

RESEARCH NOTE

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS DEPARTMENT, FOGLER LIBRARY

Over the past fifteen years the Special Collections Department of the University of Maine's Raymond H. Fogler Library has become known throughout the region as a major center for research on Maine topics, due to its aggressive acquisition policies. The Department collects virtually all available printed biographical, historical, and descriptive works on the state as well as literary titles by Maine authors. The collections of published items, including books, pamphlets, state documents, and other printed forms, provide extensive coverage of Maine's cities, towns, counties, and her people and institutions.

In addition to general acquisitions as part of its ongoing responsibility as a major repository, the Special Collections Department houses several topical and donated collections of printed material: the State of Maine Collection (15,000 volumes and other items on Maine's history and literature); the Clinton H. Cole Maritime History Collection (4,500 volumes, with emphases on Maine, New England, and Great Britain); the O'Brien Collection of American Negro History and Culture (2,000 volumes); and several other special-emphasis collections. Other topical printed papers collections include the Camping in Maine Collection, the Manufacturers of Maine Collection, and the University Collection, containing material printed by the presses of the university.

Manuscripts and papers held by the Department include all subjects dealing with Maine topics, with special emphasis on nineteenth- and twentieth-century industrial, forest, conservation, maritime, religious, and agricultural history, and state documents; botany research; and literary items. Papers

from nineteenth- and twentieth-century mercantile establishments, lumber companies, and prominent Maine families make up a good part of the records. Maine camping and Civil War items are also featured, as are papers of political figures and business and professional organizations. Important individuals and organizations represented include statesmen Joshua Chamberlain and Hannibal Hamlin, woodsman Fred A. Gilbert, journalists Floyd Phillips Gibbons and James Shepherd Pike, the Goss-Torrey granite firm, and the Great Northern Paper Company. An extensive graphics collection includes historic rural and industrial photographs, photographic albums, a collection of Maine scenic photographs and postcards, glass slides, negatives, and numerous maps.

Maine authors are also represented in the archives. Important Maine literary figures represented include Mary Ellen Chase, Milton Sherbourne Clifford, Elizabeth Jane Coatsworth, Olive E. Dana, Lew Dietz, Fannie Hardy Eckstorm, Mary Childs Jane, and Stephen King.

For further information about the collections, contact Eric Flower, Special Collections Department, Fogler Library, University of Maine at Orono, Orono, Maine 04469. The Department has published three guides to its collections, all available at the above address. "A Brief Guide to the Collections in the Special Collections Department, Raymond H. Fogler Library, University of Maine at Orono" (9 pp. November 1985); "A Guide to the Manuscripts in the Special Collections Department ..." (40 pp. and index, November 1985); and "Maine Newspapers on Microfilm in the Fogler Library (4 pp.) are available for one dollar, four dollars, and one dollar respectively.

