bookplate on a flyleaf at the start of the book, and – more excitingly – through his annotations in two locations: on the title page and on the illustration of an 'Oran-ootan' (i.e. the orangutan). The text of Edwards' annotations demonstrate that he used the book as part of his research for one of his two masterworks, *Gleanings of natural history*.

Edwards gave the RCP a hand-coloured copy of *Gleanings*, and it is now one of the treasures of the library. However, up until now, there has been little documentation preserved on the printed resources Edwards used to create his *Gleanings*. He was routinely employed to draw the animal specimens (both living and dead) of learned collectors in 18th-century London, but it has hitherto been unknown what he did if such a specimen was not available for consultation, or if he wanted to supplement the information that he could glean from it.

As shown by this new acquisition, his research included comparing different printed illustrations: in this case, noting that Beeckman's illustration resembles another work of colonial natural history, Pieter van der Aa's *Icones arborum, fruticum, et herbarum exoticarum*, c1720 (then as now shelved in the RCP library). Edwards wrote:

'This Animal seems to be the same with one figured by Peter Vander Aa, Bookseller of Leiden which he calls Orang-outang se[e] his Book of Figures in the Library of the College of Physicians Lond[on] under Letter F2 242'.

Acquiring Beeckman's book with its tangible evidence of Edwards' research practices enables us better to understand the history of the RCP library, and to illustrate the links between 18th-century naturalism and European colonialism in Asia.



FOR THE ROYAL SOCIETY

Collection of letters and manuscripts relating to the Herschel family. Bought from Christie's (online auction 22135, December 2023, Lot 350) for £6,048 with the aid of a grant of £3,204 from Friends of the National Libraries.

*Dr Louisiane Ferlier, Digital Resources Manager, writes:* Thanks to the generous support of the Friends of the National Libraries, the Royal Society acquired this important collection of manuscripts, typescripts and artefacts related to the Herschel family.

The lot consists of six very large archive boxes, containing a considerable number (800-1,000 letters?) of manuscripts related to the Herschel family. It includes unique correspondence with Sir John Frederick William Herschel FRS (1792-1871) and his wife, botanical artist Margaret Brodie (Stewart) Herschel, including scientific and personal correspondence from many other Fellows of the Royal Society of the likes of Charles Lyell, William Henry Fox Talbot, William Henry Smyth, William Whewell and others.

Upon surveying the lot on offer ahead of the auction, we found that the majority leans strongly towards the ‘next generations’ of family scientists: the surveyor and astronomer Colonel John Herschel FRS (1837-1921), his brothers Sir William James Herschel (1833-1917) judge and fingerprinting pioneer, and the astronomer Alexander Stewart Herschel FRS (1836-1907); with letters from JFW Herschel’s and Margaret’s daughters and granddaughters.

The new material related to the women of the Herschel family is of particular interest as it has never been studied by historians before and is absent from the existing RS Herschel collections. This supports the Society’s diversity agenda and is of primary interest to historians.

Similarly, the letters of Colonel John Herschel, and William James Herschel, relate to their careers as military and government scientists and officials in India during the 1857 Indian Uprising and are therefore of great interest to historians of science and empire.

This is an essential and timely addition to the Royal Society’s archives: the Royal Society is the main public repository for Herschel family papers, and already holds the scientific correspondence of Sir John F W Herschel (more than 10,600 letters and supplementary material) and working papers of Colonel John Herschel FRS (on pendulum and other research).

The Society is undertaking a major digitisation programme on the existing Herschel letters under the guidance of an advisory board composed of Herschel scholars, partner institutions and members of the Herschel family who have welcomed this acquisition as a milestone. The collection will be catalogued and digitised during 2024 as part of this initiative and made accessible to all on our online platform, *Science in the Making*. As an accredited archive and a world-leading collection for the history of science, the Royal Society is also in an excellent position to make the collection available to the public in our reading rooms.



Selection of letters from the collection. © Christie's and courtesy of the Royal Society.

FOR THE SAMUEL JOHNSON BIRTHPLACE MUSEUM, LICHFIELD

Autograph letter written by Dr Samuel Johnson to Sophia Thrale, dated 24 July 1783. Bought from Chorley’s Auctioneers (19 September 2023, Lot 486) for £38,460, with the aid of a grant of £17,000 from Friends of the National Libraries [John R Murray Fund].

Kimberley Biddle, *Museums and Heritage Officer*, writes: With the generous support of the Friends of the National Libraries and others, The Samuel Johnson Birthplace Museum is delighted to have acquired a personal letter written by Dr Samuel Johnson.

Born in Lichfield and best known as the author of *A Dictionary of the English Language* in 1755, Samuel Johnson was also a playwright, poet, essayist, journalist, editor, critic and biographer, and is highly regarded as one of the 18th century’s most important men of letters.

Penned by Johnson in 1783, the letter features in Bruce Redford’s edition of *The Letters of Samuel Johnson* (Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1992–4). Its location was unknown and remained a mystery until its rediscovery was announced on 31 August 2023. It was found amongst volumes of fascinating manuscripts, some written by Sarah Siddons and Hester Lynch Thrale (née Salusbury; later Piozzi), in a library cupboard belonging to a family who had recently moved into their ancestral home. It was subsequently put up for sale at Chorley’s auction house.

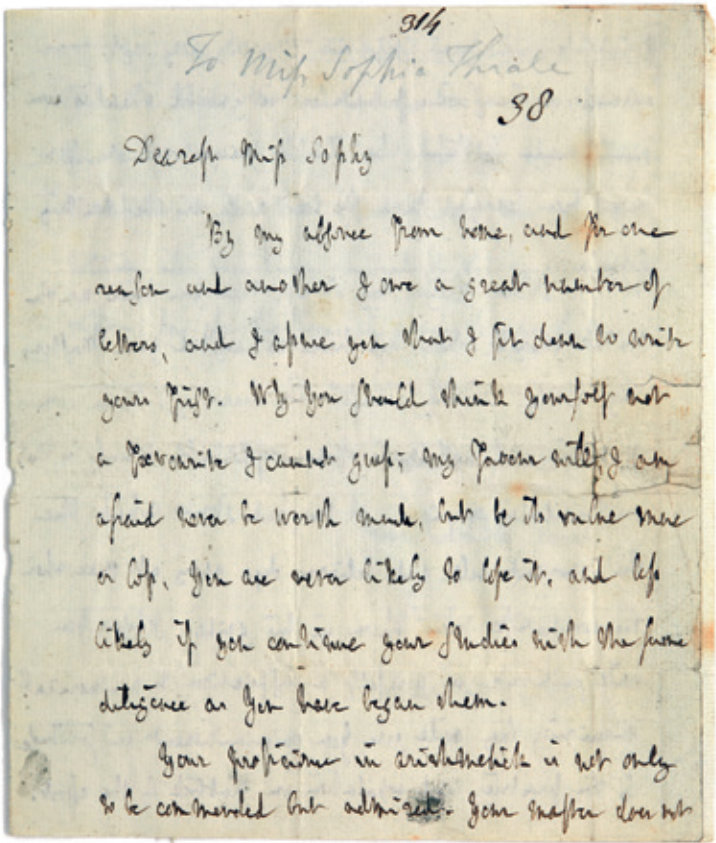
The letter is addressed to a 12-year-old Sophia Thrale, the sixth daughter of Hester Lynch Thrale, British author and patron of the arts. Hester was one of the most important women in Johnson’s life, and his regular correspondence with Hester and her children provides great insight into Johnson’s mind.

In the letter Johnson encourages Sophia to continue her studies, especially her mathematical pursuits. He tells her, ‘Your proficiencie in arithmetick is not only to be commended but admired’; ‘Never think, my Sweet, that You have arthimetick enough; when You have exhausted your Master, buy Books’. Its contents serve to demonstrate Johnson’s enlightened views on the importance of women’s education, and the openness he had towards young people in general. Further, it provides evidence of his interest in mathematics during his later life, a field for which he is not commonly known.

This charming letter is a rare and documented example of a different side to Johnson, its affectionate and paternal tone shows a softness not often associated with him. Johnson sweetly reassures Sophia, ‘Why You should think yourself not a favourite I cannot guess; my favour will, I am afraid never be worth much, but be its value more or less, You are never likely to lose it, and less likely if you continue your studies with the same diligence as You have begun them.’

The acquisition is a significant addition to our collections. Through Johnson’s letters we can explore the complexities of his personality and better understand his day-to-day thoughts and feelings beyond his outstanding accomplishments. The letter will go on public display at The Samuel Johnson Birthplace Museum in Lichfield. This free museum welcomes visitors throughout the year and was once the family home where Johnson spent the first 27 years of his life.

The Samuel Johnson Birthplace Museum is extremely grateful that this important acquisition was made possible by funding and support from FNL, The Johnson Society (Lichfield), Lichfield City Council, and Phil Jones, a private donor.



Detail of Johnson’s letter to Sophia Thrale. Courtesy of the Samuel Johnson Birthplace Museum.



## FOR SHOWTOWN, BLACKPOOL

**The Charlie Cairoli Collection, 1780 – present. Bought from Charlie Cairoli Junior for £94,500, with the aid of a grant of £20,000 from Friends of the National Libraries.**

*Caroline Hall, Curatorial and Collections Manager, writes:* Showtown is a new museum in Blackpool which opened in March 2024; it is Blackpool's first permanent museum and highlights the town's rich history as a seaside home of entertainment. This major capital development was supported by Blackpool Council, the UK Government, the Heritage Fund and Lancashire Enterprise Partnership. The museum features Blackpool's collections of entertainment history material, which are without parallel and include a comprehensive archive record of its venues, the acts and the trends in entertainment covering the transition from 19th-century entertainment to mass popular culture in the 20th century.

Charlie became one of the greatest and most creative Auguste clowns of the 20th century. He dominated the history of the Tower Circus, establishing himself as its primary attraction and Britain's most celebrated clown. The Auguste clown, known for their clever and humorous antics, typically performs alongside the authoritative whiteface clown. Often, the Auguste undermines the whiteface clown's intentions, leading to hilarious situations. Charlie excelled in this physical role, gaining fame for his comedic timing, musical performances and signature slosh work (custard pies).

The collection offers insights into Charlie Cairoli's years of training, the continuation of circus traditions, and the remarkable talents he employed. It documents his childhood in France, where he honed his craft, followed by his initial performances in Britain, his contributions during wartime and his subsequent rise to international prominence.

The collection features items representing all aspects of Cairoli's performances, including programs, playbills, posters, costumes, props and musical instruments, as well as materials related to the business side of his performances, such as scripts, jokes, contracts and correspondence. Additionally, the collection is enhanced by several artworks and circus-related books collected by generations of the family.

At the age of 17, Cairoli joined his father's act under the name Carletto. Posters and programs chart his growth in experience and popularity, showcasing how

the Trio Cairoli emerged as one of the most beloved acts in Paris, rivalling the renowned Trio Fratellin – a family into which Charlie later married.

The Trio's first performance in Blackpool took place in the 1939 season at the Blackpool Tower Circus, it was a tremendous success and they were booked for the following season in 1940. However, a few weeks into the season Charlie was arrested and interned on the Isle of Man as part of the government's wartime policy regarding 'aliens'. He was released after a few months. The collection of programmes, handbills and letters documents how – during the war – Charlie was supported by the Tower with a residency and how he responded to the war and public reaction by working for the British war effort through performing.

After the war Charlie was at the peak of his career. The performance photography and ephemera including a bound volume of Charlie's jokes, music pads with annotations and scripts reveals how he developed routines that kept people laughing at the Tower – no matter what – for 39 years.

We are delighted to acquire the entire collection, thereby preserving its integrity and significance. We are grateful for generous contributions from FNL, the ACE/V&A Purchase Grant Fund and the Art Fund, which together have brought us a collection that reveals a continuity from the finest circus traditions and acts of 19th-century Europe all the way through to circus performances in Blackpool.



Charlie Cairoli was one of the most important clowns of the 20th century and his archive fills a gap in our collection – circus, one of Blackpool's most significant entertainments.

Charlie Cairoli Senior preparing for a performance with wife Violette, late 1950s. © Showtown, Blackpool.

FOR SHROPSHIRE ARCHIVES

1. Survey of the lands of Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn (1772-1840) in Trefonnen, Trefloch and Soughtin, c1829. Brought from Michael Kemp Bookseller for £1,500, with the aid of a grant of £500 from Friends of the National Libraries [John R Murray Fund].

Sal Mager, Senior Archivist, writes: Estate maps can often be very large and imposing. They can also sometimes be a little disappointing as they can be rather scant on useful information and little more than an outline sketch. I am pleased to say the Trefonnen, Trefloch and Soughtin Survey which we have recently acquired is neither of these things. The compact soft-bound volume belies its contents. Inside are a set of meticulously drawn, detailed and coloured maps, recorded over eight sets of double pages. Each map is given a scale.

Every map is accompanied by a table detailing the extent and use of the various plots shown, as well as naming the occupiers and neighbouring landowners. This means the information content will be valuable to a range of researchers – from academics and those studying land use and field names to genealogists and house history researchers.

The survey was made for Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn who was the largest landowner in North Wales at that time. He was the 5th Baronet of Wynnstay and married Lady Henrietta Clive, daughter of Edward Clive, 1st Earl of Powis.

As this record clearly illustrates, his holdings extended over the border into Shropshire. As the main the Williams-Wynn estate papers are held at the National Library of Wales, we liaised with them about the best home for this particular survey but agreed that it was more appropriate to be held in Shropshire.

It is a significant addition to our collections. It complements the estate records of Rowland Hunt who owned adjacent land in Trefloch (otherwise spelt Treflach) ref 6000/16380-17990. We have very little material on Trefonnen and Soughtin.

We are delighted to have acquired this unique record of the area which will enable the history of the local people and landscape to be accessible to all. We are very grateful to both the Friends of Shropshire Archives and FNL, who generously provided the funds needed to secure the purchase of this volume when it came up for auction. The survey is now available to view in our search room, or copies can be ordered through our website, under the reference MI9940/1.

A page from the Watkin Williams-Wynn survey, c.1829. Courtesy of Shropshire Archives.





2. Early deeds of Shropshire relating to the Topp family, 1606-1748. Bought from London Auctions Ltd via The Saleroom (30 November, Lot 11570) for £504, funded in full by a grant from the Friends of the National Libraries.

*Sarah Davis, Archives Team Leader, writes:* Although this is a small collection of deeds, it is noteworthy. The deeds relate to the Whitton and Vennington estates, in the parish of Westbury and their descent through the Topp family.

In medieval period, Whitton was part of the Caus Castle holdings of the Corbet family. It passed to tenants who took their name from the lands they held at Whitton. On the death of John de Whitton, it descended through the marriage of his daughter to the Lingen family. In 1594 Elizabeth Lingen married Alexander Topp of Wiltshire.

Many of the deeds relate to land bought, sold and mortgaged by Alexander Topp and his son, Lingen Topp, who served as High Sheriff of Shropshire in 1679. The collection includes a lengthy settlement of 1628, on the marriage of Lingen Topp and Mary Calcott daughter of Dorothy Calcott, widow of Plealey. This was Lingen's first marriage. By his second wife, Dorothy, he had a son Alexander Topp who is believed to have been the builder of the present house at Whitton.

Land in Vennington is also included in the same settlement. In 1770, Lingen's grandson, John Topp, purchased further land in Vennington from the Hunt family of Boreatton.

Existing material held by Shropshire Archives on Whitton Hall includes sales particulars, conveyances, leases and photographs. However, these date almost exclusively from the 19th and 20th centuries – a number deriving from the sale by Agatha and Isabella Topp to Dr J E Severne. This new accession adds substantially to Whitton's earlier history. The Severne Collection held at Shropshire Archives (ref 279) contains early material relating to Severne holdings in Vennington and this purchase is a good complement to existing holdings on Vennington.

The deeds are in good condition and can be viewed under the reference MI9991. We are grateful to the Friends of the National Libraries for funding this purchase.



A selection of deeds from the Topp collection [ref. MI9991]. Courtesy of Shropshire Archives.

## FOR SOUTH WEST HERITAGE TRUST: DEVON ARCHIVE SERVICE

**1. The Wykes photographic archive, c.1914-1960, forming part of the Isca Photographic Archive relating principally to Exeter. Bought from a private seller for £10,000, with a grant of £5,000 from the Friends of the National Libraries.**

*Dr Janet Tall, Head of Archives, Learning & Development, writes:* We are grateful to the Friends of the National Libraries for enabling the purchase of the photographic negative collection of Henry Wykes (1874-1964), an Exeter-based commercial photographer. Wykes was an ambitious photographer who operated from premises in prestigious central Exeter locations, including Bedford Circus and later Northernhay Place.

Dating mainly from 1920-1964 the images include detailed street scenes from the inter-war era, portraits of the city's inhabitants and depictions of events which took place in and around Exeter. Wykes set up a portrait studio in his Northernhay premises and used a large format camera, which he adapted to use a half-plate format. The collection includes a mixture of formats, including glass plates and acetate negatives.

Wykes quickly recognised the commercial opportunities that could come from capturing local scenes and events. This was sparked in 1917 by a dramatic electric tram accident in central Exeter. Having rushed to the scene with his camera he turned his images into postcards which were marketed to onlookers. This aspect of his work has ensured that the collection is much more than an assembly of portraiture. Wykes held a pilot's licence, and among highlights from the inter-war images are aerial views of Exeter from 1927 onwards.

The collection documents an important period of change in Exeter, capturing street scenes that no longer exist, such as Bedford Circus. The Second World War had a profound effect on central Exeter and the collection includes original negatives documenting the Baedeker raids in 1942, which caused widespread destruction in the heart of the old city. Fortunately for the archive Wykes kept his photographic negative stock in a basement room, which survived the bombing even though the buildings above were destroyed.

Images in the collection from the later 1940s onwards depict the post-war reconstruction of the city. They complement many other collections held at the Devon Heritage Centre, including images of the engineering business Willey and Co. and the activities of organisations and their premises, such as Tuckers Hall and Exeter Guild of Weavers, Tuckers and Shearmen. The collection also depicts occupations across the city which have changed greatly, including commercial activity in the Exeter Canal and Quay area.

In the early 1970s the archive came into the possession of Peter Thomas, whose passion for the images led him to create the Isca Photographic Collection. A keen amateur photographer, he augmented the collection with his own images. These documented the on-going changes in the city from the 1970s until his death in 2020, capturing major construction such as the Princesshays shopping and commercial development. The acquisition of the Wykes collection has enabled the donation of this additional material. Together they provide an unrivalled pictorial archive of change in the city over the period of a century.



Above: Wartime destruction in central Exeter, 1942. Right: Bedford Circus, Exeter, 1920s. Courtesy of South West Heritage Trust.



2. Eleven volumes of estate accounts, servants' wages, rents, house accounts and a memoranda book relating to the Seale family estate of Dartmouth, Devon, 1745-1831. Bought from Bearnese, Hampton & Littlewood of Exeter for £1,105, funded in full by a grant from Friends of the National Libraries.

Dr Janet Tall, Head of Archives, Learning & Development, writes: We are grateful to the Friends of the National Libraries for enabling us to acquire a set of volumes which form part of the estate archive of the Seale family, a prominent Dartmouth family based at Mount Boone, Townstal (now the site of the Britannia Royal Naval College). They were descended from the Seale family of St Brelade in Jersey. In the 1720s the estate with its medieval mansion house was purchased by John Seale, Esquire, a wealthy London merchant who later augmented his fortune through trade with Newfoundland. His son John Henry Seale was prominent in Devon society, serving as MP for Dartmouth and Deputy Lieutenant of Devon. Their influence spread across the town and surrounding area of Devon.

The account books record payments relating to the estate and are rich in detail, including the names of many local people. They give insight into the management of a varied coastal estate, with payments for boat building and for goods coming in by ship, including Jamaican rum and Spanish wines, as well as entries relating to local quarries and lime kilns. There are details of rents and entries relating to land management alongside information about the running of the house, and personal items purchased for family members. The Seales took their position in local society seriously, and the entries include 'money for the Town of Dartmouth'.

The general account books are augmented by a volume relating specifically to rents, 1777, and a further volume of specifically household accounts entitled 'Mrs Seal's Account', 1812. The collection also includes a small memoranda book, which gives a very personal insight into the inner thoughts and piety of a member of the Seale family between 1818-19. Described as 'Confessions – Accounts' the writer makes regular entries, often relating to their struggles with their Christian faith.

The Devon Archive Service holds the main Seale family estate archive (ref. 3889) and we are pleased to be able to reunite these volumes with the wider collection.

Seale estate volumes. Courtesy of South West Heritage Trust.



FOR ST PAUL'S SCHOOL ARCHIVES

Correspondence (1962-1969) from Peter Winckworth (1908-1986).  
Bought by private treaty sale via Gorringe's for £500, with the aid of a grant of £400 from Friends of the National Libraries.

*Kelly Strickland, Archivist, writes:* These 12 letters were part of a larger collection of correspondence to Peter Winckworth, Governor of St Paul's School and Master Mercer. We were offered this set of letters that relate directly to St Paul's School and its alumni. Thanks to the grant from the Friends of the National Libraries we were able to acquire them.

Peter Winckworth was a Governor of the School from 1958 to 1973 and Master of the Mercers Company from 1961 to 1962. He was a Governor at an important time in the School's history as it was moving location for the fifth time. It moved from West Kensington to Barnes in 1968. Several of the letters touch on this topic and give insight into the thinking and planning behind the move.

Most of the correspondence is from two of the School's High Masters, Anthony N. Gilkes and Thomas E.B. Howarth.

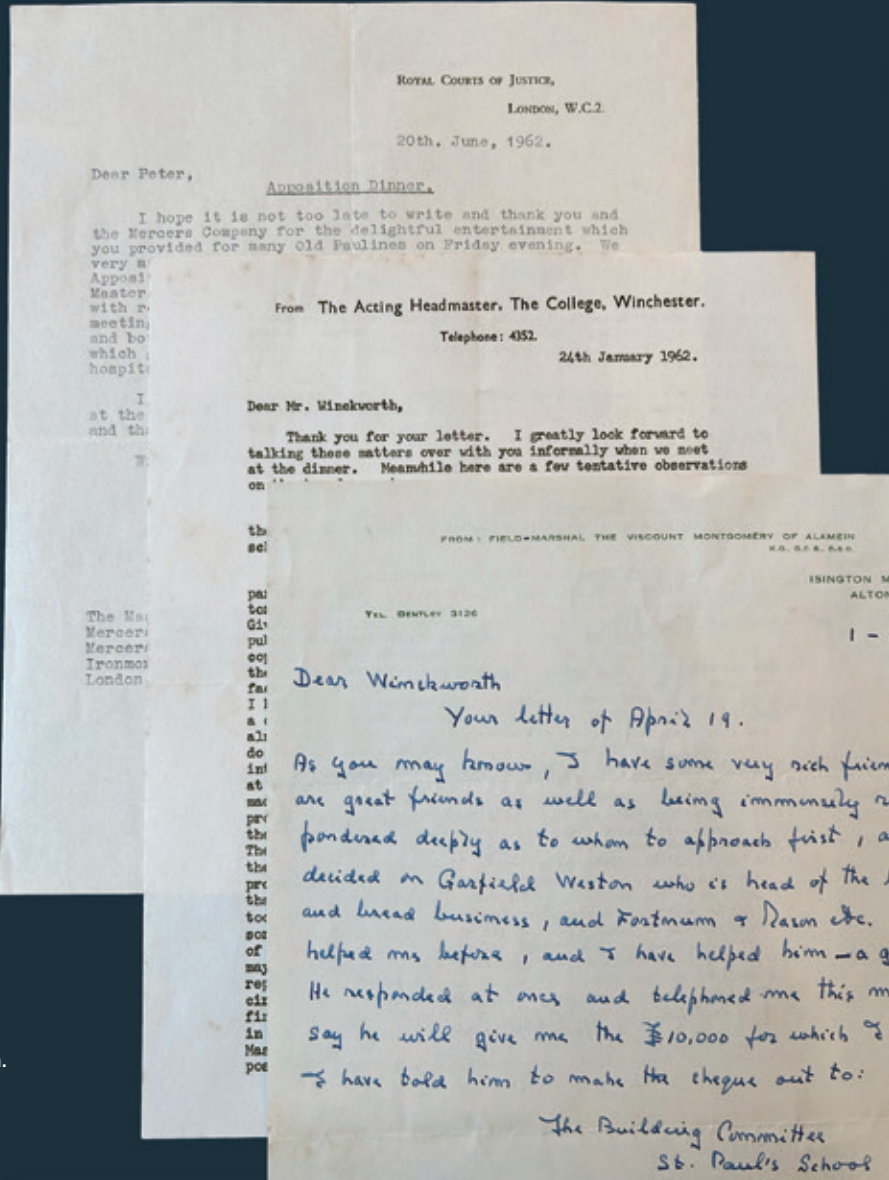
High Master Anthony Gilkes wrote to Mr Winckworth in 1962 about the School's historic annual Apposition ceremony, suggesting prize-giving should be removed from the event.

A series of letters from Thomas Howarth reference the possibility of him leaving the School for another Headmastership, but ultimately he decided to stay and gives his reasoning. The Archives do not have much correspondence to and from High Master Howarth so this insight is illuminating.

One letter that is particularly exciting for us is from Field Marshall Bernard L. Montgomery. Montgomery attended St Paul's School from 1902 until 1905, and remained connected to the School throughout his life and also served as a governor. In a 1968 letter to Mr Winckworth, FM Montgomery writes about his efforts to raise funds for the new school building in Barnes. He also makes mention of the Montgomery Room, a meeting room named in his honour. This room remains an important meeting room for the school today with Montgomery's portrait on the wall.

Other letters from notable Old Paulines include those from Lord Harry Louis Nathan in 1962, Sir Irving Blanchard Gane in 1962 and Sir Louis Halle Gluckstein in 1967. These letters praise various events and efforts by Winckworth and the School.

These letters give more insight into an important figure in the School's history, but one who is not well known. With this acquisition we hope to learn more about an important time at the School.



Selection of letters to Peter Winckworth.  
Courtesy of St Paul's School.



FOR THOMAS PLUME’S LIBRARY, MALDEN, ESSEX

Four missing volumes from Thomas Plume’s (1630-1704) library. Bought from Forum Auctions (20 June 2023, various lots) for £6,930, with the aid of a grant of £3,812 from Friends of the National Libraries.

Dr Helen Kemp, Plume Librarian, writes: Thomas Plume’s Library would like to thank FNL for their generous support in helping to fund the purchase of four books. During the early 20th century many books went missing from Thomas Plume’s Library, when borrowers were permitted to use the vicar’s key to access the Plume building. Since this problem was identified in the 1980s, the Friends of Thomas Plume’s Library have been raising funds to buy back replacement copies of the missing editions, but sometimes several books appear in the same auction and the cost of bidding for all of them is beyond our means. The Friends of the National Libraries has supported these acquisitions on three occasions in the past and we were delighted when they agreed to help us again in 2023.

The four books we acquired with FNL’s help have beautiful illustrations and are especially useful to us in our exhibitions. The books acquired are:

Hiob Ludolf, *A New History of Ethiopia, being a Full and Accurate Description of the Kingdom of Abessinia*, first English edition, London, for Samuel Smith, 1682.

Nicholas de Bonnefons, *The French Gardiner instructing how to cultivate all sorts of Fruit-Trees and Herbs for the Garden*, translated by John Evelyn, third edition, London, by T.R. & N.T. for B. Tooke, 1675.

William Winstanley, *Historical Rarities and curious Observations domestick & foreign*, London, for Rowland Reynolds, 1684.

Garcilaso de la Vega, *El Inca: The Royal Commentaries of Peru, 2 parts in 1*, translated by Paul Rycaut, London, printed by Miles Flesher, for Christopher Wilkinson, 1688.

To give a flavour of the contents, here are some quotations from the books:

In *The Royal Commentaries of Peru*, the translator explains that the original author claimed descent on his father’s side from one of the first conquerors of the New World, and the last King of Peru on his mother’s, but provides a caveat for the book’s reliability: ‘It is probable that a great part of this History, as far as concerns the Original of the Incas and the foundation of their Laws, is fabulous: howsoever, being, as our Authour says, delivered by Tradition, and commonly believed amongst their People of the better degree, it may contain divers Truths mixed with an abundance of Fictions and foolish Inventions.’

The title page of *A New History of Ethiopia* explains that the Kingdom of Abessinia is generally known as The Empire of Prester John, which is an erroneous claim. The book is in four parts covering (1) geography and wildlife; (2) the government, royal court, military power, and justice system; (3) conversion to Christianity and their own sacred writings, rites and ceremonies; and (4) the economy, scholarship, cultural traditions, and commerce. Ludolf’s friends had reassured him: ‘That never anything came forth perfect at first in all its parts: And that therefore this History was no longer to be conceal’d from the Christian and Learned World, which it concerned to know these things.’



Hiob Ludolf, *A New History of Ethiopia*, 1682. Courtesy of Thomas Plume’s Library.

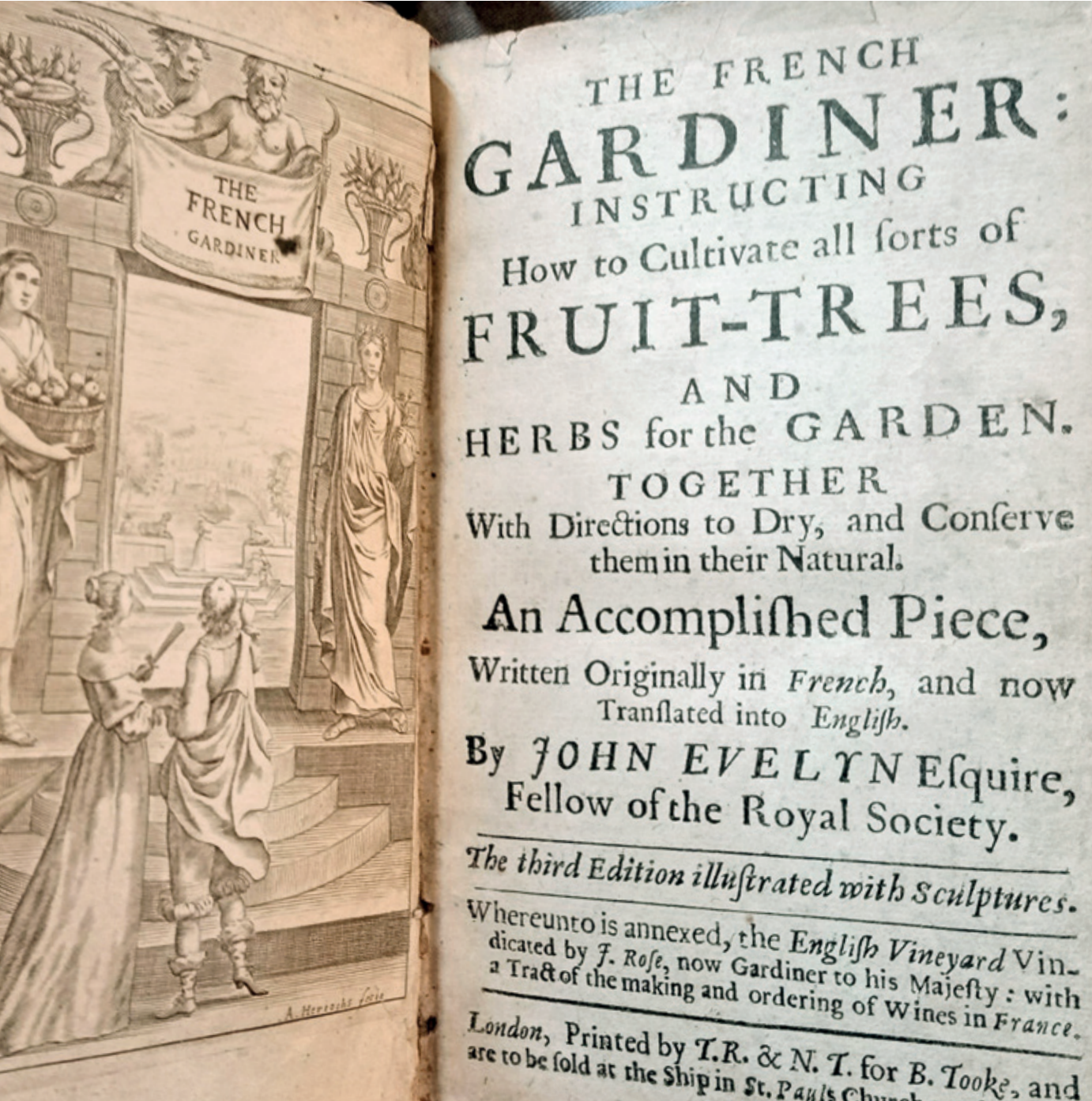


John Evelyn dedicated his translation of *The French Gardiner* to his friend Thomas Henshaw, who had suggested that it would be a worthwhile endeavour. He explains to the reader that 'If any man think it an employment fit for the Translator of this former part, it will become him to know, that though I have some experience in the Garden, ... yet I have none in the Shambles [slaughterhouse]; and that what I here present him was to gratify a noble Friend, who had only the Empire over me, as to make me quit some more serious Employments for a few daies, in obedience to his Command.' Bound into this volume is another text: John Rose's *The English Vineyard vindicated*, London, 1675.

Winstanley, in his *Historical Rarities*, refers to History as 'the Work-mistress of Experience, and the mother of Prudence; it is the general Treasury of times past, present, and a lively pattern of things to come; It is that which reinforces Antiquity from her ruins, and makes the gray head of Time white again... Learning is such a precious Jewel, that it was highly honoured even amongst the Heathens themselves.' A rousing endorsement for historical study, which is especially needed in the present day.



William Winstanley, *Historical Rarities and curious Observations domestick & foreign*, London, for Rowland Reynolds, 1684.



Nicholas de Bonnefons, *The French Gardiner*, translated by John Evelyn, 1675. Images courtesy of Thomas Plume's Library.



FOR THE LIBRARY OF UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, OXFORD

Three volumes containing eight issues of the *The Savoy* periodical (1896) from the collection of Walter Edwin Ledger, collector of Oscar Wilde's works, and his brother Percy George Ledger. Bought from Jarndyce Antiquarian Booksellers for £3,200, with the aid of a grant of £2,880 from Friends of the National Libraries.

*Elizabeth Adams, College Librarian, writes:* These volumes are a valuable addition to the Robert Ross Memorial Collection and the College is most grateful to FNL for their support with the purchase.

Walter Edwin Ledger's collection of Oscar Wilde's works began as early as 1884 when he attended a concert at the Royal Albert Hall and purchased the official programme, *Shakespearean Show-Book*, which included Wilde's poem, 'Under the balcony'. From the late 1890s, Ledger began collecting in earnest, amassing an almost complete collection by the time of his death in 1931. Ledger's will requested that his books by or about Oscar Wilde should be kept together and known as the 'Robert Ross Memorial Collection' in honour of his friend, Robbie Ross. This stipulation has preserved much of Ledger's collection but also resulted in the dispersal of some of his books.



Walter Ledger's bookplate.

As well as his interest in Oscar Wilde and fin-de-siècle literature more widely, Walter Ledger was an accomplished pianist (with a particular fondness for Chopin), a knowledgeable botanist and a connoisseur of fine art. He bequeathed over 250 prints to the British Museum and the Fitzwilliam Museum in Cambridge, and over 300 live plants and a collection of dried specimens to the Botanical Gardens at Kew. Despite these legacies and his status as one of the earliest and most successful collectors of Wilde's work, relatively little is known about Walter Ledger's life.

Within Ledger's collection is an 1891 edition of Wilde's *Intentions* printed in Leipzig. An inscription inside reveals that Ledger received the book as a gift from his older brother, Percy, in May 1896. Percy's choice of gift only a little over a year after Wilde's very public fall from grace reveals a touching support of his brother's potentially controversial interest. The return of the three volumes of *The Savoy*, owned by both Ledger and his brother, not only adds colour to the life and collecting habits of this important collector, but also suggests new avenues for future research into the Robert Ross Memorial Collection.



The Savoy periodical with prospectus. Images courtesy of University College, Oxford.

FOR WEST SUSSEX RECORD OFFICE

1. Title deeds and papers relating to the Great House Estate, West Hoathly, and to the manor of West Hoathly Rectory, 1453-1964. Bought from Gorrings for £9,100, with the aid of a grant of £3,500 from Friends of the National Libraries.

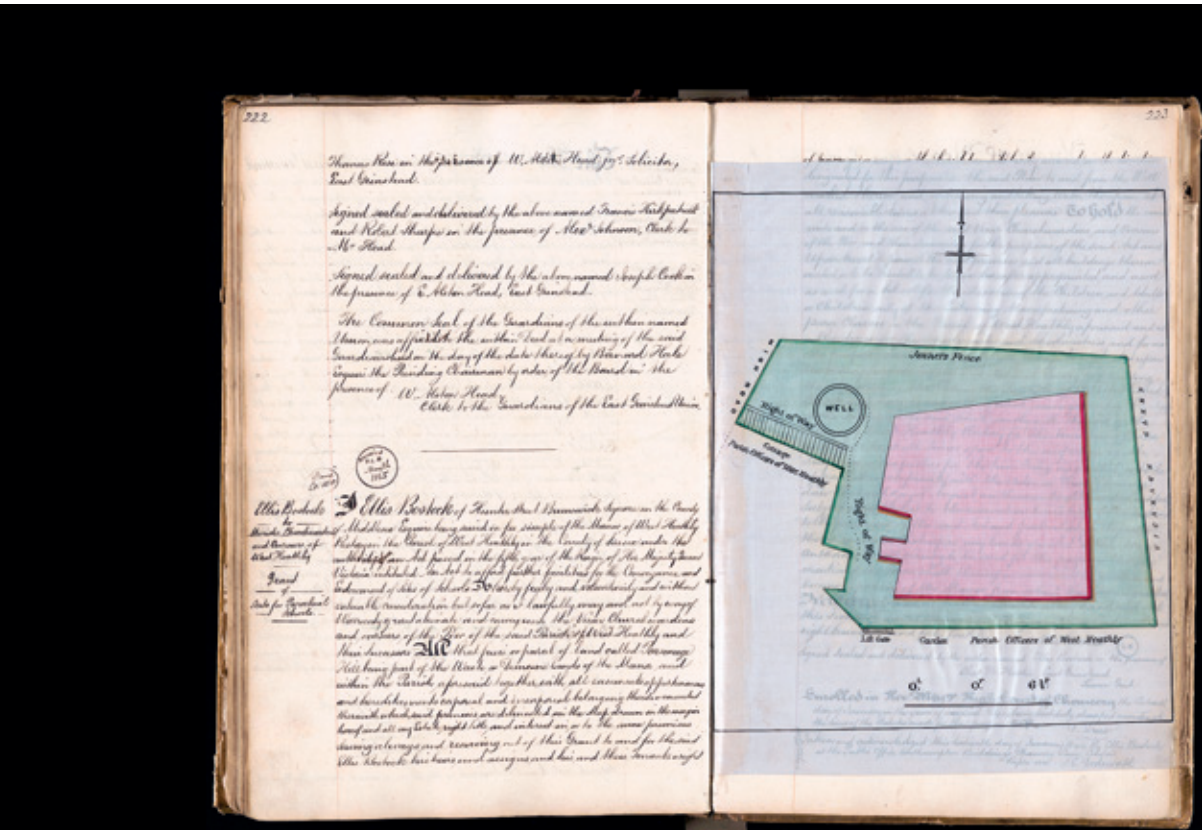
Wendy Walker, County Archivist, writes: West Sussex Record Office (WSRO) is extremely grateful to the Friends of the National Libraries for their help in enabling the purchase of title deeds and associated papers relating to the Great House Estate in West Hoathly and the manor of West Hoathly Rectory. Dating from 1453 to 1964, this is a remarkably complete collection comprising several hundred documents.

It is rare that the entire archive of a small Wealden estate, with an unbroken title from 1524, appears on the market, which makes this a particularly significant acquisition. The collection includes title deeds and manorial records, 1453-1916, title deeds of The Strakes, West Hoathly, [1732]-1925, the court book of the manor of West Hoathly Rectory, a book of reference to a survey of the parish of West Hoathly by John and Henry Chilcott of Cuckfield in 1839, assessments for parish poor rate and Land Tax, 1743-1748, and estate and personal papers and correspondence of the King and Ridley families, 1794-1964. The documents provide a full account of the history of the manor and its changing ownership over the centuries.

The records in this collection represent an invaluable source for local and house historians, genealogists, social historians and others. Documents such as the West Hoathly Rectory manor court book, July 1700 to July 1923, are an important record of local residents and property transactions over the course of two centuries, whilst material relating to West Hoathly school and the recreation grounds record important local changes. The estate and personal papers and correspondence of the King and Ridley families, 1794-1964, provide an insight into both the management of the estate and the lives of its owners.

This archive is further enhanced by the presence of documents produced as a consequence of its ownership by Anna Hooper, formerly Tidcombe, the wife of Robert Hooper, Attorney General of Barbados, on whose behalf the estate was administered by local agents between 1694 and 1716. Between 1716 and 1721 their dealings were examined in Chancery, which sheds welcome light on the estate during that period as well as on transatlantic communications.

Aside from a small quantity of documents at WSRO and the British Library there is nothing else in the public domain about the estate which makes the acquisition of this collection particularly significant. It means that this substantial manorial and estate archive will soon be accessible to researchers for the first time. The West Hoathly archive is an extremely important addition to the collections at WSRO and its acquisition would not have been possible without the generosity of FNL.



Detail of the West Hoathly court book and plan. Courtesy of West Sussex Record Office.



**2. Diary of Hugh de Sélincourt, 1939-1940. Bought from Christian White Rare Books for £2,750, with the aid of a grant of £,1200 from Friends of the National Libraries.**

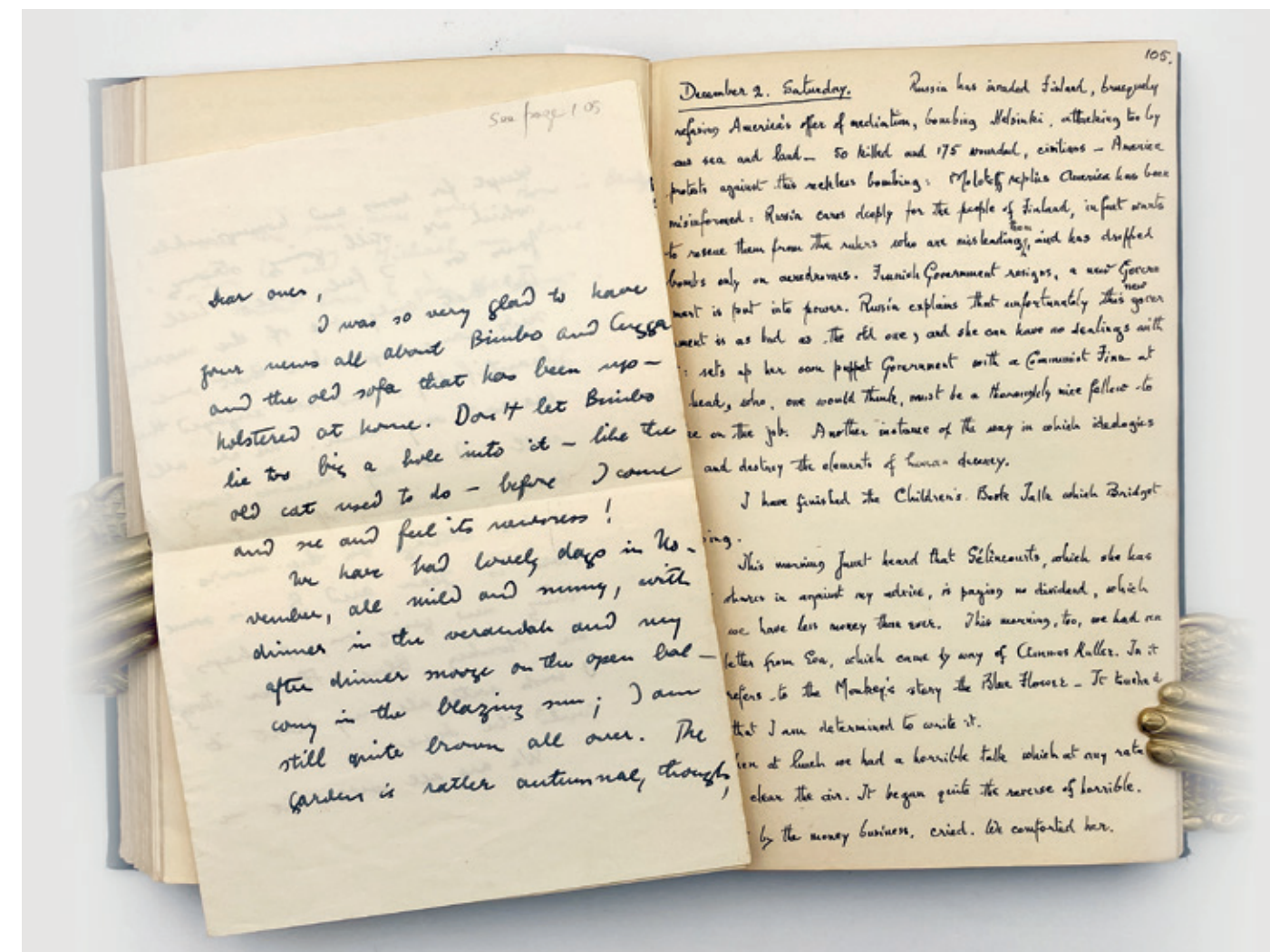
*Wendy Walker, County Archivist, writes:* This diary, compiled by the author and journalist Hugh de Sélincourt for his lover, the German translator and writer Eva Schumann, is written with fluency and writerly skill, conveying the day-to-day uncertainties and privations of the Phoney War, set against a complicated personal and domestic backdrop. The diary touches on a number of key themes – the war, which casts a shadow over the diary, the relationship with the absent Eva Schumann, cricket and de Sélincourt's domestic life, which appears to have been a comfort to him at such an uncertain time. The diary also contains de Sélincourt's reflections on his friendship with Havelock Ellis and affair with Margaret Sanger.

Part of the diary's significance lies in de Sélincourt's detailed descriptions of life at this early stage of the Phoney War, from gas-proofing the house to a remarkable description of the blackout in London which vividly bring these experiences to life. The reality of war, including seeing German planes on the south coast of England, is in marked contrast to the generally sedate nature of de Sélincourt's domestic life, with trips to Worthing, work in the garden, and interactions with family members and pets described in detail. The birth of his first grandchild, Phillip, is a counterpoint to the destruction and horrors of the war. The diary also offers an insight into the challenges of communicating with loved ones in Germany – de Sélincourt relied on an intermediary in Holland ('Ada') to get letters to and from Eva.

The diary provides a microcosm of life in West Sussex at a time of great fear and uncertainty. It sheds fresh light on de Sélincourt's personal life and his relationship with key figures in it. It is likely to be of interest to researchers on a variety of topics, including the life of de Sélincourt, the Second World War in the south of England, rural and domestic life in the late 1930s and attitudes to Germany and the war.

The diary will be added to the de Sélincourt archive at WSRO where it will fill a crucial gap in the existing series of de Sélincourt's diaries dating from 1938 to 1948. Thanks to the generous grant from the Friends of the National Libraries and support from the ACE/V&A Purchase Grant Fund, the diary can now be consulted alongside other material from the de Sélincourt archive, creating an enhanced resource for researchers.

Diary of Hugh de Selincourt, entry for March 1939, with letter from Eva Schumann (Acc 20667). Courtesy of West Sussex Record Office.



FOR WILTSHIRE & SWINDON HISTORY CENTRE, CHIPPENHAM

1. Ten items relating to the Eyre-Matcham family of Newhouse, Whiteparish and Downton, Wiltshire, 1661-1855. Bought from Forum Auctions (25 May 2023, various lots) for £13,733 fully funded by a grant from Friends of the National Libraries [of which half from the John R Murray Fund and half from the FNL General Fund].

*Ally McConnell, Principal Archivist, writes:* These lots and several others relating to the Eyre-Matcham family of Newhouse, Whiteparish and Downton were brought to the attention of the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre by the National Archives. Upon further research it transpired that the items being sold were the last pieces from the sale of the family home of the depositor of collection 1369, which had been deposited with the History Centre in 1976 along with informal confirmation that more documents would be deposited in due course.

Unfortunately, the depositor died before the transfer of the remainder of the documents, and owing to lack of an official bequest they were auctioned in May 2023, along with some others not of relevance to Wiltshire.

All but one lot of interest was purchased at the auction. A marriage contract drawn up between Sir Samuel Eyre and Martha Lucy in 1661 (Lot 2), around the time Eyre purchased Newhouse, was the earliest relevant document.

The four 18th-century estate maps (Lots 37-40) were high priority items for us, being of great importance to the estate and family. While crude (almost unreadable) copies had been made of three of them, these are the original maps, and an essential part of the collection. Three date from 1731-1734 (one is contemporary, but undated) and all were drawn by the surveyor Richard Joliffe. One is an entire map of Newhouse (Lot 39), one specifically of Newhouse Farm (Lot 38) and one of part of the estate called Milkhill (Lot 37). Lot 40, a beautiful drawing of an 18th-century garden, is a map of the kitchen gardens belonging to Robert Eyre in Whiteparish, dated 1746.

Two other lots provide notes on the Eyre family by Reverend Edmund Benson and his son Robert from about the 1830s (Lot 23), and a diary and letter book belonging to George Matcham, 1851-1855 (Lot 33).

Other lots purchased were a confirmation of the charters of New Sarum (Salisbury), from about 1830 (Lot 25), a court baron of the manor of Downton dated 1676 (Lot 3) and a map of allotments in East Downton, again from about 1830 (Lot 42).

Some conservation work has been done in-house, especially on the large flat items so that they can be stored properly. The History Centre hopes to make use of the garden and allotment maps in future outreach work connected with horticulture.

It is a joy finally to have these items reunited with the rest of their collection.



Map of the kitchen gardens belonging to Robert Eyre Esquire in Whiteparish, 1746 (1369/1/34H). Courtesy of Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre.



2. Account book relating to Swindon Town Football Club’s account with Lloyds Bank, October 1919-May 1925. Bought from Graham Budd Auctions (7 March, 2023, Lot 721) for £495, with the aid of a grant of £450 from Friends of the National Libraries.

*Ally McConnell, Principal Archivist, writes:* Swindon Town Football Club was founded in 1879 as Swindon AFC. In 1883 it was renamed Swindon Town, turning professional in 1894.

The banking book is a fairly standard type of book detailing deposits made into the Club’s bank account. It is a small vellum bound book, with the expected slight marks to the binding over time but a readable interior.

The book, sold by a private collector, has been added to the existing collection for Swindon Town Football Club at the Wiltshire & Swindon History Centre (WSHC; collection reference 2367) as 2367/12, accession number 2367 Add 1. The book complements official reports and accounts for the Club, already held by the archive as 2367/2.

The purchase was important for several reasons. While it appears at first glance to cover a few years of accounts several decades after the Club’s founding in 1879, the accounts in fact cover a significant episode in the life of the Club: the election into the Football League (now the English Football League) in 1920.

Secondly, it covers the time when the Swindon Town Football Club Museum was in the process of being founded. Enthusiasm for the Club’s history has made the collecting of archives and objects a focal point of local pride and interest in a town rooted in its local history. The museum, based at the Club’s premises in Swindon, immediately covered the remainder of the cost for the book and added a high quality digital copy of it into their collections.

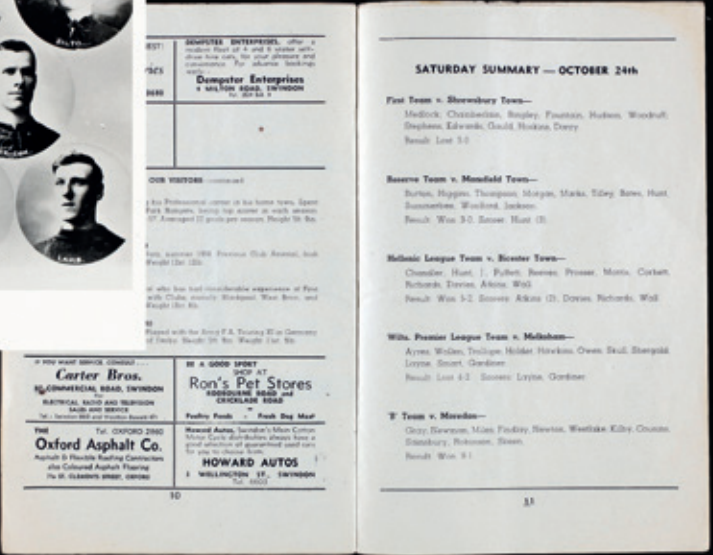
The relationship thus formed between the museum, the WSHC and Swindon Central Library, which facilitated the introduction, has become a fruitful collaboration. Professional advice has been offered to the museum by the WSHC and historical and topical advice on the Club’s history from the museum to the WSHC. The later private purchase of official accounts by Swindon Library and the WSHC to fill gaps in the aforementioned 2367/2 was made possible by a pooling of resources brought about by this strengthened relationship.

The growing interest in football memorabilia continues to provide an exciting opportunity for private collectors and enthusiasts to sell items that might otherwise be deposited with archives or loaned to museums. However, we are now working with Club enthusiasts on a more proactive level to encourage the donation or long-term deposit of items that would otherwise be unavailable to the public.



Left: Photograph of the Swindon Town Football Club 1st team, c1909 (2367/9).

Right: Official match programme for a Swindon Town Football Club match, 1959: 2367/7  
Courtesy of Wiltshire and Swindon History Centre.



## FOR WILTSHIRE MUSEUM

**Signed First Edition of *Tropic Death* (1926) by Eric Walrond (1898-1966). Bought from Burnside Rare Books, Portland, Oregon for £7,967, with the aid of a grant of £7,000 from Friends of the National Libraries.**

*Jane Schon, Collections Officer, Library and Archive, writes:* Eric Walrond was an unassuming Caribbean man who lived in Bradford-on-Avon, Wiltshire, in the 1940s. He worked at a local factory, lodged in the town and went ‘under the radar’ - apart from being the only Black resident in a town of 4,000 people. What many of his neighbours did not realise, however, was that Walrond was an established writer and the author of *Tropic Death*, a novel considered to be a classic of 1920s New York’s ‘Harlem Renaissance’.



*Tropic Death's* vivid yellow and black illustrated end papers. Courtesy of Wiltshire Museum.

Published in 1926, *Tropic Death* comprised of ten short stories, reflects Walrond’s own experiences of living within the British Empire as a Caribbean man. Through the lens of several Black characters, his stories centre around themes of migration, death and Caribbean culture. His book, addressing colour and class, helped him win the Guggenheim Fellowship in 1927 in the hope he may write further novels, which due to circumstance he never did.

Walrond’s fiction vividly recalls his upbringing in British Guiana (now Guyana) and Panama, in addition to American racism. He later moved to France and then London, before arriving in Wiltshire at the outbreak of World War II. He records city evacuees in rural Wiltshire, and how locals both welcomed and ostracised Black American GIs, Commonwealth soldiers and Black Britons stationed on Salisbury Plain.

In 1952, poor mental health led Walrond to self-refer to the Roundway Hospital in Devizes. Here, he became the assistant editor for the *Roundway Review*, a magazine for the hospital which was overseen by members of staff. He contributed to 40 of the 50 issues before his discharge in 1957, which included the stories of the racism Black troops faced whilst stationed in Wiltshire. After leaving the hospital in 1956 he moved to London, working for an import-export firm in his later years. He died of a heart attack in 1966 and is buried in Abney Park Cemetery, London.

This signed, first edition copy of *Tropic Death* includes a short message by Walrond to his literary patron and agent Edna Worthley Underwood. Mrs Underwood was crucial in helping him reach literary success. The signed copy was the highlight of Wiltshire Museum’s special exhibition *Walrond: A Caribbean writer living in Wiltshire*, which ran from Autumn 2023 to Spring 2024. This exhibition detailed Walrond’s life moving from the Caribbean to New York, where he wrote *Tropic Death*, until he finally settled in the Wiltshire countryside during World War II. The exhibition and display of the novel aimed to draw attention to Eric’s writing and the political issues which he sought to tackle.

The purchase of *Tropic Death* diversifies and adds to the Museum’s collection of Walrond’s writing. It forms an important part of a small, but growing, collection of artefacts representing people of colour who have lived in Wiltshire.



FOR YORK MINSTER LIBRARY

*Manuale quoddam secundum usum matris ecclesie Eboracensis.* [Rouen]: for John Gachet in York [?N. le Roux, 1530]. Bought at auction from Sotheby's (December 2023, Lot 217) for £30,480, with the aid of a grant of £13,716 from Friends of the National Libraries [B H Breslauer Fund and a private donation from an FNL Trustee].

*Helen Rawson, Head of Collections and Interpretation, writes:* York Minster Library is the largest cathedral library in England. The collections have developed over many centuries, with the oldest item, the famous York Gospels, dating back around a thousand years. Library services are delivered through a collaboration agreement between the Chapter of York (the governing body of York Minster) and the University of York. I am hugely grateful to the York Minster Librarian, Sarah Griffin, who is also Rare Books Librarian at the University of York, for her expertise and work in securing this important volume.

*Sarah Griffin explains:* The Use of the Church of York was one of the religious rites practised in England before the Reformation. It had variations from the Uses of the Church of Salisbury, the Church of Hereford, and the Church of Bangor. Many of these York variations had their roots in the ways services were held in the Cathedral church of Rouen, where this book was printed. Jean Gachet, a publisher and bookseller in York, commissioned around eight Use of York books to be printed in France of which this is one. We know that Gachet was himself French, as in early York records he is referred to as 'Frensheman'. His name does not appear on the Freeman's registers in York meaning that he probably lived within the Cathedral precincts. The *Manuale* would have arrived in Yorkshire in 1530 in loose sheets. We know what happened to it next thanks to a note in the book. It was sent to Thomas Richardson, a stationer who had his shop on Petergate in the shadow of the Minster. Written on the back flyleaf is 'Yf thes ii books be nott for you send them againe unto Thomas Rychardsonn and they shal be changed & they cost iiiiis viiid one processioner and one manuell'. The binding Richardson produced for the book in 1530 is calf and has panels showing St Barbara and St Nicholas.

A Thomas Richardson was recorded as Head of the Bookbinders in York in 1554 and as a stationer in 1566. In this year he fell foul of the authorities being accused of holding banned works by Roman Catholic writers. He was found not guilty of the offence. It is likely that this is the same person as the binder of the 1530 *Manuale* or, at least, a member of the same family.

The book will go on display in the Minster and form part of our Use of York collection of manuscripts and early printed books.

The book has been in Yorkshire since it was first imported from France nearly 500 years ago. The Chapter of York is immensely grateful to the Friends of the National Libraries, the Arts Council England/V&A Purchase Grant Fund and National Lottery for the support that enabled York Minster Library to purchase the volume and ensure that it stays in the county.



Detail of the *Manuale*. © Sotheby's and Courtesy of York Minster Library.

## FOR YORK UNIVERSITY

Archive of the 19th-century Yorkshire bookseller, writer, publisher and antiquarian John Cole (1792-1848). Bought from Dean Cooke Rare Books Ltd for £14,000, with the aid of a grant of £6,850 from Friends of the National Libraries.

*Sarah Griffin, Rare Books Librarian, writes:* John Cole (1792-1848) was a 19th-century bookseller, writer, publisher and antiquarian and an under-researched character in the regional book trade. As a young man he was apprenticed to a bookseller and bookbinder in Northampton. After a stint in Lincoln he moved to Yorkshire where he set up business, firstly in Hull and then, in 1821, in the seaside town of Scarborough. He was always interested in the environments in which he lived in and published many works relating to his local area. These included histories of towns and villages as well as accounts of notable local people. His books on Scarborough include *A Tour round Scarborough, historically and bibliographically unfolded*, and *Scarborough Worthies*. His print runs were often short, only 50-100 books at a time, making existing titles rare. Around 100 copies are known from the press of John Cole and, between them, the University and York Minster Library hold 45 titles.

The archive of John Cole, which was purchased with the generous help of FNL, contains 17 manuscripts and four printed books. Among the manuscripts are several volumes from his unpublished memoirs. Through them we can learn more about the mechanics of his printing and publishing business including the networks he set up relating to the print trade. He describes cataloguing private libraries, and how he acquired stock. They also tell of his meetings with important people of the day, such as abolitionist William Wilberforce, writer Charles Lamb and engraver Thomas Bewick, who gave him a proof of one of his bird pictures which is still in the collection.

The memoirs are full of tipped-in extra material such as newspaper clippings, engravings, and enchanting watercolour sketches. They relate to the text, so a newspaper portrait of Wilberforce appears next to the page where Cole describes his meeting with the great man. Although not every volume of his memoirs is in the collection, York Minster Archives holds John Cole's diaries where Cole had drawn his material from for the memoirs, as well as another four manuscripts.

Apart from the memoirs there are manuscripts of unpublished material, often with decorative title pages, and some with watercolours executed by Cole's son. Of the printed books, three of the four are printed on coloured paper and so are presumably proof copies.

The acquisition of this archive of unique material gives researchers an opportunity to reassess the life and career of John Cole, presently a little known figure in the early 19th century British book trade.

'Reminiscences of Literary and Scientific Characters' Vol VII, pp. 761-762.  
Courtesy of Archives and Research Collections, University of York.





Trustees' Report

The Trustees present the annual report and the financial statements of Friends of the National Libraries (the 'Charity' or 'FNL') for the year ended 31 December 2023.

Reference and administrative details of the Charity, its Trustees and advisers are set out on pages 2/3.

OBJECTIVE AND ACTIVITIES

The principal objectives of the Charity, as set out in its constitution, are to promote the acquisition of printed books, manuscripts and records of historical, literary, artistic, architectural, musical or such-like interest by 'National Libraries' and to assist them in any other way which the Charity considers appropriate. 'National Libraries' are defined to include the national libraries of the United Kingdom and any university, county, local authority or other library, record office, museum or gallery to which the public has access and which in the opinion of the Trustees constitutes a proper repository for any proposed acquisition.

The Charity aims to achieve these objectives through making grants, thus enabling National Libraries to acquire items for their collections that would otherwise be unaffordable. The export of nationally important manuscripts and printed books is often avoided with the help of substantial grants by the Charity. Grants to county record offices, university libraries and other specialist archives play an essential role in enabling those institutions to acquire documents, archives and printed books that are of great importance for researchers, scholars and historians.

Grant-making policies

All grants are given to National Libraries, as defined in 'Objectives and Activities', opposite.

The Charity's two main criteria when awarding grants are the historical, literary and other qualities of the proposed acquisition and its significance to the applicant's collection. Price, condition and provenance are also taken into account. Each applicant is required to give an undertaking that it will not sell the item newly acquired, will acknowledge the help given by FNL on all matters concerning the item, will keep the acquisition in secure and environmentally sound conditions, and will make it available for the public to enjoy on request if it is not on view at all times.

Grants from the Philip Larkin Fund are made for the restricted purpose of purchasing modern literary manuscripts and archives. The Trustees have the power to spend the capital as well as the income of the Philip Larkin Fund but have decided always to retain a minimum sum of £250,000 in this fund.

Grants from the B H Breslauer Foundation Fund are restricted to support the purchase of rare printed books and fine bindings.

The John R Murray Fund and the Unwin Fund are separately identified funds, but there are no restrictions on expenditure from either fund, both the income and capital of which can be spent at the discretion of the Trustees.

Since its establishment in 1931, FNL has helped over 400 libraries to acquire thousands of items. Scholars, researchers and historians and the general public can study and see the printed books, manuscripts, musical scores, photographs and other items acquired by the beneficiary libraries.

The Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission’s guidance on public benefit. FNL’s core objective is to support acquisitions by archives, libraries, universities, museums and specialist collecting institutions. The public benefits that flow from this are:

- i. Saving locally, nationally and internationally significant material for the nation.
- ii. Making it possible for the public and researchers to gain access this written and printed material that would otherwise have been lost to the public domain.
- iii. Supporting the nation’s libraries and enabling them to enrich their collections with acquisitions that would be beyond their resources to acquire without our support

The Trustees believe this greatly benefits the libraries themselves, those who access and use their collections, and also the public realm. These benefits are clearly demonstrated by the essays in this Annual Report.

**Main objectives for 2023**

The Trustees’ main objective for 2023 was to make grants from all funds of at least £250,000 excluding any special purpose grants, subject to the level of investment income to be received in 2023 not being less than that received in 2022.

**ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

**Grants pledged in 2023**

Details of the 46 grants made or committed by FNL in 2023 are given on pages 14 to 117. Their aggregate value was £261,661 of which £180,389 was charged to the Operating Fund, £29,500 to the John R Murray Fund, £27,470 to the B H Breslauer Foundation Fund, £20,000 to the Philip Larkin Fund, £2,782 to the Unwin Fund and £1,520 to support costs. The sum of £3,300 charged in 2022 related to a potential acquisition which was abandoned in 2023 and was therefore credited to the Operating Fund.

**Membership**

The support of FNL’s members is vital to its work as a charity, subscription income enables FNL to award many more acquisition grants than would otherwise be possible. Moreover, members also help to raise awareness of the Charity’s work and the grants that it can give. Whilst all libraries and archives are welcome apply for grants, whether or not they are Institutional Library Members of FNL, membership is certainly encouraged for all those institutions that have received and apply for financial support from the Charity.

The Trustees warmly welcome the new members who joined FNL in 2023; sadly, a number were also lost through death, resignation or lapsed membership.



## Donations and legacies

In 2023 the Unwin Charitable Trust gave FNL the munificent sum of £250,000 as an unrestricted gift, to be spent on contributions to the cost of the acquisition of manuscripts, archives and printed books by eligible applicants. Other benefactors generously contributed almost £54,000 in the year.

Several FNL members have generously remembered the charity in their Wills. The evergreen benefaction of the late David Hall (1947-2015) continues: he was the Deputy Librarian of Cambridge University Library, and left FNL a share of the proceeds of the sale of the residue of his library. In 2023 FNL received just over £1,500. FNL is most grateful to all these benefactors and donors, including those who prefer to remain anonymous, for their invaluable generosity.

A number of members have indicated their intention to leave a legacy to FNL in their wills, for which we are most grateful. Any member considering a bequest can find information on our website, [www.fnl.org.uk](http://www.fnl.org.uk) and can email FNL at [admin@fnlmail.org.uk](mailto:admin@fnlmail.org.uk). We will be delighted to provide guidance.

## Events and other benefits for members

In 2023 we were delighted to offer a full programme of FNL visits for members. We are most grateful to colleagues at the Brotherton Library University of Leeds, Christ Church Oxford, Exeter College Oxford, Jane Austen's House, the National Library of Scotland, the V&A and the Royal Library Windsor for hosting these visits and giving so generously of their time and expert knowledge. FNL members were able to study not only items acquired thanks to FNL grants but also, in several cases, the books and manuscripts donated to them from the Blavatnik Honresfield Library.

The 2023 AGM was held on 20 June at the Society of Antiquaries. The FNL Annual Lecture was given by Rick Gekoski, whose anecdote-filled presentation focussed on the trade in literary archives.

The Charity's website includes information about FNL visits and other events for members, news from the sector as well as a database of all grants awarded since FNL was founded in 1931 ([www.fnl.org.uk](http://www.fnl.org.uk)). FNL can also be followed on twitter (@FNL313).

We continue to be most grateful to the institutions that have been awarded grants in the past and which offer free entry or other concessions to FNL members, helping to make FNL membership more attractive. Organisations that support us in this way include Cambridge University Library, The University of Glasgow Library, Dove Cottage, Milton's Cottage, the Friends of the Bodleian Library and Seven Stories: the National Centre for Children's Books in Newcastle.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

As the financial statements set out following this report show the constituent funds of the Charity separately, each is given separate comment below.

The Operating Fund

The unrestricted Operating Fund records all the income and expenditure of FNL, except the restricted and endowment funds. In 2023, the total income of this fund amounted to £279,753 (2022: £233,916).

Subscription income rose to £46,631, an increase of almost £7,000 above the £38,941 received in 2022. Other donations and legacies amounted to £56,946 (2022: £39,209). Investment income rose from £155,766 in 2022 to £176,176 in 2023.

Thirty-nine grants were paid or committed by FNL from the Operating Fund in 2023. The aggregate value of grants awarded from this fund amounted to £181,820 (2022: £217,203).

Expenditure on the costs of running the Charity borne by this fund rose sharply to £103,053 (2022: £62,271). The increase is partly explained by the considerable time costs of preparing the Blavatnik Honresfield commemorative book and editing the articles as well as the actual costs of printing and posting the book to members and potential benefactors, as shown in note 5. After taking into account all income and expenditure, the net excess of expenditure over income in the Operating Fund amounted to £(5,120) (2022: deficit of £(46,942)). This sum was transferred from the General Endowment Fund.

The Philip Larkin Fund

In 2023, the Philip Larkin Fund received investment income of £13,492 (2022: £12,741) and paid one grant amounting to £20,000 (2022: one grant of £1,736). After unrealised gains on the investments contained in this fund of £8,423 (2022: unrealised losses of £33,983), the balance of this fund at the year-end was £323,479 (2022: £322,319).

The B H Breslauer Foundation Fund

Since 2012 the B H Breslauer Foundation has generously made a series of donations to FNL to be added to its B H Breslauer Foundation Fund. The final donation was received in 2021. Four grants, totalling £27,470 were awarded by FNL from its B H Breslauer Fund in 2023 (2022: £45,548), and the balance of this fund at the year-end was £29,894 (2022: £57,364).

The John R Murray Fund

The income of this fund has to be separately identified, but both income and capital can be spent at the discretion of the FNL Trustees. In 2023, the John R Murray Fund received investment income of £41,227 (2022: £29,277) and paid five grants amounting to £29,500 (2022: ten grants amounting to £356,353, including £250,000 towards Charlotte Brontë’s miniature book). After unrealised gains on the investments contained in this fund of £25,718 (2022: unrealised losses of £45,665) the balance of this fund at the year-end was £1,441,492 (2022: £1,406,347).

The Unwin Fund

In 2023 the FNL received a munificent donation of £250,000 from the Unwin Charitable Trust. One grant was made from this fund of £2,782 and the balance of this fund at the year-end was £247,218 (2022: £nil).

The Endowment Funds

The General Endowment Fund, which is expendable, comprises the accumulated unrestricted reserves of the Charity. In 2023 £5,436 was transferred to the Unrestricted Operating fund and investment management fees of £9,052 were charged to the Endowment fund. In addition, the financial statements record unrealised gains on the investment portfolio of £101,310 (2022: unrealised losses of £389,028). The General Endowment Fund amounted to £2,409,322 at the year-end (2022: £2,322,500).



The Permanent Endowment funds comprise the Golden Jubilee Appeal Fund and the Prince of Wales Fund. They represent incoming donations and grants which cannot be expended by the Charity but all income arising from the investment of these funds is added to the Operating Fund. During 2023 no gifts were received by either fund (2021: £nil). At the year-end, the Prince of Wales Fund stood at £1,540,283 (2022: £1,540,283), and total Permanent Endowment Funds stood at £1,639,001 (2022: £1,639,001).

**The balance sheet**

The balance sheet on page 135 shows net assets at 31 December 2023 of £6,090,406 (2022: £5,747,531), comprising the investment portfolio at its market value of £5,143,989 (2022: £5,020,645) and net current assets (mostly cash, less commitments to make grants) of £946,417 (2022: £726,886).

The investment portfolio at the year-end and the movements between 31 December 2022 and 2023 are summarised in note 7 on page 139.

**Statement of cash flows**

The statement on page 134 shows that proceeds from the sale of investments in 2023 amounted to £12,107 (2022: £375,986 and that £nil (2022: £1,374,209) was spent on the purchase of new investments. Details of the cash flows are given in note 7 on page 139.

The second significant factor in relating the Charity’s cash balances to its net income or expenditure is the extent to which the grants committed to in each year have been paid by the end of the year: the timing is completely outside the Charity’s control. The extent of such unpaid commitments decreased by £37,133 (2022: £10,084,423).

**Auditors**

At the Annual General Meeting held on 20 June 2023, Knox Cropper LLP were reappointed as auditors with Mr Gregory Stevenson as the Senior Statutory Auditor. Since that date Mr Stevenson has stepped back from audit engagements and the audit is now being overseen by Mr Matthew Elkins as Senior Statutory Auditor on behalf of Knox Cropper LLP.

**Policies on investments and reserves**

The Trustees have adopted a total return investment policy, intended to maximise total returns whilst accepting a medium degree of risk. The Charity’s investment portfolio consists of a single holding in the Cazenove Sustainable Multi-Asset Fund. This is a long-term investment fund with a diversified strategy investing in equities, bonds, property and alternative assets. The Fund aims to provide income and capital growth in excess of the Consumer Price Index + 4% per annum (net of fees) over rolling ten-year periods.

Save for the restricted funds and the Permanent Endowment funds, which are identified in the balance sheet on page 135, all the Charity’s reserves are regarded as an expendable endowment fund and are shown under that heading in the financial statements. This fund is normally represented by investments in order to produce a reasonably predictable and regular level of income. The Trustees regard this as necessary to maintain and support the Charity’s operation.

Any deficit on the Operating Fund is made good by a transfer from the General Endowment fund and any surplus is transferred to that fund.

**Risks and uncertainties**

Some years ago, the Trustees identified that the principal risk facing the Charity was that FNL’s financial resources could become inadequate to meet an increasing level of applications for grants from libraries and other institutions. The creation of the Prince of Wales Fund in 2017, which has now reached £1.5 million, and of the John R Murray Fund in 2021 together with the most welcome addition of the Unwin Trust Fund in 2023 has helped to mitigate this risk by generating additional investment income.

Furthermore, the Trustees recognise that there is a risk to the Charity’s reputation should it make grants for acquisitions which suffer from uncertain provenance or which carry other problems of condition, value or suitability. The Officers of the Charity, and the Trustees as a group, pay particular attention to these factors when considering applications for grants.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Charity is governed by a constitution adopted at the annual general meeting held in June 1995. The present constitution is based on the constitution originally adopted at the first annual general meeting held in June 1932 and consolidates all subsequent amendments.

Trustees

The Trustees of the Charity are the Chairman and Honorary Treasurer, together with nine elected and seven *ex officio* Trustees. The Charity’s Secretary, who is also the fundraising consultant, is not a Trustee.

The Chairman and Honorary Treasurer are elected at the annual general meeting for a term of one year. The elected Trustees serve for a term of three years. Each *ex officio* Trustee holds office for as long as he or she holds the position indicated against his or her name on page 3.

Candidates for election as a Trustee are proposed by the Trustees or by members of the Charity from their personal or professional contacts who are knowledgeable in the fields falling within the Charity’s scope, or who have knowledge or experience which can help the Charity to achieve its objectives. New *ex officio* Trustees meet these criteria by virtue of their office.

New Trustees are provided with a detailed briefing about the Charity (its history, aims and work) and supplied with key documents, including Charity Commission guidance for Trustees.

The names of the Trustees at the date of this report are set out on page 3. All served throughout the year 2023 except as indicated in the following paragraph.

At the Annual General Meeting held on 20 June 2023 Mr Geordie Greig, Chairman, and Mr Charles Sebag-Montefiore, Honorary Treasurer, were both re-elected. Mrs Alexandra Sitwell, Mrs Natalie Livingstone and Mr Peter Mimpres retired as Trustees having served three years. Mrs Joan Winterkorn MBE, Mr Mark Storey and Mr Mark Stevens were elected to fill the trustee vacancies.

Ethics Committee

The Ethics Committee met twice in 2023, under the chairmanship of Stephen Clarke, to consider proposed donations to FNL of £25,000 and above.

Administration

Mrs Nell Hoare acts as the Charity’s Secretary and Paul Celerier FCA acts as FNL’s Membership Accountant. Dr Matthew Payne, Keeper of the Muniments at Westminster Abbey, kindly assists the Secretary in the role of Expert Adviser.

Trustees’ responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for managing the affairs of the Charity and administering its funds and assets within the framework of any general policies agreed at an Annual General Meeting.

They are responsible, in particular, for approving grants to institutions before any commitment is made. Approval is normally given at one of the regular meetings of Trustees but applications between meetings may be dealt with by email consultation. Furthermore, the Chairman and Honorary Treasurer have been empowered collectively to approve such applications for grants between meetings not exceeding £10,000.



The Trustees are also required to prepare annual financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom accounting standards. In preparing those statements, the Trustees:

- select suitable accounting policies and then applies them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates which are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed – subject to any material departures that are disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on a going-concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue its activities.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose the financial transactions and the assets and liabilities of the Charity with reasonable accuracy. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

FUTURE PLANS

The Trustees do not expect there to be any significant change in the Charity’s aims, objectives or activities in the foreseeable future.

The Charity’s main objective for 2024 is to make grants from all funds of at least £250,000 excluding any special purpose grants, subject to the level of investment income to be received in 2024 not being materially less than that received in 2023.

Approved and signed on behalf of the Trustees on 13 May 2024 by:

GEORDIE GREIG	CHARLES SEBAG-MONTEFIORE
Chairman	Honorary Treasurer

# Financial Statements

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS’ REPORT TO THE TRUSTEES OF FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARIES

### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Friends of National Libraries (the ‘Charity’) for the year ended 31st December 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Charity’s affairs as at 31st December 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities Act 2011.

### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Charity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC’s Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees’ use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Charity’s ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor’s report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### Matters on which we are required to report by exception

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 require us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- the information given in the financial statements is inconsistent in any material respect with the trustees’ report; or
- sufficient accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees’ responsibilities statement, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the Charity’s ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the Charity or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor’s responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed as auditor under section 145 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with the Act and relevant regulations made or having effect thereunder.

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor’s report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- The Charity is required to comply with the Charity law and, based on our knowledge of its activities, we identified that the legal requirement to accurately account for restricted funds was of key significance.
- We gained an understanding of how the Charity complied with its legal and regulatory framework, including the requirement to comply with the Charity SORP, through discussions with management and a review of the documented policies, procedures and controls.
- The audit team which is experienced in the audit of charities, considered the Charity’s susceptibility to material misstatement and how fraud may occur. Our considerations included the risk of management override.
- Our approach was to check that all income was properly identified and separately accounted for and to ensure that only valid and appropriate expenditure was charged to the Charity’s funds. This included reviewing journal adjustments and unusual transactions.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council’s website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our auditor’s report.

### Use of Our Report

This report is made solely to the Charity’s trustees, as a body, in accordance with Part 4 of the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008. Our audit work has been undertaken, so that we might state to the Charity’s trustees those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor’s report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Charity and the Charity’s trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report or for the opinions we have formed.

KNOX CROPPER LLP | Chartered Accountants | Statutory Auditors

65 Leadenhall Street | London | EC3A 2AD

15 May 2024

Knox Cropper is eligible for appointment as auditor of the Charity by virtue of its eligibility for appointment as auditor of a company under section 1212 of the Companies Act 2006.



FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARIES

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES for the year ended 31 December 2023

	Note	Unrestricted fund	Restricted funds	Endowment funds	Total 2023	Total 2022
		£	£	£	£	£
Income from:						
donations and legacies	2	103,577	250,000	–	353,577	1,781,442
investments	3	176,176	54,718	–	230,894	197,785
Total		279,753	304,718	–	584,471	1,979,227
Expenditure on:						
grants to institutions for the purchase of books, manuscripts, archives and bookbindings	4	181,820	79,841	–	261,661	1,351,355
raising funds	5	103,053	3,281	9,053	115,387	75,751
Total		284,873	83,122	9,053	377,048	1,427,106
Operating result		(5,120)	221,596	(9,053)	207,423	552,121
Net gains/(losses) on investments	7	–	34,141	101,310	135,451	(468,677)
Net income/(expenditure)		(5,120)	255,737	92,257	342,874	83,444
Transfers between funds		5,120	316	(5,436)	–	–
Net movement in funds		–	256,053	86,821	342,874	83,444
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		–	1,786,030	3,961,501	5,747,531	5,664,087
Total funds carried forward		–	2,042,083	4,048,324	6,090,407	5,747,531

FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARIES

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Investments	7	5,143,989	5,020,645
Current assets			
Debtors	8	106,932	16,178
Cash at bank		890,508	808,544
Total current assets		997,441	824,722
Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	9	51,023	97,836
Net current assets		946,418	726,886
Total net assets		6,090,407	5,747,531
Representing			
The funds of the charity	10		
Unrestricted income fund:			
Operating fund	11	–	–
Restricted income funds:			
Philip Larkin Fund	12	323,479	322,319
Unwin Fund	13	247,218	–
B H Breslauer Fund	14	29,894	57,364
John R Murray Fund	15	1,441,492	1,406,347
		2,042,083	1,786,030
Endowment funds:			
Expendable	16	2,409,322	2,322,500
Permanent	17	1,639,001	1,639,001
		4,048,324	3,961,501
Total funds	18	6,090,407	5,747,531

Approved by the Executive Committee on 13 May 2024 and signed on its behalf by

GEORDIE GREIGChairman

CHARLES SEBAG-MONTEFIOREHonorary Treasurer

FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARIES

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS for the year ended 31 December 2023

	2023 £	2022 £	
Cash flow from operating activities			
net income/(expenditure) for the year – see page 134	342,874	83,444	
Adjustments for:			
(gains)/losses on investments	(135,451)	468,677	
income from investments	(230,894)	(197,785)	
increase/(decrease) in commitments to make grants	(37,133)	(10,084,423)	
(increase)/decrease in income tax recoverable	(754)	11,837	
changes in other debtors and creditors	(99,680)	4,675,655	
net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	(161,038)	(5,042,595)	
Cash flows from investing activities			
income from investments	230,894	197,785	
proceeds from sale of investments	12,107	375,986	
purchase of investments	-	(1,374,209)	
deposited with investment manager pending investment	-	-	
net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	243,002	(800,438)	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	81,964	(5,843,033)	
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	808,544	6,651,577	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	890,508	808,544	
Movement in Net Funds			
	Cash at bank	Cash held by Investment Managers	Total
	£	£	£
As at 1 January 2023	806,816	1,728	808,544
Movement	78,894	3,070	81,964
As at 31 December 2023	885,710	4,797	890,508

FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL LIBRARIES

NOTES ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS 31 December 2023

1. Accounting policies

a) Basis of accounting

The accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention with items recognised at cost or transaction value unless otherwise stated in the relevant notes to these accounts. They have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) Second Edition issued in October 2019 and the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102 March 2018) and the Charities Act 2011.

The accounts have been prepared to give a ‘true and fair view’ and have departed from the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 only to the extent required to provide a ‘true and fair view’. This departure involved following Accounting and Reporting by Charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102) rather than the Accounting and Reporting by Charities Statement of Recommended Practice effective from 1st April 2005 which has since been withdrawn.

The Trustees consider that there are no material uncertainties about the Charity’s ability to continue as a going concern nor a significant risk that uncertainty over estimates made for the purpose of these financial statements may cause a material adjustment to the carrying value of assets and liabilities.

The functional currency is the £ Sterling.

The charity is a public benefit entity.

b) Income

Membership subscriptions (including life subscriptions) are recognised in the year in which they fall due.

Grants receivable to defray expenditure incurred over a specified period are apportioned over the relevant period.

Legacies are recognised in the period in which they are received or when receipt is otherwise probable.

Other income is recognised in the period in which it relates.

Donations for which no requirements are specified by the donor are recorded through the Operating fund or one of the Endowment funds, as appropriate.

c) Expenditure

Expenditure is allocated between charitable activities, raising funds and support costs.

Expenditure on charitable activities comprises grants to institutions for the purchase of books, manuscripts, archives and bindings, and for support for the digitisation of and open access to manuscripts which, together with support costs, are charged to the appropriate fund when they have been committed to the intended recipient.

Support costs are those costs which are not attributable to a single activity but provide the necessary organisational support for all the Charity’s activities. They comprise governance costs associated with constitutional and statutory requirements: the costs of the annual report and the annual general meeting are allocated to the cost of raising funds and all other support costs are allocated equally between the cost of grants to institutions and the cost of raising funds. The amounts concerned are allocated between the charity’s funds respectively in proportion to the number of grants committed and the number of receipts of voluntary income (other than receipts for the permanent endowment funds).

d) Investments

Investments are stated in the balance sheet at their market value on the balance sheet date. The resultant unrealised surplus or deficit is recognised in the fund to which the investments have been allocated.



	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
2. Income from donations and legacies					
Grants receivable					
for the Unwin Fund	-	250,000	-	250,000	-
for Charlotte Brontë's Little Book	-	-	-	-	703,292
for the John R Murray Fund	-	-	-	-	1,000,000
for the Prince of Wales Fund	-	-	-	-	-
	-	250,000	-	250,000	1,703,292
Membership subscriptions					
annual membership	40,053	-	-	40,053	29,280
life membership	1,200	-	-	1,200	4,800
income tax recovered on subscriptions	5,378	-	-	5,378	4,861
	46,631	-	-	46,631	38,941
Other donations and legacies	55,554	-	-	55,554	39,180
Other income	1,392	-	-	1,392	29
	103,577	250,000	-	353,577	1,781,442
3. Income from investments					
distributions from investments	162,282	54,688	-	216,970	193,906
interest on bank balances and deposits	13,894	30	-	13,924	3,879
	176,176	54,718	-	230,894	197,785
4. Grants to institutions for the purchase of books, manuscripts, archives and bookbindings					
from unrestricted funds for the purchase of books and manuscripts	180,389	-	-	180,389	217,203
from the Philip Larkin Fund for the purchase of modern literary archives and manuscripts	-	20,000	-	20,000	1,736
from the John R Murray Fund for the purchase of manuscripts and archives	-	29,500	-	29,500	105,128
from the B H Breslauer Fund for the purchase of printed books and bookbindings	-	27,470	-	27,470	45,548
from the Unwin Fund for the purchase of printed books and manuscripts	-	2,782	-	2,782	-
from restricted grants for Charlotte Brontë's Little Book	-	-	-	-	950,270
from special purpose income received in 2021	-	-	-	-	30,000
	180,389	79,752	-	260,141	1,349,885
total of direct costs	180,389	79,752	-	260,141	1,349,885
support costs (see note 6)	1,431	89	-	1,520	1,470
	181,820	79,841	-	261,661	1,351,355

Details of the grants made are set out on pages 14 to 117.

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Endowment funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
5. Expenditure on raising funds					
consultants' fees and expenses	52,856	-	-	52,856	29,341
investment manager's charges	-	3,055	9,052	12,108	13,225
Blavatnik Honresfield book	23,782	-	-	23,782	-
other direct costs	10,129	226	-	10,355	14,874
total of direct costs	86,767	3,281	9,053	99,101	57,440
support costs (see note 6)	16,286	-	-	16,286	18,311
	103,053	3,281	9,053	115,387	75,751
6. Support costs					
governance costs:					
annual report				13,360	12,145
annual general meeting				1,406	4,696
audit fee				3,040	2,940
other				-	-
				17,806	19,781
Support costs were allocated in 2023 as set out in note 1(c), as follows:					
grants to institutions (note 4)	1,520	-	-	1,520	1,470
raising funds (note 5)	16,286	-	-	16,286	18,311
	17,806	-	-	17,806	19,781

7. Investments				
The Charity's investment portfolio consists of a single holding in the Cazenove Responsible Multi-Asset Fund, a long term investment fund with a diversified strategy investing in equities, bonds, property and alternative assets. The Fund aims to provide income and capital growth in excess of the Consumer Price Index + 4% per annum (net of fees) over rolling ten-year periods. The portfolio as at 31 December 2023 is summarised in the following tables:				
	Cost £	Market value £	Prospective annual income £	Yield £
Multi-asset funds	5,486,971	5,143,989	216,713	4.21%
Other investments	-	-	-	0.00%
	5,486,971	5,143,989	216,713	4.21%
			2023 £	2022 £
Movements in year:				
Market value at start of year			5,020,645	4,491,099
Cost of purchases			-	1,374,209
Proceeds of sale			(12,107)	(375,986)
Realised gains/(losses)			58	15,440
Unrealised gains/(losses)			135,393	(484,117)
Prior year adjustment			-	-
Movement in year			123,344	529,546
			5,143,989	5,020,645
Market value at end of year				

	2023	2022
	£	£
8. Debtors		
income tax recoverable	6,932	6,178
other debtors	100,000	10,000
	<u>106,933</u>	<u>16,178</u>
	2023	2022
	£	£
9. Creditors: amounts payable within one year		
commitments to make grants	45,782	82,915
other creditors and accrued charges	5,241	14,921
	<u>51,023</u>	<u>97,836</u>
10. The funds of the Charity		
Operating fund		
The operating fund is an unrestricted income fund which records all the income and expenditure of the Charity that is not subject to a restriction imposed by a donor or is more appropriately credited or charged to one of the endowment funds. The income of the operating fund may therefore be expended without restriction in furtherance of the Charity's objectives. To the extent that the operating fund incurs a deficit, it is made good by a transfer from the general endowment fund and any surplus is transferred to that fund.		
Restricted funds		
The Philip Larkin Fund, the John R Murray Fund, the B H Breslauer Fund and the Unwin Fund may also be expended, but for restricted purposes. The Philip Larkin fund is restricted to the purchase of modern literary archives and manuscripts and the B H Breslauer Fund to the purchase of printed books and bookbindings. The John R Murray Fund and the Unwin Fund are identified separately, but there are no restrictions on expenditure from these funds which can be put towards the purchase of manuscripts, archives and printed books. Grants and donations received for the specific purpose of making a grant to another institution are also recorded under restricted funds.		
Endowment funds		
The permanent endowment funds may not be expended but the income from investing the funds is credited to the operating fund.		
The general endowment fund is an expendable fund that comprises the accumulated reserves of the Charity, which may be expended without restriction in furtherance of the Charity's objectives.		
	2023	2022
	£	£
11. Operating fund		
at beginning of year	-	-
income in year	279,753	233,916
expenditure in year	(284,873)	(280,858)
transfer (to)/from general endowment fund	5,120	46,942
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
at end of year	-	-

12. Philip Larkin Fund	
at beginning of year	322,319
income in year	13,492
expenditure in year	(20,755)
investment gains/(losses)	8,423
transfer from general endowment fund	-
	<u>-</u>
at end of year	<u>323,479</u>

13. Unwin Fund	
at beginning of year	-
income in year	250,000
expenditure in year	(2,782)
	<u>-</u>
at end of year	<u>247,218</u>

14. B H Breslauer Foundation Fund	
at beginning of year	57,364
income in year	-
expenditure in year	(27,470)
transfer from general endowment fund	-
	<u>-</u>
at end of year	<u>29,894</u>

15. John R Murray Fund	
at beginning of year	1,406,347
income in year	41,227
expenditure in year	(31,800)
investment gains/(losses)	25,718
	<u>(45,665)</u>
at end of year	<u>1,441,492</u>

16. Expendable endowment fund	
General fund	
at beginning of year	2,322,500
expenditure in year	(9,053)
investment gains/(losses)	101,310
transfer from/(to) operating fund	(5,436)
transfer (to) restricted funds	-
	<u>-</u>
at end of year	<u>2,409,323</u>

	2023	2022
	£	£
	322,319	346,223
	13,492	12,741
	(20,755)	(2,662)
	8,423	(33,983)
	-	-
	<u>323,479</u>	<u>322,319</u>
	-	-
	250,000	-
	(2,782)	-
	<u>247,218</u>	<u>-</u>
	57,364	102,912
	-	-
	(27,470)	(45,548)
	-	-
	<u>29,894</u>	<u>57,364</u>
	1,406,347	779,088
	41,227	1,029,277
	(31,800)	(356,353)
	25,718	(45,665)
	<u>1,441,492</u>	<u>1,406,347</u>
	2,322,500	2,766,863
	(9,053)	(11,075)
	101,310	(389,028)
	(5,436)	(44,260)
	-	-
	<u>2,409,323</u>	<u>2,322,500</u>



17. Permanent endowment funds

	Prince of Wales Fund £	Golden Jubilee Appeal Fund £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
at beginning of year	1,540,283	98,718	1,639,001	1,639,001
received in year	-	-	-	-
at end of year	1,540,283	98,718	1,639,001	1,639,001

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Investments £	Net current assets £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Unrestricted fund	-	-	-	-
Restricted funds:				
Philip Larkin Fund	319,863	3,616	323,479	322,319
John R Murray Fund	976,712	464,780	1,441,492	1,406,347
B H Breslauer Fund	-	29,894	29,894	57,364
Unwin Fund	-	247,218	247,218	-
	1,296,575	745,508	2,042,083	1,786,030
Endowment funds:	3,847,414	200,910	4,048,324	3,961,501
	5,143,989	946,418	6,090,407	5,747,531

19. Comparative Statement of Financial Activities for 2022

The table below is given in compliance with the new SORP requirements in order to provide the split between the operating and endowment funds for the previous year, 2022.					
	Note	Unrestricted fund 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Endowment funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:					
donations and legacies	2	78,150	1,703,292	–	1,781,442
investments	3	155,766	42,019	–	197,785
Total		233,916	1,745,311	–	1,979,227
Expenditure on:					
grants to institutions for the purchase of books, manuscripts, archives and bookbindings	4	218,587	1,132,768	–	1,351,355
raising funds	5	62,271	2,405	11,075	75,751
Total		280,858	1,135,173	11,075	1,427,106
Operating result		(46,942)	610,138	(11,075)	552,121
Net gains/(losses) on investments	7	–	(79,649)	(389,028)	(468,677)
Net income/(expenditure)		(46,942)	530,489	(400,103)	83,444
Transfers between funds		46,942	(2,682)	(44,260)	–
Net movement in funds		–	527,807	(444,363)	83,444
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		–	1,258,223	4,405,864	5,664,087
Total funds carried forward		–	1,786,030	3,961,501	5,747,531

20. Transactions with trustees and connected parties

The trustees received no remuneration or reimbursement of expenses.

Certain trustees, or persons or charitable organisations connected with them, made donations to the Charity of £5,000 during the year (2022: £2,500).

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[www.fnl.org.uk](http://www.fnl.org.uk)

Registered Charity number 313020



*Note Against the Letter A, stands the Content of Arable land, & bid against A stands the Content of the  
Barren, but underneath stands the Total of the same Field. For the Common Field & Common meadow Land. See  
the Tith Book.*





# MISSALE ROMANVM

Ex decreto sacrosancti Concilij  
Tridentini restitutum,

PII V. PONT. MAX. iussu editum;

*Joan: ET Hud:*

CLEMENTIS VIII. auctoritate recognitum.



LVTETIÆ PARISIORVM,

Apud Societatem Typographicam Librorum Officij  
Ecclesiastici, ex Decreto Concilij Tridentini.

De licentia superiorem.

M. DC. XXIII.