One of the more distinct groups of research resources held by the Library is that known as the University archives. As the precise meaning of the term 'archives' can be a matter of somewhat pedantic concern among archivists, librarians and researchers, it may be appropriate to begin with a definition of the material in question. Universities, and more particularly their constituent faculties and departments, have not tended to be particularly assiduous in the past about collecting and retaining material relating to their history. Manchester’s record in this respect, whilst very far from perfect, is not a dishonourable one. On the other hand, Manchester has not yet followed the example of certain other institutions in maintaining a University archive, embracing both historical and current records, as a department of its central administration. Thus, at Manchester current and recent records, both of the central University administration and the individual departments, are retained in the appropriate separate locations. It is the Library, rather than the University administration, which has taken responsibility for collecting, housing and listing less recent material. Generally speaking, therefore, the University archives in the Library are those regarded as ‘historical’, that is, of potential value to the researcher, but not normally consulted in the course of the current activities of the University. Although the University and its departments may retain certain ‘historical’ items, and although they have not infrequent recourse to the historical archives which they have donated or deposited, this working definition forms a starting-point for a survey of the Library’s holdings.

The archives fall into two distinct categories. First, there are collections of records primarily relating to the University as a central institution. Secondly, there are over forty separate collections of varying sizes, mainly papers of former professors and other prominent members of staff, but also records of a few academic or administrative departments.

* I would like to acknowledge the assistance of my colleague Dr Dorothy Clayton in the preparation of this article.
In their origins the archives of the University fall into four broad groupings, including many themes which are complementary or even duplicated. First to be acquired by the Library were the miscellaneous collections known formerly as ‘The Archives’, comprising manuscript, typescript and printed items relating to the history of the University and gathered on a piecemeal basis from an early stage in the Library’s existence.\(^1\) Secondly, there are the Registrar’s Archives, including the main official records of the University’s central administration, which were transferred from the Main Building of the University in 1974.\(^2\) These comprise all material which was then considered of historical rather than current significance, 1950 being chosen as the ‘cut-off’ date: obviously it may be considered appropriate to transfer further material in the future. Thirdly, there are extensive records from the Vice-Chancellor’s Department, mainly transferred during the early 1980s and selected on similar criteria.\(^3\) Finally, there is the material originally held in the ‘Bursar’s Strongroom’, in the Main Building, and transferred in 1988. Still to be sorted, this collection has already been found to contain material from the early years of Owens College which pre-dates the Registrar’s Archives.

All these records have an obvious value as a source for the history of higher education. They are especially important in that they chart the development of one of the first of the so-called ‘red-brick’ universities which had their origins in the later years of the nineteenth century. The history of Manchester University begins with the plans in the 1830s for an academic foundation in the city. A letter in the Manchester Guardian in 1836 suggested that

The residence amongst us of a literary class like the professors of a university – respectable for their talents – their station in life – and their moral dignity would be a most valuable element in the social composition of a commercial population. Whilst our youth . . . would be able to complete their education under the salutary control of domestic influences both of which circumstances would tend to elevate & spiritualize the tone of society, & counteract the all absorbing pursuits of mercantile and material interests.\(^4\)

Also among the small group of documents, letters and printed items

\(^1\) Items from this collection are prefixed ‘UA’ in the unpublished ‘Archives of Owens College, the Victoria University and the Victoria University of Manchester: Revised and Enlarged List’. This finding aid has been reproduced on microfiche as part of Chadwyck-Healey’s on-going project National Inventory of Documentary Sources in the United Kingdom (hereafter NIDS UK) where it is numbered as document 0.063.032. Miscellaneous University records acquired after the production of this list in May 1978 are recorded in the Archives card catalogue of the Main Library. Subsequent footnote references are by ‘UA’ numbers only.

\(^2\) Items are prefixed ‘RA’ in NIDS UK, 0.063.032. Footnote references below are by ‘RA’ numbers only.

\(^3\) A minority of the items in this collection are recorded in two unpublished lists of ‘Vice-Chancellor’s Archives’, NIDS UK, 0.063.033-4, where they carry the prefix ‘VCA’.

\(^4\) See the letter-book of the movement to establish a college in Manchester, UA/5/2.
relating to these early years is a proposal for a new college put forward by the long-forgotten Pine Street School of Medicine, whose staff incurred the suspicion that the plan was a device for enhancing the status of a small medical clique.\(^5\) Preparations for the setting-up of a college began in earnest when John Owens bequeathed a large sum of money in 1845 for the foundation of 'an institution for providing or aiding the means of instructing and improving young persons of the male sex (and being of an age not less than fourteen years) in such branches of learning and science as were then and might be . . . taught in the English Universities'.\(^6\) Owens College was duly founded in 1851.

Researchers often underestimate the value of printed source materials, and it is worth emphasizing that the most versatile single source for the history of Owens College and the subsequent University foundations is the set of printed *Calendars*.\(^7\) These date from 1862, and include lists of staff; syllabuses; details of fees, prizes and fellowships; lists of associates, graduates and students; examination results; and (to 1911) examination papers.\(^8\) The earliest printed records of Owens College are the examination papers from 1851 to 1861,\(^9\) and the questions provide enlightening and sometimes disconcerting insights into the early syllabuses and teaching methods. It is difficult, for instance, to see how the student could do justice, in the limited time available, to questions such as: 'Give a short life of Oliver Cromwell, and characterise the internal and foreign policy of his administration' or 'Mention some of the great prelates of the English Church between Lanfranc and Morton, and the occasions on which any of them played an important part in our history'.\(^10\) Perhaps even more taxing might have been the combination of the comprehensive and the obscure, as in: 'The principal events in the reign of Edward I, arranging them under three heads' or 'Give some account of the conditions of the labouring classes in England at different times'.\(^11\) Students might be forgiven for concentrating on the less challenging 'Give the date of the battle of Hastings' or even attempting the rather more enigmatic 'Discuss the date of Xenophon's birth'.\(^12\) Occasionally a slightly insidious note of national self-justification creeps in, as in: 'Give an account of the trial and execution of Joan of Arc. Mention any circumstances which tend to extenuate the guilt of the Duke of Bedford and the English government in this matter'.\(^13\)

---

\(^5\) See unpublished enclosures in UA/5/2.
\(^6\) See the document on the constitution, progress and present condition of the College, March 1866, UA/1/15.
\(^7\) UA/19-21.
\(^8\) Examination papers from 1912 onwards are separately listed as UA/21 1.
\(^9\) UA/5/3.
\(^11\) ibid.; 1853, 87; 1861 (Political Economy), 138.
\(^12\) ibid.; 1852 (Early English History), 72; 1853 (Junior Greek Class), 35.
\(^13\) ibid., 1860 (English History), 89.
After the *Calendars* the most important printed source for the history of the College is probably the set of Reports of the Council to the Court of Governors, dating from 1872 (with some early omissions) to the present.\(^{14}\) These Reports are usually in two sections: Part I includes a comprehensive range of balance sheets and is the basic source of data on investment, income and expenditure, while Part II contains the earliest available annual reports of individual teaching departments. These records may be consulted in conjunction with the most useful group of archives originating from the Registrar’s Department – the working records of the Council and the Senate. Beginning in 1870, and originally in the form of unique manuscript minutes, these records soon take the more manageable form of printed documents with marginal annotations. These minutes, with their attendant volumes of ‘appendices’ of related documents,\(^ {15}\) are an essential source not only for the College’s history as an institution but for the study of developments in the teaching of individual subjects and of the careers of members of staff. The researcher is greatly assisted by the manuscript indexes to each volume. Data on the careers of staff may be supplemented by the series of volumes recording professors’ and lecturers’ appointments from 1886; again, these are conveniently indexed.\(^ {16}\) It should also be noted that lists of former professors can be found in the *Calendars*.

While these are all comparatively well-used sources, much still remains to be discovered in the new material recently received from the Bursar’s Strongroom. This includes minutes of the proceedings of trustees dating from before the College’s foundation, minutes of College meetings before 1870, transcripts of reports and other documents, and early letter books. In the Library’s ‘University Archives’, there are numerous documents which supplement the official records outlined above, including the texts of introductory lectures from 1851, College bye-laws, prospectuses, and information on the expansion of the College.\(^ {17}\) In 1867, when it was claimed that ‘It would probably be found that in no institution of the kind in the kingdom are so many persons under instruction in so confined a space’, plans were set in motion for the building of new premises and the expansion of the curriculum.\(^ {18}\) In October 1873 the new College buildings in Oxford Road were formally opened. A valuable short study of the formative

\(^{14}\) UA/22–3; also RA/3/9 for 1936–50.
\(^{15}\) See especially Council Minutes RA/1/1 (Owens College), RA/3/1 (Manchester University) and unlisted Owens College appendices from Bursar’s Strongroom; Senate Minutes RA/1/2 and appendices RA/1/3 (Owens College), Senate Committee Minutes RA/3/4 and Senate Minutes RA/3/5 (Manchester University).
\(^{16}\) RA/29.
\(^{17}\) UA/1/1 et seq.
\(^{18}\) From a statement of the development of Owens College laid before a meeting in Manchester Town Hall, 1 February 1867, setting up a committee to raise money to extend the College (UA/1/19). See also W.H. Chaloner, *The Movement for the Extension of Owens College, Manchester, 1863–73* (Manchester: Univ. Pr., 1973).
years of the College is that of J. Taylor Kay, the College’s librarian. Writing in 1891, he described the growth of the Library (51,040 volumes at that date) and the various science laboratories, as well as the growth of the College itself.\textsuperscript{19}

Owens College was affiliated to the University of London, and students who successfully completed a two-year course in Manchester had the opportunity of taking ‘external’ London degrees: their efforts are recorded in the \textit{Calendars} and in a manuscript volume dating from the foundation of the College.\textsuperscript{20} However, the success of the College (after an uncertain start) led to a campaign, from about 1876, to bestow upon it university status. As a pamphlet of 1879 reminded the people of Manchester, there had been suggestions that the town should have its own university as early as 1640; a petition to the ‘Long Parliament’ argued that ‘the want of an university in the northern parts of this kingdom... hath been apprehended a great prejudice to the kingdom in general, but a greater misery and unhappiness to these countries [sic] in particular, many ripe and hopeful wits being utterly lost for want of education’.\textsuperscript{21} In March 1876 four of the leading academics of Owens College issued an appeal for university status in which they maintained that ‘the opinion seems warranted that the time has now arrived when such a claim may be advanced with confidence in its justice’.\textsuperscript{22} External supporters included the forthright historian E.A. Freeman (whose own papers are held by the Library)\textsuperscript{23} who advised: ‘I would say don’t keep your place at fever heat with endless examinations and class texts, but let the degree itself be respectable’.\textsuperscript{24} However, conservative suspicions within the established universities, and misgivings among similar colleges about the enhancement of the status of one of their number, led to the compromise which became the Victoria University. From 1880 to 1884 Owens College was the sole constituent college of this federal ‘University of the North’, to be joined in 1884 and 1887 by colleges in Liverpool and Leeds respectively. The volumes of Board of Studies, Council, Court and Convocation minutes, together with compilations of ‘academic’ and ‘historical’ documents for this period,\textsuperscript{25} are thus of value to the student of the origins of Liverpool and Leeds Universities and the general expansion of higher education in the late Victorian period. More ephemeral material may be discovered in the correspondence of Alfred

\textsuperscript{19} J.T. Kay, \textit{The Owens College: A Descriptive Sketch} (Manchester: Sowler, 1891), UA 1/75.

\textsuperscript{20} RA 1.9, covering the years 1851–1910.

\textsuperscript{21} J.E. Bailey, ‘Proposed University at Manchester in 1640–1’, reprinted from the \textit{Manchester City News} Notes and Queries, 5 July 1879 (UA 2/31), 5.

\textsuperscript{22} Pamphlet by J. G. Greenwood, H. E. Roscoe, A. W. Ward and J. E. Morgan on the issue of university status for Owens College, 3 March 1876 (UA 2 2), 11.

\textsuperscript{23} Unpublished list, \textit{NIDS UK}, 0.063.068.

\textsuperscript{24} In a printed collection of correspondence on the controversy, January–June 1876 (UA 2 4), 19.

\textsuperscript{25} RA 2 1–13; RA 3/1 (1880–1903 only): UA/6.1–5.
Hughes, registrar of the federal university. An understandable concern for the community at large was doubtless behind a letter in these files in which one member of staff asks another to mention at the Examiners meeting tomorrow that Mr A.B. Fletcher should not, as we agreed, be allowed to pass, and that he should be informed that the Board of Examiners wish to draw his attention to the fact that he had prescribed a poisonous dose of strychnine for a child in one of his answers.

By the summer of 1902 a second major academic debate had arisen in Manchester involving proposals for the disbanding of the Victoria University and the setting-up of an independent University of Manchester. Again, the archives provide details of the public discussions. A ‘Graduates’ Defence Committee’ published a pamphlet entitled *The Case Against the Proposed Disruption of the Victoria University* in which it argued that a federal northern university would retain more status than universities attached to individual cities, and asked:

What need is there for all this haste to wreck and destroy a splendid institution which has been built up and fostered with so much care . . . whose degrees are held in high honour, and whose wonderful success in stimulating the desire for higher education in our Northern counties has been so remarkable.

Professor Wilkins argued that ‘the concession to a local patriotism would be dearly purchased at the sacrifice of the growing prestige, the better balanced views, the greater variety of experience among teachers, and the keener competition among candidates’. In reply the advocates of independence maintained that

we have an opportunity of establishing three Universities on the model of the great Universities of Scotland, Germany, France and America, to which the leadership in knowledge is rapidly passing: Universities which will be deeply rooted in the support and affection of their own districts, ‘broad-based upon the people’s will’, as Universities used to be, but have not been in England, for centuries.

Samuel Alexander, the philosopher, insisted that

By identifying itself with the community which it serves, and drawing closer the ties which bind it to its province, it will enlist in its material support not only the munificent rich and the circle of its graduates and immediate friends, but the larger public, whether acting individually or through its representatives.

26 UA/15/1–266.
27 UA/15/71.
28 UA/3/2, 24, 29.
29 ‘The Case for the Establishment of Independent Universities of Manchester, Liverpool and Yorkshire’ (UA/3/5), 21.
Within little more than a year the controversy was resolved in favour of dissolving the Victoria University, whereupon Owens College took the title of the Victoria University of Manchester.

While the issue of university status for Manchester's college was gradually being resolved during the last quarter of the nineteenth century, a parallel movement was in progress – the movement to permit women to enjoy the same rights as men in higher education. In addition to material which may be traced throughout the official records of the period, the archives contain a separate group of documents on this theme, and these have already attracted the attention of students of women's education and rights. As early as 1871, the Owens College Act gave the governors power to admit women students, but 'this power it was not thought expedient to exercise at once'. A separate college for women was opened in Brunswick Street in 1877, and in 1883 the Department for Women was established as a part of Owens College. The predictable male misgivings about the prospect of real equality of opportunity were fuelled by the 'scientific' arguments of such men as John Thorburn, who introduced the College's summer course in obstetric medicine in 1884 with a lecture entitled 'Female Education from a Physiological Point of View'. Thorburn maintained that 'young, adolescent women can not, in any large numbers, be subjected to the same kind of educational strain as their male compeers'. He quoted a certain Mr Lawson Tait as saying that 'this over-training of young women is wholly unnecessary in the interest of human progress, and it is mischievous alike to themselves and to humanity'. Thorburn went on to warn that 'society compels some women to seek for University honours on the same lines . . . as men. No woman should be allowed to enter upon this career without being informed that she is entering upon one of the dangerous occupations of life'. Many of Thorburn's contemporaries, however, were soon persuaded to take a far less pessimistic view, and the archives record the growing role of women at Manchester. The collection includes a scrapbook, compiled by Edith Wilson, containing examination results, correspondence, cuttings and other ephemera relating to the Department for Women; reminiscences of the Department collected in the 1930s by Mabel Tylecote; cuttings concerning the campaign in 1909–10 to admit women to resident posts at Manchester Royal Infirmary; early Women's Union records; and copies of Iris, the newsletter of the Department, for 1887–94.

However, the archives are a valuable source of information on students of either sex, and data can be found which is of general
biographical value as well as educational relevance. The most straightforward starting-point for the investigation of the careers of former students is the Register of Graduates, of which the first volume covers the years 1851 to 1958 and the second and third 1959–68 and 1969–77: 36 later graduates are recorded in annual supplements. More details of their academic attainments are to be found in the Calendars, but fuller evidence of their course work appears in volumes of Class Registers, in manuscript, dating from 1875. 37 Personal details are recorded here and in the Declaration Books which students signed on enrolling at Manchester. The latter contain details of age, previous education, address and parent's occupation, 38 thus providing valuable raw material for the study of the sociological background of university education as well as frequently furnishing important biographical data for the researcher into personal histories.

A wide range of archives deals with student activities from 1851 to the present. There are original minute books of Owens College Union from 1851 to 1875; 39 a succession of student magazines and newspapers from 1894 (the Owens College Union Magazine) to the freesheet Mancunion, via such influential newspapers as News Bulletin and Independent; 40 Rag magazines from their beginning in 1924 41 (a not insignificant source for changing social attitudes!); a selection of publications from seven halls of residence; 42 and ephemera such as the perhaps mercifully forgotten College song:

We boast no Havens on the Cher,
No Bridges like the 'Tabs,
Love we our dusty Seminar,
Our dark and dingy labs,
Our Prospect black with Chimney stack,
Our Court and Hall – we hold them all
Dear as the Rising Sun. 43

There are excellent records of the military service of members of the University in two world wars. 44 Of particular interest in the post-war era is the collection of over 2,000 student leaflets and publications dating mainly from 1969 to 1977. 45 These are especially noteworthy for their coverage of the day-to-day development of the militant

36 RA/27.
37 RA/1/6–8 (Owens College); RA/37/1–6 (Manchester University).
38 RA/1/11 (Owens College); RA/39/1–10 (Manchester University).
39 UA/48/1–5.
40 UA/49–58.
41 UA/59.
42 UA/63–71.
43 'Arduus ad Solem' (UA/3/71).
44 For World War I, see UA/3/27–33; UA/7/9–10. There is much unlisted material relating to World War II in the Vice-Chancellor's Archives.
45 Items in this collection carry the prefix 'UAS' in NIDS UK, 0.063.032.
student movements of the early 1970s. A leaflet entitled *Smash the Right: Build a Red University* proclaims: "The socialist conception of the university is that there is a very sharp conflict between the administrators in running the university to service capitalist industry and an education for the students which corresponds to their talents and the need for self realisation of their personalities".\(^{46}\) This collection is not, however, exclusively concerned with student politics and the conflict with established authority: there are dozens of newsletters, annual programmes of student societies, notices of social events, and duplicated student society magazines.

It has already been noted that the archives lack substantial holdings relating to individual departments. However, the indexes to the Council and Senate minutes provide guidance for the researcher into the history of specific subjects, while the largely unlisted Vice-Chancellor's Archives contain files of correspondence with a number of departments. Examination papers and Council Reports, mentioned above, are essential sources, while the University Archives contain a selection of miscellaneous items relating to over twenty different faculties and departments.\(^{47}\) Scarce departmental periodicals to be found here include the *Manchester University Chemical Society Magazine* (1932–35),\(^{48}\) *The Globe* (Journal of the Manchester University Geographical Society, 1926–35),\(^{49}\) and *The Circle* (the organ of the University Literary Circle, 1921–30),\(^{50}\) as well as a long run of the *Manchester University Medical School Gazette* (1921–78).\(^{51}\) Under the heading of ‘Technology’ in the University Archives there is material on the origins of UMIST, including a historical account of the origin and development of the Municipal College of Technology, 1824–1912.\(^{52}\)

The major exception to the absence of detailed departmental records is, of course, the Library. Librarians' Reports, in various forms, date back to 1870.\(^{53}\) Some of the Librarian’s problems in 1883 appear enviably slight by modern standards. The Report of November 1883 recorded that at the last stock-taking, three books were missing: two of them were found by March 1884.\(^{54}\) A remark on environmental conditions in October 1884, however, prefigures the contemporary concern over the ‘sick building syndrome’:

> The want of light in the inner library has long been felt, and I have been under the necessity of continually shifting my desk to get sufficient light to attend to my duties.\(^{55}\)

\(^{46}\) UAS/70/316.

\(^{47}\) See especially UA/74–89.

\(^{48}\) UA/37.

\(^{49}\) UA/39.

\(^{50}\) UA 41.

\(^{51}\) UA/43.

\(^{52}\) UA 88, especially UA 88 2.

\(^{53}\) UAL 6 1 (NINDS UK, 0.063.032); UAL 30 5; UAL 30/7–8.

\(^{54}\) UAL 6 1.
One of the effects of breathing the atmosphere engendered by 65 jets of gas in the evenings has been continued headaches on the part of myself and my assistants. It has been suggested that the Dynamo-machine now the property of the Council could be utilized for the purpose of lighting the Library.  

There were, however, those who were enterprising enough to take their chance with whatever a library might hold in store. An interesting file of Library correspondence from 1877 to 1907 includes an application for a post on the staff from the fifteen-year-old Herbert Jackson, who declared boldly that 'I have never been in a Library before but would like very much to get into one, hoping to meet with a favourable reply'. Herbert would perhaps not have been so easily diverted from his course as Archibald Weir, who applied for the same job but failed to turn up for his interview because 'my friends thought the situation one that I should not undertake'. Other material on the history of the Library covers the acquisition of special collections, Library benefactions, Library co-operation, accounts, accessions, architects' plans and new buildings, and exhibitions.

This outline of the 'general' archives of the College and University concludes with a brief survey of the miscellaneous printed sources. Volumes of newscuttings are held in both the 'University' and Vice-Chancellor's Archives, in the former case dating back to 1853. A more personal compilation is the scrapbook of cuttings and documents collected by Henry Brierley between 1899 and 1920. There is the Owens College Magazine (1868–93), the first of a succession of periodicals designed for both internal and public readership. From the 1960s, a number of publications appeared which catered primarily for the University's staff, including the now defunct Communication and Staff Comment, and the still flourishing This Week. Most of these publications contain photographs, and these are supplemented by a small collection of original prints including sepia photographs of early College professors, an album of prints of the College buildings in 1894, and photographs of the opening of the Christie Library in 1898.

The University Archives contain a collection of 'Science Lectures for the People' delivered in Manchester between 1870 and 1879, which provide insight into the popular presentation of such subjects as
astronomy, physics, chemistry, biology and natural history. Of more direct relevance to the history of the College and University is the collection of articles by such distinguished members of staff as Samuel Alexander, H.B. Charlton, R.S. Conway, J.J. Findlay, H.E. Roscoe, M.E. Sadler, A.W. Ward, A.S. Wilkins, and above all Ernest Rutherford, who is represented here by forty-seven articles. The Archives also contain scattered references to individual scholars, such as obituary notices of W.C. Williamson and C.E. Herford. This material provides a link with the second category of material in the Library's archival holdings – that consisting of the personal and professional papers of distinguished former members of staff.

The extensive archives of the College and University described above are supplemented by the papers of a number of distinguished administrators. There is a small collection of correspondence and papers of Sir Philip Joseph Hartog, an Assistant Lecturer in Chemistry at Owens College who was better known for his role as secretary to the Victoria University extension scheme before he embarked on the career of registrar of the University of London. Hartog's papers include printed documents which complement the 'University Archives' relating to the preparations for the setting-up of the independent University of Manchester. Another small collection which follows on chronologically from that of Hartog comprises papers of Edward Fiddes, the first registrar of the new University (1903–20) and subsequently Professor of History (1926–31): this includes printed articles on the University and manuscripts of lectures and articles.

The general archives of the Library are very scanty between the 1930s and 1960s, and a degree of continuity is provided by the papers of Moses Tyson, University Librarian from 1936 to 1965 and the first holder of this post to receive the title of Librarian Emeritus. As well as material relating to his career as a librarian and historian, these papers include personal correspondence and a number of documents and photographs concerning his family and his wartime service. By far the most substantial collection in this category, however, is that of Sir William Mansfield Cooper. Originally Professor of Industrial and Commercial Law (1949–56), he then combined the chair of Industrial Law with the post of Vice-Chancellor (1956–70). These extensive

---

66 UA 13/1–25.
67 UA/12/1–218 (Rutherford items UA 12/133A/1–47)
68 UA/16 3; UA 16/10.
70 In common with several collections or items recorded below, for which no references are given here, there is as yet no list of these papers; they were originally recorded as Special Collection Box W
71 List in preparation.
papers do not relate merely to his distinguished University career. They contain papers on such diverse interests as the setting-up of schools television services by the Independent Television Authority, the Fulbright Commission for the promotion of Anglo-American academic contact, and above all the promotion of co-operation on higher education in Europe. In the last category, there are records of the activities of the European Universities Committee, the Conference of Rectors and Vice-Chancellors of the European Universities, and various sections of the Council of Europe. 72

Two other collections which span the University's academic disciplines are the Manchester Association of University Teachers collection and the Appointments Board papers. The former consists of records dating from the AUT's foundation in 1914 to 1982, and includes the first minute book of the Manchester branch (1919-53), memoranda, and copies of the AUT Bulletin. 73 The Appointments Board papers are of less significance in that they are not the full records of the Board, but they nevertheless contain a substantial quantity of minutes, material on career guidance for students, news-cuttings, reports and other printed material.

In individual academic disciplines the subject which is best represented is probably history. The 'Manchester History School' of the first half of the twentieth century was acknowledged to be one of the leading centres for the subject in Britain, and it is particularly fortunate that the Library holds the papers of two of the great figures of this era. Thomas Frederick Tout was Professor of Medieval and Modern History from 1890 to 1925, while James Tait was Professor of Ancient and Medieval History from 1902 to 1919. The papers of Tout, who was perhaps best known for his *Chapters in the Administrative History of Medieval England*, *The Empire and the Papacy*, and *The Place of the Reign of Edward II in English History*, are among the most extensive in the Library's University archive collections. Most are as yet uncatalogued, but over 1,300 letters to Tout are arranged and listed. Tout was actively involved in University 'polities', and his correspondence contains a wealth of material on general academic affairs as well as his own historical research and writing. Correspondents include the historians V.H. Galbraith, Henri Pirenne, R.L. Poole (108 letters), F.M. Powicke, Arthur Redford, J.H. Round, F.M. Stenton and James Tait; the philosophers Samuel Alexander and A.C. Bradley; the prominent Owens College professor and administrator A.W. Ward (155 letters); Winston Churchill, the *Manchester Guardian* editor, C.P. Scott, and the publishers Longman, Green &
Co. (138 letters). Of particular interest are a large number of letters which record the involvement of many of Tout's former pupils in the First World War. R.H. Bedford, writing in March 1916, illustrates some aspects of the plight of the ordinary soldier: 'There is a story about two fellows in the Artillery who applied for leave – one to get married the other to act as his best man. The best man got his leave but the bridegroom’s was refused. Little things like that cheer us up immensely'. Tout's fellow medievalist, John Goronwy Edwards, serving in the 4th Royal Welsh Fusiliers in France in May 1918, offered this critique of allied military strategy:

Fritz is much more economical with his shells than we are, and I admire him for it. Personally I think we're artillery mad; we've been taken in by that egregious phrase 'blasting our way through'. I'm convinced that if we put much more of our energy into aircraft, machine guns and infantry, we'd do the job more quickly and with much less waste of money. Incidentally, also, there would be much less noise.

There is also much family correspondence, including over 120 letters from Tout's wife, Mary. A large and unsorted collection of papers contains Tout's working notebooks and drafts of numerous historical works, as well as newscuttings and photographs. The collection is not restricted to the papers of T.F. Tout. There are several hundred letters and papers preserved by Mary Tout, who shared her husband's enthusiasm for history and was a pioneer in advancing the cause of women's education: material relating to her involvement with the University Women's Federation is especially noteworthy in this context. Tout's daughter, Margaret (later Sharp), was also a historian, and much of her correspondence appears in these archives.

The papers of James Tait, author of Mediaeval Manchester and The Medieval English Borough, and editor of several important medieval texts, are far less extensive, but they date from c.1881 to 1942 and contain correspondence, original manuscripts, notebooks, papers and printed matter. Most of this material is unlisted, but there is a provisional list of the greater part of the correspondence. The efforts of Tout and Tait in establishing the reputation of the Manchester History School are reflected in the high quality of many of the B.A. 'short theses' deposited by the History Department in the Library. Dating from the earliest years of the University, these theses not only provide insight into the teaching of the subject in the first half of this century, but are often of value to the historical researcher in their own

---

75 NIDS UK, 0.063.183, 1/88/6.
76 ibid., 1/312/19.
78 Unpublished lists are available in the Library.
right. Virtually all aspects of history are covered, and the theses include those of two subsequently well-known economic historians, Arthur Redford and Mark Hovell. Hovell was an Assistant Lecturer in Military History at Manchester and a WEA tutor before his death on active service in 1916, and the archives contain a collection of his papers. These consist of notebooks on a variety of historical themes and a collection of newscuttings about his life and work. His book *The Chartist Movement* was completed and edited by Tout, and published in 1918. Another economic historian represented in the archives is George Unwin, Professor of Economic History from 1910 to 1925, and author of *The Guilds and Companies of London* and *Samuel Oldknow and the Arkwrights*. His papers consist mainly of notes on social and economic history in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. There are also notes taken at Unwin's lectures in 1908–09 by Cecil Chisholm, presumably when Unwin was a lecturer at Edinburgh University.

It would be misleading to claim that the small group of papers in the archives relating to F.M. Powicke (Professor of Medieval History, 1919–28) amounts to a ‘collection’, but it contains a handful of letters and the annual newsletters of the Manchester University History School for 1925–38, the latter including useful appendices on the School and its graduates. The archives do not contain papers of another outstanding Manchester historian of the inter-war years, Sir Lewis Namier (Professor of Modern History, 1931–53), but it is worth noting that the *Manchester Guardian* archives in the Library contain several hundred items of his correspondence with that newspaper, mainly on political rather than academic matters and particularly concerning the growth of Zionism.

If the excellent representation of history in the archives may be regarded as predictable, the impressive coverage of philosophy may come as more of a surprise. Already recognized as an important source of the history of this discipline are the papers of Robert Adamson, an innovative thinker who was Professor of Logic and Mental and Moral Philosophy (1876–98) and Political Economy (1876–82) at Owens College. Adamson was also prominent in the administration of the Victoria University, serving as secretary, and later treasurer, of the Board of Studies, and was an advocate of the admission of women to study on equal terms to men. Although unlisted, his papers form a sufficiently compact collection to be readily accessible. They include notebooks and manuscripts not only on logic and philosophy, but the

79 See also Hovell's letters to Tout, *NIDS UK*, 0.063.183, 1/545/1–24.
80 Chisholm's notes were originally recorded as Special Collection EH U80. See G.W. Daniels, *George Unwin: A Memorial Lecture* (Manchester: Univ. Pr., 1926).
81 Unpublished list, *NIDS UK*, 0.063.039; see *DNB*, 1961–70, 856–8.
82 Guardian Archives A/N2/1–21 and B/N8A/1–381 (in *NIDS UK*, 0.063.041–2); also 145/30–44 (in *NIDS UK*, 0.063.040), W.P. Crozier's confidential correspondence and related documents, mainly relating to Palestine in World War II. See also *DNB*, 1951–60, 763–6.
working class and other contemporary social themes. There are also transcriptions of writings by the logician and philosopher, Rudolf Hermann Lotze. Two years after Adamson's death in 1902, his widow presented his collection of over 4,000 volumes on philosophy to the Library. 83

A far better-known figure was Manchester's most renowned philosopher, Samuel Alexander, Professor of Philosophy for nearly thirty years from 1893 to 1924. He was a pioneer in modernizing the study of his subject by recognizing the philosophical significance of contemporary developments in psychology, biology and evolutionary theory. In later life, Alexander broadened his interests to include aesthetics and literature. He was also active in general University 'politics', and was a keen advocate of women's suffrage. A collection of his correspondence includes letters from such diverse figures as the philosophers Bertrand Russell and A.N. Whitehead, the writers A.N. Monkhouse and C.E. Montague, the physicist Ernest Rutherford, and the Zionist pioneer Chaim Weizmann. Russell's letters include this comment from February 1915 on the war: 'My . . . lecture was partly inspired by disgust at the universal outburst of "righteousness" in all nations since the war began. It seems the essence of virtue is persecution, and it has given me a disgust of all ethical notions, which evidently are chiefly useful as an excuse for murder'. Alexander was sympathetic towards the campaign for a Jewish homeland in Palestine, and Chaim Weizmann's letter to him in February 1931 reads, with hindsight, as a foresight of his people's tragedies and triumphs of the next two decades:

It has been a terribly hard time, both politically and financially. The terrible impoverishment of the world in general and of the Jews in particular is rendering our constructive efforts in Palestine increasingly difficult. Is this distracted world ever going to mend, or are we passing through a period of twilight and a new civilization may dawn on the next generation?

Whilst these letters are listed in outline, 84 a large collection of accounts, receipts and business letters from publishers, working notebooks, pamphlets and offprints, and biographical and obituary material, remains largely unsorted.

William Stanley Jevons is not commonly regarded as a philosopher, and yet he was Robert Adamson's predecessor in the chairs of Logic and Mental and Moral Philosophy as well as the discipline of

---

Political Economy for which he is best remembered. Arguably the founder of modern economic theory, Jevons was even more versatile academically than the range of subjects encompassed in his professorial titles suggests, and the Library’s collection of his personal papers is perhaps the most important of all the archives of Manchester scholars which it holds. Of the four hundred or more items of professional correspondence, the greater part deals with political economy and related themes, and most may be found among the published letters edited by Professor R.D.C. Black. However, there is also a substantial amount of correspondence relating to logic and philosophy which has never been published. Notable correspondents include Robert Adamson, Charles Babbage, Walter Bagehot, George Boole, Augustus De Morgan, William Ewart Gladstone, Sir John Frederick William Herschel, H.C. Fleeming Jenkin, John Stuart Mill, Sir Henry Roscoe and Alfred, Lord Tennyson. In addition to manuscripts of Jevons’s main published works, there is a considerable quantity of manuscript notes and drafts on a wide range of themes, many not generally associated with Jevons and most virtually untapped. Particularly well-represented topics include logical method, banking, the coal, iron and steel industries, trade and commerce, taxation, population, and economic fluctuations. Less well-known interests of Jevons represented here include human nature and evolution, infant mortality and welfare, and the social implications of the employment of women. Jevons was a deeply introspective and self-analytical man whose meditations on the purpose of his life and career frequently merged with his theories on economic and social issues. His personal thoughts appear not only in his published Journal, of which the Library holds the original, but in correspondence with members of his family, virtually all unpublished, including his wife Harriet, his brothers Herbert and Thomas, and his younger sister Henrietta (‘Henny’). There can be few more revealing insights into Jevons’s character than this extract from a letter written to Henrietta in 1858:

From one week’s end to another, I am full of thoughts, reflections, hopes, schemes, but as they come up to the surface one by one, I have nothing to do but to shove them down again. I have not time to write them out and I have no one to tell them to. Where is the use of expressing serious thoughts to persons who cannot respond to them, or hopes, fears or intentions to those who will think them absurd. This is my condition: I have everything I can want for a happy life except a mind to answer mine.

In all, about forty members of the family figure in this collection,
including Jevons’s cousin Henry Enfield Roscoe, one of the scholars most instrumental in securing the early success of Owens College. Jevons was employed by the Mint in Sydney in the 1850s, and his papers for that period include albums of original photographs of Australia which are of the greatest value to students of that country’s history.\textsuperscript{88} The papers of Jevons’s father Thomas, a businessman and inventor whose schemes ranged from iron ships to decimal coinage, are worthy of attention in their own right.\textsuperscript{89} All but a few ‘stray’ items in the Jevons archives are fully listed in a \textit{Handlist} published by the Library in 1983.\textsuperscript{90}

As the overall bias of the Library’s special collections is towards the humanities, it is particularly helpful that the sciences are so well represented in the University archives. A number of small collections date from the Owens College years, and therefore provide evidence of the early development of the theory, practice and teaching of modern science. Most influential of the early scientists to be represented is Sir Henry Roscoe. A small collection of papers dating from 1857–83, when Roscoe was Professor of Chemistry, contains lecture notes, a copybook of papers, letters and reports, and a copybook of letters relating mainly to public health.\textsuperscript{91} There are also photocopies of 134 letters from Roscoe to the firm of Friedrich Vieweg und Sohn, of Braunschweig, Germany, between 1856 and 1901.\textsuperscript{92} Two albums of Roscoe material are to be found among the English manuscripts held at the Library’s Special Collections Division.\textsuperscript{93} Roscoe was a leading figure in the administration of Owens College, encouraging the links between the local industrial community and the College and taking a major role in the campaign for university status.\textsuperscript{94} His papers should therefore be studied in conjunction with the general archives of the College for this period.

An early contemporary of Roscoe was William Crawford Williamson, Professor of Zoology (1851–79), Botany (1851–92) and Geology (1851–72); however, he is represented only by his compilation of photographs, portraits, letters and notes assembled with the assistance of his wife and entitled ‘Makers of Manchester’.\textsuperscript{95} Williamson’s successor in Zoology was Arthur Milnes Marshall, whose small collection of papers from 1884 to his death in 1893 falls into two categories. First, there are those relating to the academic subjects of zoology and biology; Marshall is acknowledged as a pioneer in the

\textsuperscript{88} ibid., JA33/1/1–2; also unmounted photographs, JA33/2 1–37.
\textsuperscript{89} ibid., JA3/1/1 – JA3/3/16.
\textsuperscript{90} McNiven, ‘Handlist’, \textit{passim}.
\textsuperscript{91} Originally recorded as Special Collection CH R106–8.
\textsuperscript{92} UA/17/28 1–134.
\textsuperscript{93} English MSS 963–4.
\textsuperscript{95} Originally catalogued as Special Collection no. 942.721, M 5.
teaching of these subjects. Secondly, there are those concerning the foundation and early years of the Athletic Union, in which Marshall, himself an enthusiastic gymnast, was closely involved. In the latter category, there are four letters to Harold Baily Dixon, Professor of Metallurgy (1887–1906) and Chemistry (1887–1922). A notebook compiled by Dixon contains notes on chemistry experiments and on his own courses. The notebooks of James Riddick Partington consist of chemistry notes from Dixon’s classes, and notes on dynamics and thermodynamics, from 1906 to 1912. Partington went on to be an Assistant Lecturer and Demonstrator in Chemistry at Manchester (1913–19) before embarking on a distinguished career as Professor of Chemistry in London, and writer of an important four-volume History of Chemistry. The Library holds his personal collection of works on chemistry. More fragmentary early twentieth-century material includes registers of meteorological observations from Whitworth Park Observatory between c.1910 and 1935, and papers of Sir Henry Miers, Vice-Chancellor of Manchester University and Professor of Crystallography (1915–26); the latter include photocopies of sections of Miers’s journal for 1914–26.

More recent scientific archives include those of George Norman Burkhardt, Senior Lecturer in Chemistry (1934–67), and Claude Wilson Wardlaw, Professor of Cryptogamic Botany (1940–58) and Botany (1958–66). The extensive Burkhardt archives date from c.1924 to 1967, and comprise not only correspondence, papers and publications relating to chemistry, but material on several other aspects of education and the study of science in general. There is a large group of papers concerning the Manchester Joint Research Council which contains details of efforts to create a working partnership between industry and academic science in Manchester. There is also a small number of unpublished chemistry theses. The Wardlaw papers consist mainly of typescripts and proofs of books and articles, but they have recently been supplemented by items which are still unlisted. While these collections continue the emphasis on the study of traditional science, others reflect very modern developments. The papers of Sir Frederic Calland Williams, Professor of Electrical Engineering, 1946–77, contain a vast number of duplicated typescripts relating to patents for inventions by Williams and his colleagues, and are of considerable value to students of the early history of computing. They are now part of the National Computing Archive based at the University.

---

96 Unpublished list, NIDS UK, 0.063.038. See DNB, xxiii. 1014–15.
97 NIDS UK, 0.063.038, UAM/3/1–4.
98 Originally recorded as Special Collection CH D76.
100 Unpublished list, NIDS UK, 0.063.064.
101 ibid., GNBA/16–24.
102 ibid., GNBA/1–9.
103 The contents of this part of Wardlaw’s papers are recorded in the Library.
Perhaps the most important of the science collections, however, and certainly the most extensive, are two complementary astronomy collections which reflect some of the best-known and most spectacular scientific advances of this century. The Jodrell Bank archives and the papers of Zdenek Kopal span almost identical periods. Jodrell Bank is the site of the University’s Department of Radio-Astronomy, and of the great radio telescope which was the creation of Sir Bernard Lovell, Professor from 1951 to 1980. The observatory’s records contain a wealth of early research data in logbooks, microfilms, and files arranged in subject categories. Correspondence and papers of Sir Bernard himself include material on the history of the Department and the campaign to create a new and ultimately successful scientific venture. H.C. Husband, head of Husband & Co., consulting engineers of Sheffield and London, was responsible for the construction of the telescope. In October 1957, after the launching of the first artificial earth-orbiting satellite, Husband wrote to Sir Bernard:

I was very pleased to hear . . . that they obtained reflections from the direction of the Russian satellite and its attendant pieces of rocket gear . . . The fact that at such short notice you were able successfully to use the radar technique must be more than gratifying. It is conceivable that the Russians have had beginner’s luck and it may be some time before another satellite having such remarkable endurance can be launched.104

At almost exactly the same time, Kopal held the chair of Astronomy (1951–81) through the era of artificial satellites and lunar exploration. A vast collection of correspondence includes letters from Kopal’s American and Russian counterparts, and there are early lunar charts and numerous drafts of papers illustrating one of the great expansions of the frontiers of human knowledge.105 Much of these collections is relatively inaccessible to researchers at present, and the Library is very aware that they are amongst the leading candidates for comprehensive listing.

Whilst the student of medical history will find much material in the Library’s holdings, including the printed and manuscript items in the Manchester Medical Society’s collection, collections relating to individual medical teaching staff are comparatively insubstantial.106 The papers of Donald Core contain medical drawings, manuscript notes on experiments on animals, examination papers for Owens College and Manchester University Faculty of Medicine, and corre-

106 See, however, the E. B. Leech collection of medical books, pamphlets and related items for material concerning former Owens College and Manchester University staff. The collection is briefly surveyed by J.V. Pickstone, supra, 156–7.
spondence and newscuttings on medical matters, spanning the years c.1900–32. A collection of correspondence between George Goring Campbell and Sir Grafton Elliot Smith, Professor of Anatomy at Manchester, 1909–19, deals with early research into psycho-neural problems in the years c.1921–36.\(^\text{107}\) G.A.G. Mitchell was Professor of Anatomy from 1946 to 1974, but the most interesting items in his small collection of papers in the Library relate to surgical work in World War II; these include letters from Sir Alexander Fleming and H.W. Florey, and from Mitchell’s Army patients.\(^\text{108}\)

One of the Library’s more surprising strengths is in the history of drama and the theatre. Two important printed book collections, those of G.L. Brook and Allardyce Nicoll, and the mainly manuscript Basil Dean collection,\(^\text{108}\) are supplemented by two collections relating to former members of University staff. Hugh Hunt was Professor of Drama from 1961 to 1973. His papers cover the years c.1924 – 80; only about two-thirds of these are covered by the present outline listing. They include original typescripts of plays written by Hunt in collaboration with Frank O’Connor; prompt copies of plays by Shakespeare, Chekhov, Shaw and others directed by Hunt; production notes and press cuttings; programmes and other records relating to the Abbey Theatre, Dublin, and the Old Vic, London; and professional correspondence.\(^\text{109}\) Stephen Joseph was a contemporary of Hunt at Manchester. He lectured in the Department of Drama from 1962 to 1967, but he is best known for his pioneering work in theatrical presentation, especially his promotion of ‘theatre in the round’ at Scarborough and elsewhere. His papers contain notes, plans and photographs of theatrical design, including material which combines the arts and disciplines of drama and architecture. There are also many personal writings, including songs, poems, revue material and an uncompleted novel, together with correspondence, reviews, programmes, and other literature relating to theatre in the USA. There is a basic outline list,\(^\text{110}\) but the whole collection still awaits adequate arrangement and description.

It may be invidious to designate any academic subject as ‘obscure’, but three collections concerning very different subjects which were little studied at the time are worthy of some attention. Tobias Theodores was Professor of Modern Languages at Owens College from 1866 to 1870, but his principal claim to notice was as Professor of Hebrew from 1866 to 1884. His notebooks and other working notes provide insights into early academic study not only of Hebrew but of Arabic and other non-European languages. Also of interest are his letters to the German-American rabbi, Gustav Gottheil

\(^{107}\) Originally recorded as Special Collection Box ES.

\(^{108}\) Unpublished outline list of the Basil Dean collection, NIDS UK, 0.063.182.

\(^{109}\) NIDS UK, 0.063.037.

\(^{110}\) NIDS UK, 0.063.142.
John Strachan was Professor of Greek (1885–1907) and of Comparative Religion (1890–1907), but he is best remembered as a leading figure in the modern revival of Celtic studies. The subject matter of his collection of manuscript notebooks ranges from general philosophy to the classics; material concerning the Irish Gaelic language is particularly prominent. Strachan’s personal collection of printed books, mainly on Celtic themes, was bequeathed to the Library. The Library has a fine collection of Chinese printed books and manuscripts, and would very much appreciate the expertise of a scholar such as Edward Harper Parker, Professor of Chinese from 1901 to 1926, to describe and analyse them. Parker’s papers in the archives include manuscript notes on the history of China, notes for a projected book on the Mongols, presscuttings and maps relating to China in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, photographs of Palestine in the same period, and miscellaneous material relating to Tibet, Japan and Indo-China.

The remaining University collections of some significance illustrate the diversity of the Library’s holdings. Theology, one of the principal strengths of the Library’s collections, is represented here by the papers of the Reverend Thomas Walter Manson. A distinguished New Testament scholar, Manson was an authority on Hebrew, Syriac and Coptic texts as well as more familiar languages. He was not only involved in University teaching and administration (as Rylands Professor of Biblical Criticism and Exegesis from 1936 to 1958), but also acted for ten years as President of the Manchester, Salford and District Free Church Council and served as Moderator of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of England in 1953. His papers include research notes, lecture notes, sermons, texts of broadcasts, correspondence, publications and newscuttings. There is a provisional list of this material, but a further instalment of his papers, as yet unsorted, was received by the Library in 1988. Art is represented by the papers of Margaret Pilkington, Deputy Chairman and Honorary Director of the Whitworth Art Gallery, 1935–59. These contain correspondence, lecture notes, and particularly detailed diaries, as well as several of her personal sketch-books and material relating to the Red Rose Guild. The small collection of Ewing papers deals with twentieth-century advances in the treatment of the deaf, a theme also covered by one of the Library’s special printed book collections. Sir Alexander Ewing was Professor of Audiology and...
Education of the Deaf from 1949 to 1964. The collection contains correspondence, articles, speeches, scrapbooks, photographs and miscellaneous papers relating to Ewing, his first wife, Lady Irene, and his second wife, Lady Constance, all of whom were actively involved in promoting new methods of treating hearing impairment. The extensive working papers of Harry Street, Professor of Public Law and Common Law (1956–80) and of English Law (1960–84), mainly concern the preparation of his book *Freedom, the Individual and the Law*, published in 1963. Somewhat less directly associated with Manchester University’s academic life was John William Graham, a Quaker writer and lecturer whose published works included *Conscription and Conscience: A History, 1916–19* and *The Faith of a Quaker*. Graham was principal of Dalton Hall, one of the earliest men’s halls of residence in Manchester, from 1897 to 1924. His papers contain correspondence, notes, lectures, photographs, articles, and newscuttings on a variety of themes.

Wide-ranging though these archive collections are, the coverage both of historical periods and fields of academic study represented here is very far from being exhaustive. It is clear from the above survey that there are two great needs: for the Library to attract further deposits or gifts of University-related archive collections, especially those recording the history of specific departments, and for a concerted commitment to a programme of arranging and listing the collections to render them more accessible to the researcher. Under the auspices of the John Rylands Research Institute, there is now a real likelihood that these aims will be increasingly achieved.

116 Unpublished list, *NIDS UK*, 0.063.067.