



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE

Cultural Collections Reading Room
Information Sheet No.12

Rare Books in the Baillieu Library: Some areas with research potential

Our opening hours are:

Monday to Friday:

9.30am - 5.30pm

Wednesday

9.30am - 7.30pm

Rare books cover a wide range of subjects, and they can provide valuable primary resource material. The collection in the Baillieu Library is divided into a number of separate collections. You can find descriptions of these on the Special Collections web pages.

Rare books may not be borrowed but can be consulted in the Cultural Collections Reading Room, 3rd floor, Baillieu Library. Books from these collections may not be photocopied for preservation reasons, but some form of copying (eg. scanning) can usually be arranged.

Some particular strengths of the collections include:

- Australian history and literature
- Exploration and travel, including French voyages – real and imaginary
- Eighteenth and nineteenth century British History
- French Revolution and Napoleon
- Eighteenth and nineteenth century periodicals and newspapers
- History and Philosophy of Science (particularly nineteenth century)
- Medieval manuscripts in facsimile
- Early printed books: European civilization, sixteenth century, Reformation, history of the book
- Brécy Collection: nineteenth century French music
- Raab Collection: Machiavelli and his times, sixteenth century Florentine politics
- Morgan Collection: children's books
- Villiers Collection: maritime history

Rare books are identified in the catalogue with the prefix 'SpC' (for Special Collections) and a further prefix identifying the particular collection, e.g. BX, Morgan, RB. Many rare books are not yet catalogued online, so we may have information on a topic even if it doesn't show up on the catalogue.

All material from the Rare Books collections must be pre-ordered twenty-four hours in advance. Requests can be made by telephoning (03) 8344 5380 or email special-collections@unimelb.edu.au.

Please contact us on:

Special Collections:

Tel: 8344 5380

Fax: 9347 8627

<http://www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/special/>

The University of Melbourne Archives:

Tel: 8344 6848

Fax: 9347 8627

<http://www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/archives/>

Grainger Collection:

Tel: 8344 5207

Fax: 9347 8627

<http://www.lib.unimelb.edu.au/collections/granger/>