



# **Friends news : University of Wisconsin-Madison Libraries. Volume 2, Number 3 Winter 2004-05**

Madison, Wisconsin: Friends of the University of  
Wisconsin-Madison Libraries, Winter 2004-05

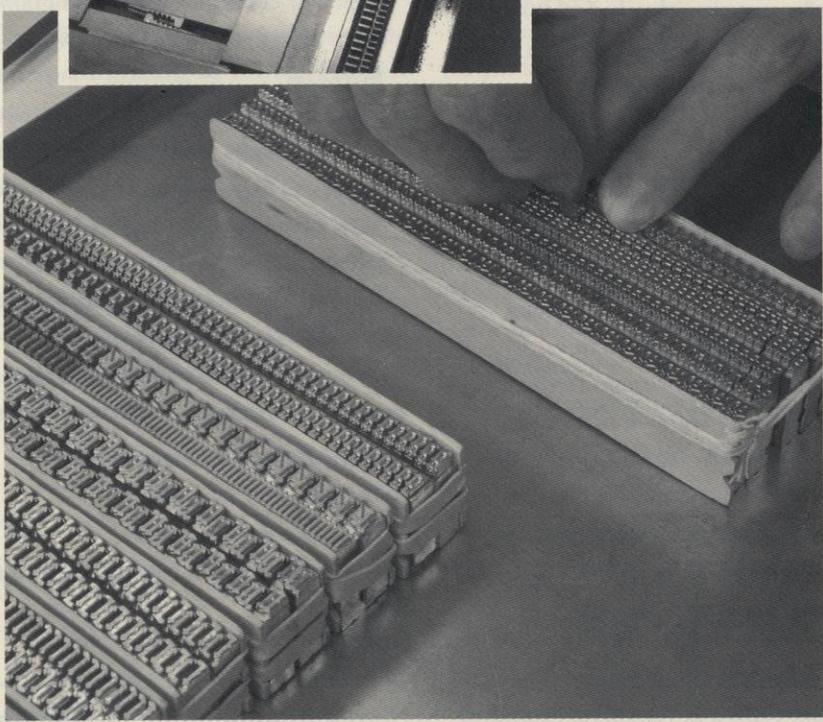
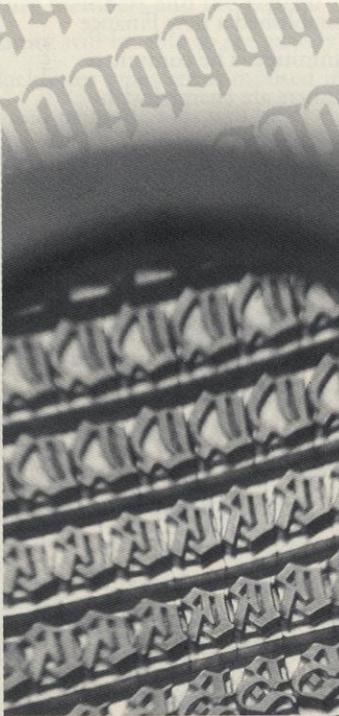
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UW-Madison Libraries' Silver Buckle Press recently acquired the 245-character Dale Guild B-42 Blackletter type, a font based on the type in Gutenberg's 42-line Bible. In addition to a spring exhibit and symposium, the font will be used in a Silver Buckle Press publication.

## Special Collections spring 2005 exhibit: *Paragraphs on Typography*

Inspired by typographer Bruce Rogers' classic treatise *Paragraphs on Printing*, this exhibit will feature significant works in the history of typography and book printing with an emphasis on exemplary uses of letterforms. The exhibit will draw from Special Collections materials on the history of the book and will include examples of printing types and pressroom tools from the Silver Buckle Press. The exhibit is co-curated by William Reeder, president of the Friends; Tracy Honn, director of UW-Madison's Silver Buckle Press; and Robin Rider, curator of Special Collections.

## Silver Buckle Press April 2005 symposium: Recasting Gutenberg

Along with the purchase of the Dale Guild B-42 Blackletter Type (left), the Silver Buckle Press will present an April 2005 symposium devoted to recent scholarship on Johann Gutenberg and his types. It is the second in the series "Hot Type in a Cold World" on the subject of contemporary letterpress printing and the impact of the computer on printing. The symposium will include a presentation by the Dale Guild Type Foundry regarding their monumental work to recreate the Gutenberg typeface. Stan Nelson, museum specialist emeritus of the Smithsonian Institution's Graphic Arts Collections, will discuss the cutting of type punches and will demonstrate type casting using a hand mould.

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Board of Regents

## From the finance committee Building for the future

by Richard Tatman

In May 2004, the Friends board established a new Finance Committee. The committee members are charged with reviewing and evaluating income and expenditures for the past seven years, recommending monetary and time-frame objectives for increasing the Friends endowment, and proposing various endowment-enhancing ideas. Board members appointed to the Finance Committee include co-chairs Christopher Kleinhenz and Richard Tatman, and members Eleanor Albert, Jerry Minnich, Paula Panczenko, and John Tortorice. After several meetings this summer, the committee presented a report at the August 2004 Friends board meeting.

Between fiscal years 1997 and 2004 total annual income increased by 159 percent from approximately \$40,000 to \$104,000, reflecting major gains in book sale revenue, memberships and donations, art sales, and special programs like the Mosse Program in Humanities. Total expenses over the same period advanced by 241 percent from \$26,000 to \$87,000 due to increases in grants to campus libraries and visiting scholars, Friends publications, and lectures.

Ideally, the Finance Committee would like to see at least \$60,000 of annual expenses covered by returns generated from an enlarged endowment. Assuming a 5 percent return and withdrawal rate,



an endowment of some \$1.2 million would be required to satisfy this goal. With a current endowment of only about \$46,000, interim target amounts over five- and ten-year time frames would be practical.

Several other committees are currently evaluating endowment-enhancing proposals generated by the Finance Committee, these include:

- Requests to smaller family foundations to underwrite Friends projects (lecture series, book nameplates, etc.)
- Proposals to larger foundations to match gifts supporting specific projects
- Creating special introductory offers to encourage UW faculty and administrators to join the Friends
- Developing new and specific donation-level membership incentives (special events or collection-related programs, library database access, borrowing privileges)

- Hosting book-related excursions with distinguished academic leaders to such venues as Italy, France, Ireland, New York City, and Los Angeles.

In addition to revenue generating proposals, the Finance Committee has also encouraged other appropriate committees to review major program and expense categories on a cost/benefit basis.

*Richard Tatman is Co-chairman  
of the Finance Committee,  
Friends Board of Directors*

## Book Festival recap

The Wisconsin Book Festival's Saturday night Festival of Fiction on October 9 at the Orpheum Theater was sponsored in part by the UW-Madison Libraries and the Friends.

The event featured storytelling by four authors: revered short story writers

Charles Baxter and Richard Bausch, National Book Award Finalist Edwidge Danticat, and Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist Jeffrey Eugenides.

The Friends and the UW-Madison Libraries have been major sponsors of the festival since it began in 2002.

## Silver Buckle Press acquires font based on original Gutenberg type

**F**ew mechanical inventions in human history resonate throughout the arts as deeply as Johann Gutenberg's development of moveable type. The innovation for which Gutenberg is credited has since become known as the "preservative of all the arts"—the technical leap which first allowed mass production of printed materials and helped spawn an age of enlightenment.

But little is known of Gutenberg's life. Legal archives have shown that despite the later widespread success of his invention, he was constantly in debt for failed business ventures: polishing gemstones, making mirrors and, ultimately, printing. None of the tools used to cast Gutenberg's type, nor any of the types themselves, survive. Despite extensive research, history's most important access to Gutenberg and his invention continues to be through his printed works, most significantly the 42-line Bible.

Silver Buckle Press, a working museum of letterpress printing in UW-Madison's Memorial Library, has recently acquired a newly cast font of type derived from Gutenberg's 42-line Bible. This type, Dale Guild B-42 Blackletter, is a historically accurate recreation of the fifteenth-century typeface. The complete 245-character set is more than sufficient to set any two of the Gutenberg Bible's 1,282 pages.

The Silver Buckle Press will use the type to support their mission of education on the history of printing. University members and the general community will be able to see exactly how blackletter types are composed into forms and printed. This will be of particular interest to historians of printing and literature, for scholars of the bibliographic and graphic arts, as well as to anyone interested in the history of the book. Besides being able to set facsimile pages from the 42-line Bible, Silver Buckle Press is developing a publication that will provide printed specimens of the type.

Although history has little to tell of Gutenberg the man, the acquisition of Dale Guild B-42 Blackletter type allows students and scholars of printing to better understand the seminal development of Western, moveable-type printing.

### More about the type

Beyond the practical applications of moveable metal type, Gutenberg's font also represents a remarkable expression of the artistic possibilities of letterforms. Gutenberg wanted the appearance of his Bible to rival that of the most skillful scribe. He achieved this in the composition by using justified lines to create even margins and hanging punctuation, both firsts in the history of the printed page that resulted in a visually superior page of text. Gutenberg's type, used in setting Latin, is made up of complete sets of uppercase and lowercase letters, as well as forty-five ligatures, physically linked letters set on a single piece of type, and contractions, which he used to justify lines.

Gutenberg also created a complete set of alternate characters for nearly every lowercase letter and ligature (the left side of these characters lacks serifs), effectively creating a font within a font.

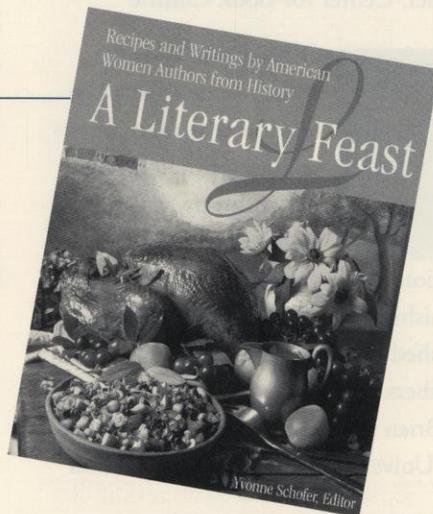
He created the alternates for a purely aesthetic reason: to control the amount of white space within words.



Double f ligature from Dale Guild B-42 Blackletter. Ligatures combine two or more type forms on the same body to accommodate letters that are difficult to fit together snugly. In the Gutenberg-derived type, some of the ligatures also represent scribal contractions.

## Give the perfect gift — *A Literary Feast* cookbook

**C**ompiled by Friends Loni Hayman, Joan Jones, and Anne Tedeschi and edited by UW-Madison bibliographer Yvonne Schofer, *A Literary Feast: Recipes and Writings by American Women Authors from History* not only raises money for the libraries through royalties—nearly \$2,000 to date—it is a wonderful holiday gift and an entertaining reference for your own cookbook collection. Jones Books is now offering the \$28 book to the Friends for only \$20. To order please send a check to Jones Books, 309 N. Hillside Terrace, Madison, WI 53705. For more information call (608) 236-9259, email [info@jonesbooks.com](mailto:info@jonesbooks.com), or see [www.jonesbooks.com](http://www.jonesbooks.com).



# Spring 2005 Cal

## Gallery Talk: Paragraphs on Typography

Thursday, January 20, 4:30 p.m.

126 Memorial Library

Tracy Honn, Director, Silver Buckle Press  
 Robin Rider, Curator of Special  
 Collections, UW-Madison Libraries  
 William Reeder, former Professor of  
 Zoology, UW-Madison

The curators of the exhibit *Paragraphs on Typography* in Special Collections, which was inspired by typographer Bruce Rogers' classic treatise *Paragraphs on Printing*, will discuss significant works in the history of typography and book printing. With an emphasis on illustration of exemplary uses of letterforms, the talk will highlight works of fine typography in the Department of Special Collections and include a discussion of printing types and factors which contribute to printing excellence.

## The Future of Fiction and Literary Publishing

Thursday, February 17, 4:30 p.m.

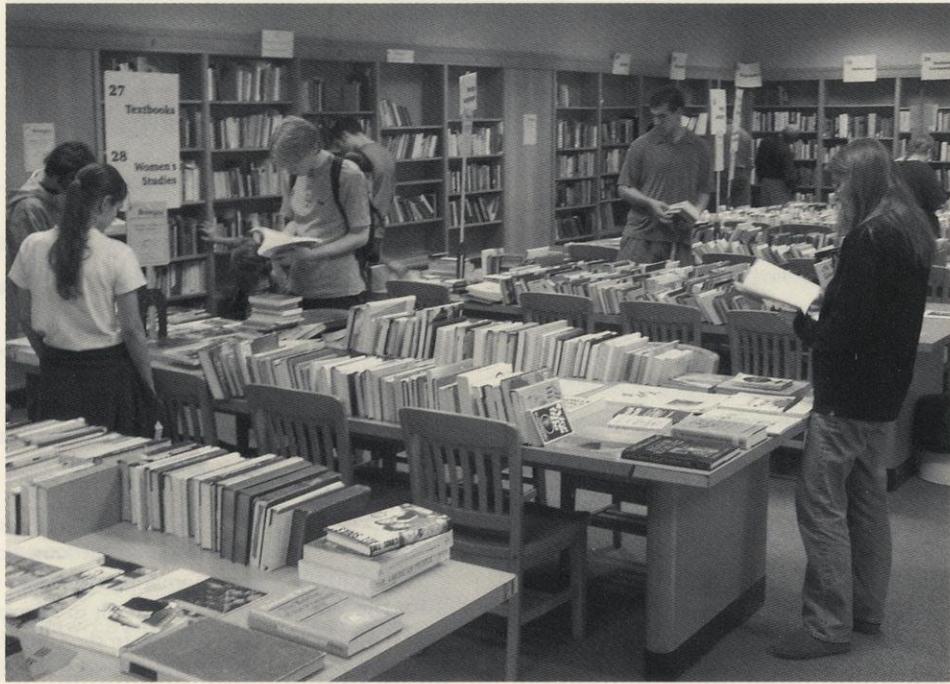
126 Memorial Library

John O'Brien  
 Founder, Center for Book Culture



O'Brien will consider contemporary fiction in relation to readers, book-selling, technology, and philanthropy, while paying particular attention to the growing crisis of the diminishing number of translations published each year by American publishers.

O'Brien has been a professor at Illinois State University since 1992. In addition



Friends spring 2004 semiannual used book sale.

to having written book reviews for the *Washington Post* and the *Chicago Sun-Times*, he is currently the publisher of *Review of Contemporary Fiction*, the Dalkey Archive Press, and *CONTEXT* magazine.

## Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries Semiannual Used Book Sale

Wednesday through Saturday,  
 March 2 – 5

116 Memorial Library

Come and explore the Friends semiannual book sale, the largest used book sale in Wisconsin. Students, faculty, staff, and Madison residents donate materials ranging from philosophy and literature to science and reference texts. Proceeds from the fund-raiser help support the Friends Grants-in-Aid

program for visiting scholars, a grant program for campus libraries, and other programming. In addition, 10 percent of the proceeds are transferred to the Friends endowment. To donate books for the Friends spring book sale, please call (608) 265-2505 or e-mail the Friends at [friends@library.wisc.edu](mailto:friends@library.wisc.edu).

■ Wednesday, March 2

Preview Sale (\$5 entry)  
 5 – 9 p.m.

■ Thursday – Friday, March 3 – 4

Regular Sale (No entry fee)  
 10:30 a.m. – 7 p.m.

■ Saturday, March 5

\$2-a-Bag Sale (Bring your own bag  
 or buy one for \$1)  
 10:30 a.m. – 2 p.m.

# endar of Events

## Sex, Death & Revolution

Thursday, March 10, 4:30 p.m.

### 126 Memorial Library

Paul Collins, Author and founding Editor of the Collins Library imprint of McSweeney's Books

A traveling bibliophile and aficionado of obscure eccentrics, Paul Collins' writing ranges from recounting his hapless attempt to move to rural Wales (*Sixpence House*) to a tour of history's strangest forgotten geniuses and would-be geniuses (*Banvard's Folly*). His latest book is a family memoir and historical meditation on neurology (*Not Even Wrong: Adventures in Autism*).

Collins is a regular contributor on science and literary history to both *The Village Voice* and *New Scientist* magazine. He is completing his next book, *Sex, Death & Revolution*, a travelogue following the curious afterlife of founding father Thomas Paine, whose bones were stolen by an admirer in 1819 and have been turning up in some very strange places ever since.

## FELIX: A Series of New Writing

Thursday, March 31, 4:30 pm

### 126 Memorial Library



The spring FELIX will feature readings by poet Anthony Hawley, associate fiction editor of the New York literary magazine *Fence*, and Joel Felix, co-editor of the Chicago poetry journal *LVNG*.

Named after Felix Pollak (1909-1987), poet and former curator of Special Collections, this developing reading series

invites young writers to provide a forum for conversation on the evolution of "little magazines" and their role in literary culture.



## Recasting Gutenberg

Thursday, April 7, 4:30 p.m.

### 126 Memorial Library

Stan Nelson, Museum Specialist Emeritus, Graphic Arts Collections, Smithsonian Institution

Stan Nelson will discuss the history of type founding and describe the process of how type is made: from punch cutting and matrix fitting to casting and finishing. His presentation will also include a demonstration of hand casting. The lecture is part of the Silver Buckle Press symposium *Recasting Gutenberg*, the second in the series "Hot Type in a Cold World" on modern letterpress printing and the effect of the computer on printing.

Currently Nelson is proprietor of the Atelier Press & Letter Foundry, where he produces historically accurate recreations of hand moulds and foundry tools based on models found in printing museums such as the Enschede, Klingspor, and Plantin-Moretus.

## Friends Annual Lecture

Wednesday, April 20, 5:30 p.m.

### Madison Club, 5 East Wilson Street

Nicholas Basbanes, Editor and Author



Author, award-winning journalist, and former literary editor of the *Worcester Sunday Telegram*, Nicholas Basbanes will be the featured speaker at this spring's annual meeting.

Basbanes has been called a "certified bibliomaniac" and "the leading authority on books about books." Now in its eighth edition with more than 80,000 copies in print, his first book, *A Gentle Madness: Bibliophiles, Bibliomanes, and the Eternal Passion for Books*, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in nonfiction for 1995. It was also named a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year. Basbanes' most recent book is *Among the Gently Mad: Perspectives and Strategies for the Book Hunter of the Twenty-first Century*. He currently writes a monthly review of children's books for *Literary Features Syndicate*, which he and his wife established in 1993.

## Friends fall book sale

In four days, the Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries raised nearly \$20,000 during their semiannual used book sale held in Memorial Library in October. Forty people volunteered more than 300 hours to move, sort, and sell over 14,000 books.

Proceeds from the fund-raiser help support the Friends Grants-in-Aid program for visiting scholars, the grant program for campus libraries, and Friends programming. In addition, 10 percent of the proceeds are transferred to the Friends endowment.

The last eighteen semiannual sales have moved more than 270,000 books and generated more than \$300,000.

The Friends are currently accepting donations for the spring 2005 sale, Wednesday through Saturday, March 2 – 5. Donations may be placed in the “Open Return” book drops located in



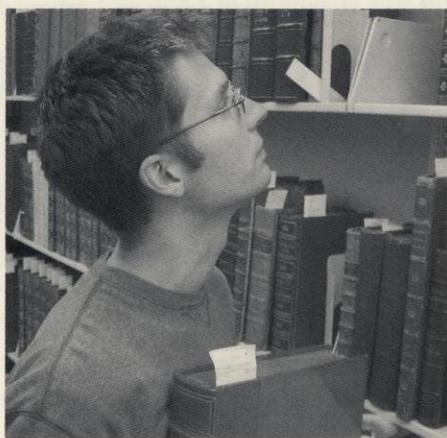
Nearly 1,000 people searched through over 14,000 books as part of the Friends fall 2004 semiannual used book sale. The sale raised nearly \$20,000 to support Friends programming.

most UW-Madison Libraries. Materials may also be dropped off at the Lake Street loading dock of Memorial Library weekdays, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. To arrange for book pickups or for information contact the Friends, (608) 265-2505; email Friends@library.wisc.edu.

## Report from the Rare Book School

by David Pavelich

On July 5, 2004, I found myself in a dark room—lit only with candles—copying passages from First Corinthians, squinting to read the letters. As it turns out this is a popular exercise at Rare Book School (RBS), a nonprofit institute at the University of Virginia



David Pavelich working with the Thordarson Collection in the vaults of Special Collections.

meant to illustrate the hardships of scribal culture before Gutenberg. Thanks to support from the Friends and the General Library System, I was able to attend a course in book history at RBS taught by Mark Dimunation of the Library of Congress and John Buchtel from Johns Hopkins University.

The highlight of the week was a personal show-and-tell of some of the most extraordinary rare book holdings at the Library of Congress, from fifteenth-century block books to a hand-colored copy of William Blake's *Book of Urizen*.

I am a student assistant in Memorial Library's Special Collections, and the experience at RBS greatly enhanced my knowledge of book history and my skills as a librarian. Future students in library studies and related fields would benefit from similar support.

Originally founded in 1983, RBS offers courses on rare books and manuscripts.

## Friends welcome first student representative

The Friends of the UW-Madison Libraries recently welcomed the first student representative to the Friends



board of directors. Ingrid Stokstad, a senior majoring in international studies and political science, was added to the eighteen-member board to provide a student point of view and advise on outreach for the Friends leadership.

Although she has always been fond of libraries, Stokstad became familiar with the Friends because of the semiannual book sales. Her interest in libraries was broadened last summer while she was studying in Scandinavia with a student from the UW-Madison School of Library and Information Studies. In the course of her trip she visited many European libraries.

Stokstad is currently the director of the Global Connections committee for the Wisconsin Union Directorate and is also involved with Iron Cross, a student leadership organization.

## American Indian Studies Program Resource Center

### Nascent library holds one-of-a-kind treasures

The American Indian Studies Program Resource Center in Ingraham Hall is not one of the largest libraries on campus; in fact, the center holds fewer than two thousand titles.

But size does not undermine the uniqueness and rare beauty of the holdings.

Began in 1972 with the founding of the American Indian Studies Program and opened to campus circulation in 1997, the collections of the American Indian Studies Program Resource Center include periodicals, monographs, books, original photography, VHS, and digital video. Printed materials cover American Indian languages, history, anthropology, art, culture, fiction, and nonfiction. The reference section includes extensive holdings on Indian law, treaty law, and the modern relationship between independent Indian nations and the United States.

Although most of the printed materials are available for circulation, photography and video resources are non-circulating.

Not surprisingly, the center holds a wealth of rare materials. In particular, the center features indigenous language audio tapes and textbooks on languages of the Mohawk, Ojibwe, Choctaw, Chickasaw, Navajo, Pima, Cree, Oneida, and Pottawatomie. It also holds volumes of audio tapes and CDs of traditional American Indian storytelling, music, and modern American Indian pop music.

One of the most beautiful and important resources available to users are fifteen carousels of original slide photography depicting customary arts, crafts and tools; homes and buildings; and American Indian peoples. These irreplaceable images depict American Indian life and include modern examples



Bertha Big John-Chippewa (date unknown). Photograph is from the American Indian Studies Program Photography Collections.

of time-honored traditions such as basket making, weaving, and jewelry making.

To learn more about the American Indian Studies Program Resource Center see <http://www.wisc.edu/amindian/> Resources/aresource.html or visit the center in 338E Ingraham Hall at 1155 Observatory Drive.

### Prominent cartographer passes away

Arthur Robinson, creator of the Map Library at UW-Madison that bears his name, passed away on October 10, 2004, in Madison.

Before coming to Madison, Robinson worked for five years during World War II as chief of the map division of the Office of Strategic Services, the precursor of the CIA.

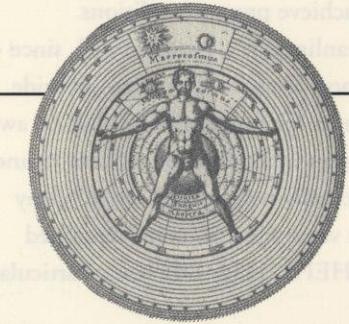
Beginning in 1946, Robinson taught courses in cartography and physical geography at UW-Madison in the Department of Geography. From 1954 to 1958 and 1966 to 1968, Robinson was chair of the department. He retired in 1980 as professor emeritus.

While at UW-Madison, Robinson was instrumental in the creation and administration of the Map Library and the Cartographic Laboratory, as well as

the bachelor's and master's degree programs in cartography. Later he was instrumental in the creation of the Wisconsin State Cartographer's Office, serving as chair of the first Wisconsin committee on state cartography.

Robinson was a world-renowned map maker best known for the creation of the Robinson Projection, the first major map projection to be commissioned by a large private corporation. Both Rand McNally and the National Geographic Society still make extensive use of the Robinson Projection.

Professor Robinson wrote or co-authored many influential books, including *The Look of Maps*, *The Nature of Maps*, and *Early Thematic Mapping in the History of Cartography*. His widely used textbook, *Elements of Cartography*, first published in 1953, has appeared in several subsequent editions.



From *Literary Selections on Cartography*. University of Wisconsin-Madison. Madison, Wisconsin: Juniper Press, 1992.

The image is part of a collection of prints currently being displayed in Special Collections in honor of the late David Woodward, Arthur H. Robinson Professor of Geography Emeritus. While at UW-Madison, Woodward co-founded the award-winning series *History of Cartography* and the *History of Cartography Project*, a research, editorial, and publishing venture drawing international attention to the history of maps and mapping. The *New York Times* praised the *History of Cartography* for its "impeccable scholarship" and "new insights and some reassessment of traditional thinking."

## Book preservation tips

by Andrea Rolich

**M**old and mildew are common names for fungi pervasive in both outdoor and indoor environments. If conditions are right, they can literally "eat" organic components of books—leather, cellulose in cloth and paper, starchy sizing and adhesives. Among the characteristic signs of fungi at work are a musty smell, spots and stains of any color, and a fuzzy bloom.

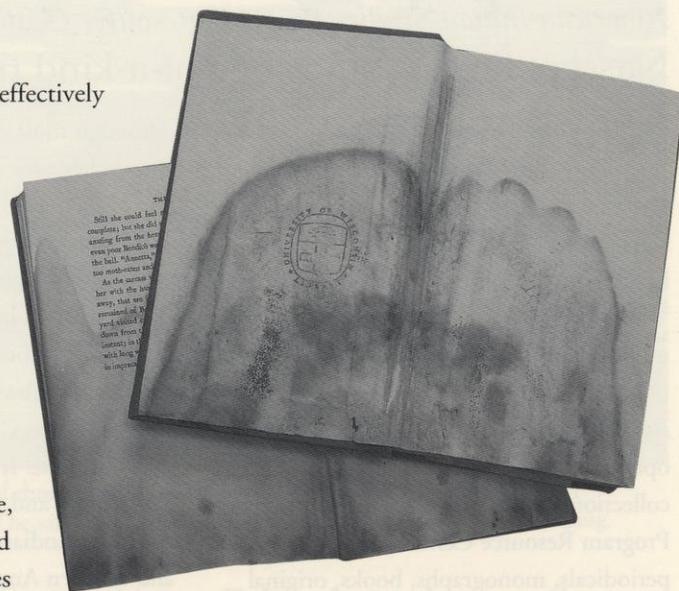
Preventive measures are the most effective means of avoiding moldy books. Although fungi are able to thrive in a fairly broad range of temperature and humidity levels, growth can be discouraged by keeping home book collections in a well-ventilated area with a stable environment below 70 degrees Fahrenheit and 65 percent relative humidity. Dehumidifiers and fans can help achieve proper conditions.

Cleanliness is a factor as well, since common household dust can provide nutrients for fungal growth, but be aware that improperly filtered vacuum cleaners can actually help spread fungi. Many home vacuums now come equipped with HEPA (High Efficiency Particulate

Arresting) filters that can effectively trap the spores.

Despite precautions, mold can still occur. Modest problems may be addressed by using a soft brush to gently direct powdery growth directly into a vacuum nozzle. Attempts to eradicate mold-related stains are seldom effective, but odors may be reduced by airing affected volumes in standing position, opened to about a 45 degree angle, in the appropriate environmental conditions described above. Persistent odors may be further reduced by standing the volumes in a closed box along with charcoal, baking soda, or odor-neutralizing drops available at hardware stores, making sure that none of these come into contact with the book itself.

When a moldy book is found, always check further to see what might have caused the problem and if other volumes are affected. Clean shelves with a disinfectant appropriate to the material



An example of the discoloration and "fuzzy bloom" of late-stage mildew contamination in a book.

and dry thoroughly before resheling your collection. Much has been written about mold and its abatement. Two sources of further information are "Mold" ([www.chicora.org/mold.htm](http://www.chicora.org/mold.htm)) and "Invasion of the Giant Mold Spore" ([www.solinet.net/preservation/](http://www.solinet.net/preservation/) — click Preservation Publications). If mold is widespread or the result of a greater disaster, consult professional help.

## Friends news

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