

**University of Arkansas Libraries
Special Collections Department**

Collection Development Policy

Through its collecting efforts the University Libraries Special Collections Department supports the research, teaching, and learning endeavors of the University of Arkansas to fulfill “its public land-grant mission to serve Arkansas and beyond as a partner, resource, and catalyst.” The collections we steward document the human experience through a variety of perspectives. Manuscript collections, which consist primarily of unpublished works, document creators’ lives, businesses, and legacies through letters, photographs, reports, writings, and more. In addition to manuscripts, the Department has an extensive rare book collection and an expanding university archives.

The Department actively seeks to further develop its holdings in support of the University’s strategic priorities and evolving curricula, including all areas of the arts and humanities, social sciences, and sciences. The Department welcomes donations of collections in this pursuit and sometimes is able to purchase select materials to further develop its rare book holdings or to enhance its defined collecting initiatives. The central goal is to integrate these materials into course content and programming to encourage the community and researchers worldwide to engage with these unique resources.

The Department and its collections are open to public. We invite and welcome novices, professional researchers, and everyone in between to come and use the collections.

Collection Strengths

The collections reflect a strong foundation in the development that led to the establishment of the state of Arkansas as well as materials that document Westward Expansion in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. The Department also has significant collections of broadsides, maps, and rare books, as well as substantial holdings in architecture, civil rights, folklore, gender studies, international education and affairs, literature, politics, and the history of the University of Arkansas and the scholarship of its faculty and students. Our collecting scope is focused on the state of Arkansas, the Ozarks, and Northwest Arkansas in particular, but we also collect more broadly in areas that build on collection strengths.

Emerging Collection Areas for Further Development

To best support the research interests of the University’s faculty and our ever-changing community, the Department seeks to enhance our resources especially in the areas of arts, artists, and cultural organizations; business and entrepreneurship; environmental

studies; international education; and collections representative of Arkansas's diverse populations and LGBTQIA and religious communities.

Collecting Areas

The following represents the core strengths of the Department's holdings.

- Architecture
- Arkansas Publications/ Arkansas Collection
- Art, Artists, and Cultural Organizations
- Broadsides
- Civil Rights
- Folklore
- Gender Studies
- International Education and International Affairs
- Literary Collections
- Maps
- Politics
- Rare Books
- University Archives

Donation and Acquisition Procedures

Special Collections welcomes and relies upon donations of published works as well as manuscript and archival collections. In order to best steward our collections, we request advance notice about potential donations so that we can discuss the materials with donors and assess the materials' suitability for our collections. If materials are accepted for inclusion, donors will be required to sign a deed of gift form (for manuscript materials), a donation form (for publications), or a transfer form (for University records). Our collecting efforts are done in collaboration with the other libraries and departments that comprise the University Libraries. We actively work with our colleagues to determine the best location for donations. Sometimes, secondary materials and recent scholarly publications are best suited for the general library collection.

If you are interested in donating materials to Special Collections, or if you are a University of Arkansas faculty member with suggestions for book purchasing, please contact:

- Manuscript materials: Head of Special Collections Lori Birrell at lbirrell@uark.edu 479-575-8443
- Books, magazines, recordings, and other published materials: Research and Outreach Services Librarian Joshua Youngblood at jcyoungb@uark.edu 479-575-7251
- University Archives: University Archivist Amy Allen at ala005@uark.edu 479-575-6370.

The Department actively collects the following common material types: audiovisual, correspondence, diaries, fliers, photographs, posters, and scrapbooks.

The Department collects broadly within the collecting areas described in this document, but is unable to accept all materials.

In general, we do not accept:

- Materials on loan or deposit
- Materials that will be closed in perpetuity, or which will impose unreasonable access/use restrictions (Special Collections will work with donors, however, to respect privacy concerns and negotiate reasonable, time-bound restrictions as needed.)
- Medical records
- Personal financial records
- Collections which primarily comprise secondary or tertiary source materials, such as photocopies or newspaper clippings
- Software or video games
- Hardware, except as a temporary transfer device (for instance, a hard drive)
- Physical building models, fragments, or material samples
- Artifacts, except in support of a larger manuscript collection

Architecture

The Arkansas Architectural Archives documents the history of the designed and built environment. These include: the records of designers, architects, landscape architects, and design firms from Arkansas or with connections to Arkansas who have made significant contributions in these fields; architectural photography; and materials relating to significant design projects in Arkansas and the region. Especially of interest are awards, business records, sketch books, and project materials, including correspondence, drawings, and specifications.

Examples:

The collections of Edward Durell Stone (MS St71/236/MC 340), Fay Jones (MC 1373), and Neil Hamill Park (MC 1512) are three key highlights that document mid-20th century architecture.

Arkansas Publications/ Arkansas Collection

The Arkansas Collection represents a thorough record of the published history of the state of Arkansas. Materials include early imprints, local historical journals, works on

family history, government publications, maps, music, film, and local and regional serials. While the collection complements the manuscript collections and rare books held in Special Collections, it also serves as a robust resource for research on every aspect of Arkansas studies.

Examples:

Currently, the Arkansas Collection constitutes more than 68,000 individually cataloged items, and the collection continues to grow along with the study and cultural production of the state. One of the highlights of the Collection is the first printing of the song “The Arkansas Traveler.” Other notable items include writings of the early 1800’s historical botanist Thomas Nuttall, the complete works of Ozark folklorist Vance Randolph, descriptions of Civil War battles at Pea Ridge and Prairie Grove by Carl H. Moneyhon, Arkansan Laird Archer’s personal narrative of World War II, and Choctaw and other Native American histories.

Art, Artists, and Cultural Organizations

This collecting area includes historical, scientific, geographic, and cultural studies, along with creative works from Arkansas writers, artists, performers, and musicians. Special Collections collects the papers of significant artists from Arkansas as well as of groups who contribute to the cultural life of Arkansas.

Examples:

Fine artists, such as Louis and Elsie Freund (MC 1297), musicians, including composer Florence Price (MC 988/988a) and conductor William Grant Still (MC 1797), and performers, such as Alice Ghostley (MC 1846) and Lawrence Luckinbill (unprocessed), exemplify the diverse talents represented in the manuscript collections. Organizations whose records are represented include the Walton Arts Center in Fayetteville, the Hot Springs Film Festival, and the Opera in the Ozarks in Eureka Springs.

Broadsides

Broadsides, including handbills, flyers, and posters, were a crucial means of public information transfer for much of the 18th and 19th centuries. These ephemeral documents are also often unique documents of events and grassroots movements that are often underdocumented; as such, they offer documentary value as well as strong graphic interest in many cases. While the Department’s broadside-collecting is focused primarily on Arkansas, we also welcome broadsides that complement the curriculum or other holdings, particularly on topics such as civil rights, architecture and design, women’s studies, southern politics, and religion.

Examples:

Broadsides include poems; playbills; allegations; propaganda; calls to revival; lists of delinquent taxpayers; announcements for concerts and books; advertisements for and

against political candidates; and texts of government legislation, proclamations and regulations. Many are cataloged individually; others are found throughout our manuscript collections, such as in the Selective Service Materials (MC 867), the Lost Roads Project (MC 1391), and the Billy James Hargis Papers (MC 1412).

Civil Rights

Collections related to civil rights date from the 1910s to the present. Within this collecting area are records related to the internment of Japanese Americans; the papers of African-American and allied activists; and records of state and school officials, including documents from the Little Rock Central High School crisis in 1957-1959. Documents pertaining to LGBTQIA and refugee communities are also represented. Notable items include hate correspondence, newspapers, pamphlets, and stamps. The Department actively collects records that document the fight for equality for these and other groups.

Examples:

Collections include the Jerome Relocation Center Collection (MC 629), African-American activists in the Daisy Bates Papers (MC 582), and the Sara Alderman Murphy Papers (MC 1321). Collections related to the Little Rock crisis are the Arkansas Council on Human Relations Records (MC Ar4 ACHR), the Citizens' Councils of America Collection (MS C49), and the Governor Orval Faubus Papers (MC MS/F27/301/MC 922). The papers of Alina Fernandez (MC 870/1001), Gaps in Services to the Marshallese Task Force Records (MC 1966), and Feminist and LGBT Publications (MC 2022) represent more recent civil rights efforts.

Folklore

The Department holds archival and published resources related to folklore, folk music, and vernacular arts, with a focus on the Ozarks and Arkansas. Folklore is considered to represent the life, arts, crafts, and stories of a region, and strengths of our collection include multiple manuscript collections related to writers and musicians.

Examples:

The Department holds the papers of Ozarks folklorist Vance Randolph (MC 1009), Folklore Collection (MS F/MC 461), faculty and teaching records of Mary Celestia Parler (MC 1501), and the manuscripts and book collection of Ozarks booster, publisher, and bookseller Otto Ernest Rayburn (MC MS/R19).

Gender Studies

Documenting the history of women in Arkansas and of the LGBTQIA community in the greater mid-South, these collections are interdisciplinary in nature and support research areas across the curriculum. Collecting in this area includes the papers and publications

of faculty members and student groups, community organizations, local book clubs, businesses, and other groups and individuals, and may intersect with other research areas, such as women's rights, LGBTQIA rights, gender equity, domestic culture, gender identity, and feminism. Of particular interest are the papers and publications of women of color, of LGBTQIA communities, and of other underdocumented communities and movements. The Department seeks to document not only those whose experiences are pioneering, but also those whose experiences are representative.

Examples:

Collections documenting the lives and legacy of women in Arkansas include the Peace Links Records (MC 907/907a/b), the Arkansas League of Women Voters Records (MC 476/934/966), the Rural Economics Home Demonstration Club Materials (MC 1777), and the Lessie Stringfellow Read Papers (MS R22). More recently, our collections have expanded to document feminism and LGBTQIA communities, for example, the Fayetteville Women's Library (MC 1180).

International Education and International Affairs

The Department actively collects records related to the legacy and impact of J. William Fulbright and the Fulbright Exchange Program, and to the broader international exchange of ideas and programs. The Department seeks to expand its holdings regarding initiatives related to the Fulbright Program, with a particular interest in collecting records from those countries where the long-term preservation of those materials may be at risk. In addition, we seek to collect materials relating to international education organizations and, more specifically, to international education and affairs of those countries with which the University and community have established educational partnership programs, for example, Belize, Bolivia, Ghana, Mozambique, and Rwanda.

Examples:

Collections include the J. William Fulbright Papers (MS/F956/144), the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (CU) Historical Collection (MC 468), the Council for International Exchange of Scholars (CIES) Records (MC 703/703a), the NAFSA: Association of International Educators Records (MC 715/715b), and the Foundation for International Exchange of Students (FIES) Records (MC 1881).

Literary Collections

Special Collections holds archives of writers and literary figures who are native Arkansans, who are connected with the region in other ways, or whose work closely relates to collecting strengths. The archives cover a broad range of genres--from poets and novelists to journalists, essayists, and prominent scholars.

Examples:

Collections include poet John Gould Fletcher (MS F63), English-born publisher Charles J. Finger (MC 639), writer and professor John Williams (MC 716), newspaperwoman and suffragist Lessie Stringfellow Read (MS R22), New York Times correspondent Roy Reed (MC 1083), and writer Donald Harington, author of the Stay More series. Collections of writers who are still active include popular culinary author and memoirist Crescent Dragonwagon.

Maps

Maps tell the story not only of the physical and political geography of a region, but also of design, botany, industry, and sociocultural trends, among other areas. The Department actively collects modern and historic maps and atlases of Arkansas, as well as broader maps that pertain to Arkansas both pre- and post-statehood. The Department collects published and unpublished maps, including vernacular maps and tourist maps. On a case-by-case basis, we accept print maps as well as files generated using a geographic information system (GIS), although we prefer final versions that are produced in formats that are industry standards.

Examples:

Special Collections holds more than 10,000 maps, including a copy of the first detailed map of the Mississippi River region, the Carte de la Louisiane of Guillaume de Lisle, and a series of Sanborn Insurance Maps documenting Arkansas structures from the 1880s-1930s. In addition to maps that are individually cataloged, maps may also be found in many of our manuscript collections, such as in the United States Weather Bureau Daily Weather Map Collection (MC 1268), the Sebastian County Coal Mining Records (MC 424), and the Mary D. Hudgins Collection (MC 534).

Political Collections

Documenting political activities from the 18th century to the present, the Department actively collects materials from across the political spectrum and includes collections of political figures, such as senators, governors, congressmen, judges, state representatives, and local officials, as well as of political consultants, journalists, advocacy organizations, and political cartoonists. Areas of interest encompass local, Arkansas, national, and international politics. Campaign materials are a unique material type found throughout these collections.

Examples:

Collections highlighting the national impact of Arkansans include the papers of U.S. senators, such as the Joseph Taylor Robinson Papers (MS R563), the Hattie Wyatt Caraway Papers (MS C176), the J. William Fulbright Papers (MS/F956/144), the Dale Bumpers Papers (MC 1490), and the David H. Pryor Papers (MC 336). The papers of Charles Brough, Jeff Davis, and George Donaghey represent Arkansas gubernatorial collections. Several collections also include materials related to President Bill Clinton and

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, such as the papers of political scientist Diane D. Blair (MC 1632). Collections, such as the Billy James Hargis Papers (MC 1412) and James David Bales Papers (MC 1256), document the rise of political and religious conservatism.

Rare Books

Facilitating the study of the written word and print culture, rare books document the development of publishing and the spread of literacy. The Department's rare books holdings comprise the libraries of scholars and collectors, such as the poet John Gould Fletcher and legendary folklorist Vance Randolph, as well as of donations from hundreds of supporters of the Department, and of selective purchases. Strengths include the print history of the Mississippi River Valley and the Arkansas region; folklore and folk music; the natural sciences, especially geology and early taxonomy; poetry and literary criticism; slavery, secession, and the Civil War; and the history of printing in Arkansas and mid-America.

Examples:

Notable titles include preservation-quality first editions of *La Florida del Ynca* (1605) by Garcilaso de la Vega and *Description de la Louisiane* (1683) by Louis Hennepin; early printed books and medieval manuscripts, such as a complete medieval Ferial Psalter (1450); first printings of Charles Darwin's *On the Origin of Species*, Ezra Pound's *Draft of XVI Cantos*, and D.H. Lawrence's *Lady Chatterley's Lover*; and the complete portfolio and bound sets of Edward Curtis's *The North American Indian*. Special Collections also holds more than 25 fine facsimiles of medieval works as well as a growing collection of historic and contemporary Bibles and other sacred works.

University Archives

The University Archives is the repository for non-current official materials of enduring historic value that document the institutional memory of the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville campus. It also contains select University of Arkansas System-wide materials. Official materials are documents produced or received by an agency, officer or employee of the university in connection with the transaction of university business. The collections document administrative, teaching, research, and student activities. Materials are created by administrators, faculty, staff, students, and alumni of the University of Arkansas. Collected materials include those no longer used for current business that can be made accessible to the public for research.

The University Archives is not a records management program; therefore, materials that are maintained only for a specified number of years according to University policies should be maintained by the originating department. In addition, the University Archives harvests and preserves official University of Arkansas websites through the Department's web-archiving program. For a more detailed guide that describes the materials the University Archives does and does not collect, please visit the following webpage: <https://libraries.uark.edu/SpecialCollections/univarchives/policies.asp>

Examples:

University Archives holds administrative records, such as those from the Athletic Department, Women's Athletic Director (MC 1880.UA); departmental records, including the University of Arkansas Division of Information Services Records (MC 496); faculty papers, such as the William J. Baerg Collection (MC 953); and student organizations, including Kappa Delta Pi, Alpha Beta Chapter Materials (MC 173).