

# SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER



Special Collections  
Research Center  
The University of  
Chicago Library

Renovated Spaces  
& New Exhibition  
Gallery



# SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER

The Special Collections Research Center's new, state-of-the-art Exhibition Gallery and renovated research and teaching spaces are located on the pathway between the Joseph Regenstein Library and the Joe and Rika Mansueto Library. The new and renovated spaces provide flexible, technology-equipped facilities for the presentation, interpretation, and consultation of primary sources by individuals, groups, and classes.

ARCHITECTS: BOOTH HANSEN, ARCHITECTURE & INTERIORS

## Special Collections Exhibition Gallery

A new, 2,384-square-foot gallery located on the pathway between the Regenstein Library and the Mansueto Library includes separate environmental controls, programmable lighting and the capacity for audio and video media. Eleven movable, custom-designed cases of varying dimensions provide maximum flexibility. Eight can be used with rectangular or sloped vitrines; four of these have removable, L-shaped decks with removable backs. An additional three pedestal cases are ideal for highlighting individual pieces. A 36-foot long, 3.5-foot deep glass-enclosed space across the back wall can accommodate large graphic materials and six pedestal cases for individual pieces.

## Circulation Desk and Hold Room

The Circulation Desk has been refinished and reinstalled in its original location. A new enlarged Circulation Hold Room (468 square feet) has been created behind the Circulation Desk in space formerly occupied by offices demolished in the course of Mansueto construction.

### Collection Display Cases

Six glass-fronted bookcases, repositioned from the original Special Collections Exhibition Gallery, provide 97 feet of shelving. On display is a selection from the Rare Books, Manuscripts, Archives, and Chicago Jazz Archive collections.

### Visitor and Staff Locker Rooms

New locker rooms have been created for visitors to Special Collections and members of the staff. The visitor locker room (243 square feet) provides lockers for 94 visitors, and the staff locker room (180 square feet) accommodates 21.

### Ludwig Rosenberger Library of Judaica

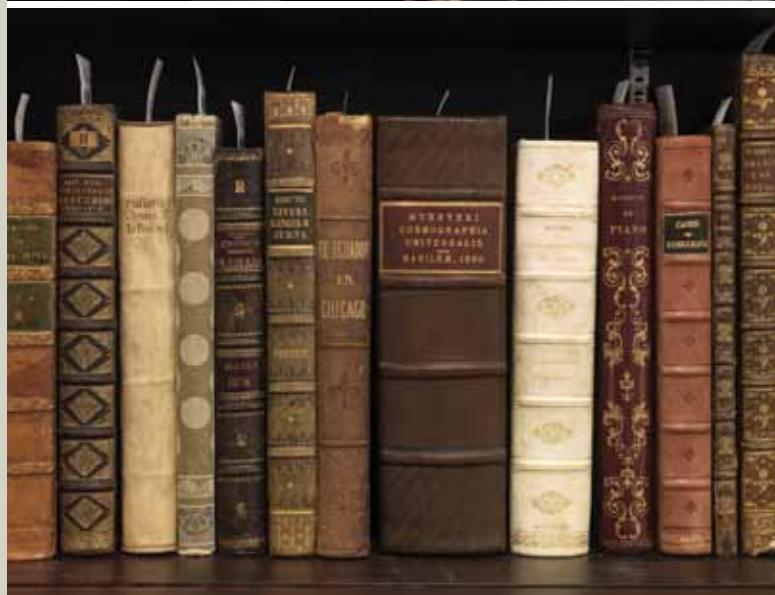
The Ludwig Rosenberger collection is being relocated into new space occupying 697 square feet. Items from the Rosenberger collection can be requested for consultation in the Reading Room, group studies, and classrooms.

### Reading Room

The Reading Room (1,136 square feet) has been repainted and recarpeted. Built-in bookshelves have been removed to accommodate a computer workstation. The Reading Room provides seating for approximately 20 researchers.

### Group Studies

A new group study (202 square feet), for researchers working in groups and faculty working with students using Special Collections materials, has been added to the existing group study (219 square feet). The group studies can accommodate small seminars of six to eight people. A plasma screen on a mobile base can be used in either group study.





### Classrooms

The Marie Louise Rosenthal Seminar Room (585 square feet), opened in 2003, offers audio-visual capability and a digital camera for the display of Special Collections materials. It accommodates classes of up to 25 students. The classroom/conference space (1,645 square feet) has been upgraded with built-in media and improved acoustics. The space can accommodate large classes and groups of up to 100 in auditorium-style seating. New glass doors provide a vista from the Mansueto pathway through to the Quadrangles.

### Offices

New offices (243 square feet) have been constructed on the west side of the corridor south of the Reading Room for the Director and Associate Director, whose previous offices were demolished during the construction of the Mansueto Library. Two offices for Reader Services librarians (172 and 167 square feet) have been constructed on the east side of the corridor to make staff more readily accessible to researchers; one of these replaces a librarian's office demolished during the Mansueto construction.

# THE RR DONNELLEY PRINTERS' MARKS

Printers' marks are trademarks that identify the products of a particular printer or press. Just as today's institutions, corporations, and organizations use a logo or "visual identity" to communicate reliability and quality, printers adopted distinctive pictorial marks as marketing tools.

Early printers often used the device with a colophon, a printed statement at the end of a work giving details such as the date and place of a book's production that had its roots in the manuscript tradition. >>>





#### LEFT COLUMN

William Caxton,  
Geoffroy Tory, and  
Christophe Plantin.

#### RIGHT COLUMN

William Pickering,  
Lucantonio Giunta,  
Bruce Rogers, and  
R. & R. Clark.



## The RR Donnelley Lead Silhouette Printers' Marks

The 13 lead silhouette interpretations of historic printers' marks installed on the pathway between the Regenstein Library and the Mansueto Library were created for RR Donnelley, the printing company founded in Chicago in 1864. The firm grew rapidly and became renowned for both technical innovation and high standards of design and production. Under the leadership of T. E. Donnelley, the founder's son, the company built its main printing plant on South Calumet Avenue at 22nd Street (now King Drive at Cermak Road) in several phases from 1912 through 1929. Architect Howard Van Doren Shaw designed the building to convey RR Donnelley's philosophy that printing is both an art and a craft, and he incorporated marks of significant printers in the exterior and interior decorations.

When RR Donnelley moved to a new location, the firm's historic corporate archive was donated in 2005 and 2007 to the University of Chicago, where it supports research into the history of printing, culture, and graphic design. The company's gift included a set of lead silhouette windows depicting notable printer's marks that had been installed in the administrative offices of the Calumet Plant. During restoration of the windows by Restoric LLC, research revealed that they were designed by Chicago artist, architect, and sculptor Edgar Miller.

For more information on RR Donnelley and the R.R. Donnelley & Sons Company Archive see "Printing for the Modern Age: Commerce, Craft, and Culture in the RR Donnelley Archive" ([lib.uchicago.edu/PrintingForTheModernAge](http://lib.uchicago.edu/PrintingForTheModernAge)); and the guide to the Archive ([lib.uchicago.edu/RRDonnelleyArchive](http://lib.uchicago.edu/RRDonnelleyArchive)).

The restoration and installation of the RR Donnelley lead silhouette printers' marks were supported by gifts from Shawn M. Donnelley and Christopher M. Kelly and the RR Donnelley Foundation.

INAUGURAL EXHIBITION

*Firmness, Commodity,  
and Delight: Architecture  
in Special Collections*

May 9, 2011 – July 29, 2011

Writing near the end of the first century B.C.E., Roman architect Marcus Vitruvius Pollio identified three elements necessary for a well-designed building: “firmness, commodity, and delight.” Two millennia later, physical integrity, functional utility, and aesthetic beauty are still regarded as essential components of all successful architectural design.

Displaying a selection of rare books, manuscripts, archives, and graphic materials illuminating the history of architectural practice, “Firmness, Commodity, and Delight” is being presented in conjunction with the Chicago city-wide program, “500 Years of the Illustrated Architecture Book,” marking the 500th anniversary of the publication of the first illustrated book on architecture: Fra Giovanni Giocondo’s 1511 edition of Vitruvius’s *De Architectura libri decem*.



1100 East 57th Street  
Chicago, Illinois 60637

t 773-702-8705

[lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/](http://lib.uchicago.edu/e/spcl/)

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS RESEARCH CENTER



Special Collections  
Research Center  
The University of  
Chicago Library

Renovated Spaces  
& New Exhibition  
Gallery