

## John J. Burns Library of Rare Books and Special Collections

The University's special collections, including the University's Archives, are housed in the magnificently appointed Honorable John J. Burns Library, located in the Bapst Library Building, north entrance. These distinguished and varied collections speak eloquently of the University's commitment to the preservation and dissemination of human knowledge. The Burns Library is home to more than one hundred thousand volumes, some twelve million manuscripts, and important collections of architectural records, maps, art works, photographs, films, prints, artifacts, and ephemera. These materials are housed in the climate-controlled, secure environment of Burns either because of their rarity or because of their importance as part of a special collection. While treated with special care, these resources are available for use at Burns to all qualified students, faculty, and researchers. Indeed, their use is strongly encouraged, and visitors to Burns are always welcome, either simply to browse or to make use of the collections.

Though its collections cover virtually the entire spectrum of human knowledge, the Burns Library has achieved international recognition in several specific areas of research, most notably: Irish studies; British Catholic authors; Jesuitana; fine print; Catholic liturgy and life in America, 1925-1975; Boston history; Caribbeana; Balkan studies; and Congressional archives. It has also won acclaim for significant holdings on nursing, detective fiction, Thomas Merton, Japanese prints, Colonial and early Republic Protestantism, and banking.

Some of the significant collections at Burns include:

The Aylesford Press Collection  
Banking Archives: Hibernia Savings Bank, Union Warren, The Provident Institution for Savings, the Yankee Bank for Finance and Savings, and the Savings Banks Association of Massachusetts  
Samuel Beckett Collection  
Hilaire Belloc Collection and Archives, 1870-1953  
The Honorable Edward Boland Papers  
Bookbuilders of Boston Archives, 1938-  
British Catholic Authors  
Bruce F. Browning Boston Theater Collection  
Burns, Oates and Washbourne Collection, 1847-1954  
The Wallace P. Carroll Papers  
The Charitable Irish of Boston Collection  
Gilbert Keith Chesterton Collection, 1874-1936  
Citywide Coordinating Council Archives, 1975-1978  
Josephine A. Dolan Collection  
Theodore Dreiser Collection  
The Reverend Robert F. Drinan, S.J. Papers  
East European Collection (Bulgarian and Romanian)

Eire Society of Boston Archives  
Fine Print Collection  
Flann O'Brien Papers  
Eric Gill Collection  
Howard B. Gill Papers  
Joseph A. Grace's Early Modern English Collection  
Graham Greene Library and Archive  
Seamus Heaney Collection  
The Honorable Margaret Heckler Papers  
Irish Collection  
Irish Music Center- John McCormack Irish Music Collection  
Jane Jacobs Collection  
Janet Wilson James Collection on Women's History  
Elizabeth Jennings Collection  
Jesuitana Collection, 1540-1773  
David Jones Collection  
Rita Kelleher Collection  
Leeming Collection of Irish Literature  
Reverend William J. Leonard, S.J. Liturgy and Life Collection, 1925-1975  
Peter Levi Collection and Papers, 1931-  
Robert and Patricia Lowery's Sean O'Casey Collection  
Reverend Robert J. McEwen, S.J. Catholic Social Action as Embodied in the Modern Consumer Movement  
McNiff Collection of the Stanbrook Abbey Press  
Thomas Merton Collection  
Meynell Family Collection  
Morrisey Collection of Japanese Prints, 18th-19th centuries  
New England Deaconess Hospital Nursing Collection, 1896-1989  
Nuala Ni Dhomhnaill Papers  
Nursing Archives  
The Honorable Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr. Papers  
Flann O'Brien Collection  
Mary L. Pekarski Nursing Archives  
Pope John XXI Collection of Medical Ethics  
Salem Divines Collection  
Joseph Coolidge Shaw, S.J., 1821-1851, Collection  
Francis Stewart Collection  
Rex Stout Collection and Archives  
Francis Sweeney, S.J. Collection  
Francis Thompson Collection, 1859-1907  
Typography and Design  
University Archives  
Sr. Madeleine Clemence Vaillot, O.P. Papers  
Nicholas M. Williams Memorial Collection of Caribbeana  
William Butler Yeats Collection

The John J. Burns Library is open Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Library is closed on all University holidays. Visitors are always welcome and are encouraged to view the permanent exhibition areas of the Library. Guided tours are also available upon request. Patrons using the collections must do so in the Burns Reading Room where specialized reference and copy services are provided. Burns sponsors an active exhibits and lecture series program.  
Source: University Librarian