



WELCOME TO

DREW UNIVERSITY SPECIAL COLLECTIONS & UNIVERSITY ARCHIVES

The Special Collections and University Archives Department is committed to supporting and advancing the educational mission of Drew University. Comprised of a number of distinctive collections, our mission is to acquire, preserve, provide access to, and promote the use of primary and special secondary resources in all formats.

Special Collections and University Archives are open to anyone who wishes to use them, including all members of the Drew community. Materials are available in the United Methodist Archives and History Center located across from the main library.



Wilson Reading Room

The Wilson Reading Room is located on the main floor of the Methodist Archives . It is where most of the non-circulating materials are used, including all Methodist Library and Archives materials, Special Collections, and most of the University Archives materials. It is a study space, equipped with large tables, comfortable chairs, and easily accessible electrical outlets. We also have public computers, overhead and flatbed scanners, a photocopier, and a digital microfilm machine available to researchers.



Collections

The holdings in Special Collections are comprised of dozens of distinctive collections related to religious study, history, literature, art, art history, popular culture, sociology, and other fields. The collections total more than 100,000 volumes, including manuscripts dating from the 11th-16th centuries and printed texts from the 15th century.

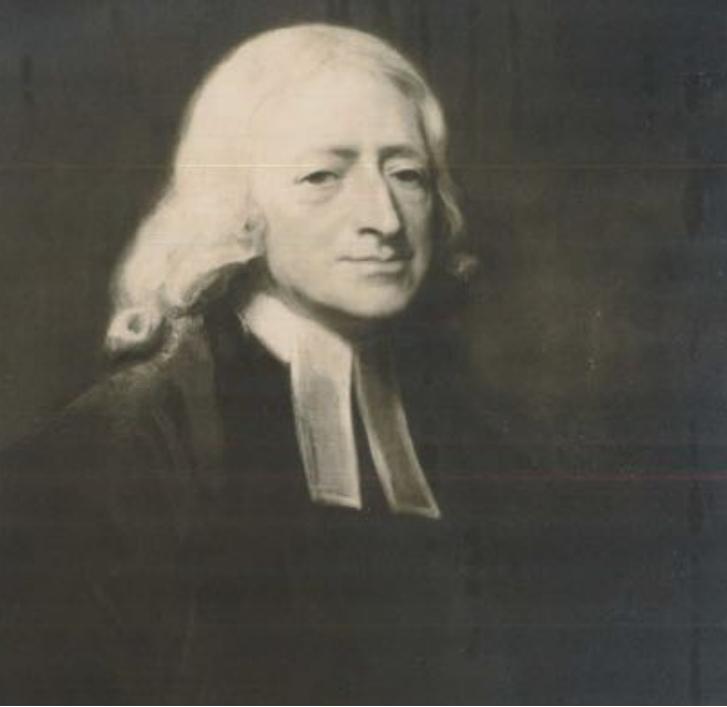
The University Archives preserves and provides access to the historical records of Drew University, including documents, photographs, faculty papers, and student theses. The collections help tell the story of Drew University, its founding, and its administrative history.

[Complete listing of our collections](#)
[Guide to Drew's Primary Sources](#)

Notable Items

- First edition, first printing of the King James Bible (1611)
- An early edition of the infamous *Malleus Maleficarvm* (1580)
- Polyglot Bible (1568)
- A hand-colored *Liber Chronicarum* (Nuremberg Chronicle) (1493)
- An 11th century Lectionary manuscript
- Collection of letters from the Civil War
- Collection of medical books and manuscripts
- Letters by Albert Einstein
- Largest collection of Wesley family letters outside of England
- Ambrose Paré's surgical, anatomical, and monster texts (1625)

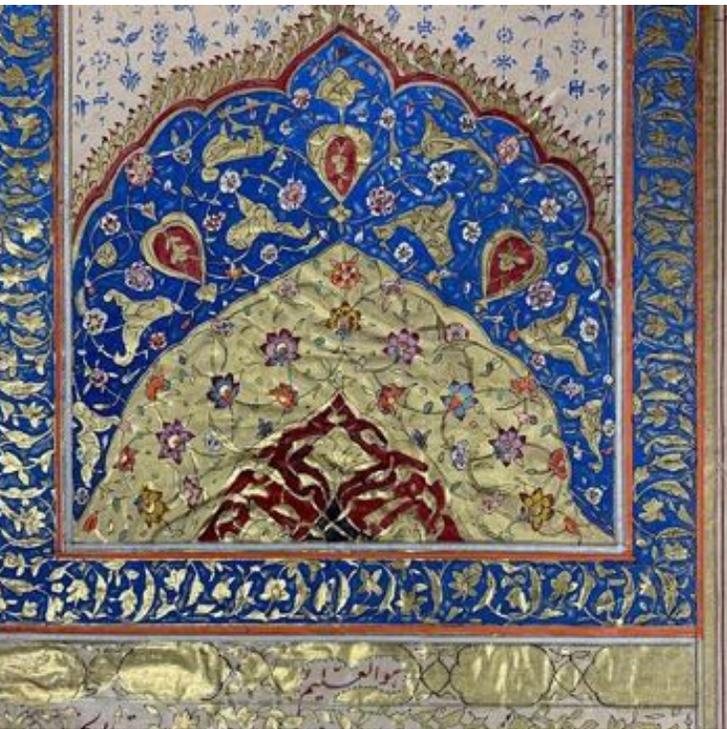




Digital Collections

The Special Collections & University Archives department has digitized thousands of images and made them freely available online. All of the images are made available through the public section of ArtSTOR. All images are available to download and use for free. We are growing our digital collections, primarily concerning digitizing our manuscript collection.

We have digitized more than 5,000 images related to Methodist History. This collection includes images of Methodist places of worship as well as important church figures.



Exhibitions

The department curates multiple exhibits per academic year. The exhibits display items from our collections, as well loaned items from local institutions such as The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey and Washington's Headquarters. The upcoming 2020-2021 exhibits include a look into witchcraft and the occult, and an exhibit on natural life and animals.



Previous exhibits include:

- "Around the World in 80 Days": A Travel Exhibit
- "On Dress": Form and Fashion
- New York Semester on Contemporary Art: The First Decade, 1967-1977
- "What Terrified Me Shall Terrify Others": 200 Years of Shelley's *Frankenstein*
- 150 Years in the Forest: Drew University 1867-2017

Events

The Methodist Archives building hosts multiple events per semester for the Drew population and the local community. Our annual event, Ghosts & Monsters, takes place in October and explores the haunting lore of Drew's campus. During the academic year, we partner with faculty and student groups to promote and host events such as art showcases, poetry readings, lectures, and performances.



Class Visits

Each semester, dozens of classes visit the archives for hands-on interaction with rare books and material. We encourage Drew faculty to set up a class visit to give your students a chance to learn directly with primary sources. If you would like to learn more about these learning opportunities or to set up a class visit, please contact Candace Reilly, creilly1@drew.edu.



Student Engagement & Opportunities

There are multiple opportunities for student employment and internships at the Methodist Archives. These jobs train students in the field of libraries & archives, and offer students first-hand experience curating exhibits, processing archival collections, marketing events, campaigning social media platforms, and handling rare books and materials. Positions are limited so students are encouraged to apply early in their Drew career.





Meet Our Staff

Candace Reilly

Interim Manager of Special Collections

creilly1@drew.edu

Candace is an art historian who specializes in English medieval history. Her doctoral study is on the visual cult of St. Christopher, and vision theories. Her favorite item in the Archives is the Nuremberg Chronicle.



Matthew Beland, PhD, MLIS

University Archivist

mbeland@drew.edu

Matthew earned his Ph.D at Drew in Modern History. He is interested in digital preservation and making collections more accessible through technology.

Visit Us

We are open Monday - Friday 9am-5pm
No appointment is necessary to study or look at material in the Wilson Reading Room.

If you are interested in learning more, taking a tour, or student employment, please contact speccol@drew.edu.



Social Media

Follow us on [Instagram](#) (@drewarchives) and [Facebook](#) (DrewU Special Collections) for daily posts regarding our collections and events.

For more content, take a look at our [Virtual Reading Room & Special Collections Blog](#). There you will find videos of past events, performances, and posts from student employees about our collections.

