



ACCESS

NEWS FROM THE UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES AT NOTRE DAME

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Goodbye, George, and thank you . . .

by Joanne Bessler

This Spring, Dr. George E. Sereiko will retire from the faculty of the University Libraries. During his 29 years of dedicated service to the University, Dr. Sereiko has served in three different positions: as Assistant Director for the Social Sciences Division, as Assistant/Associate Director for Public Services, and as Associate Director of Libraries.

As Dr. Sereiko moves on to new adventures, he can look back with pride on his impact on the University Libraries. This scholar/librarian has left a long-lasting legacy. If you look at the Library's physical plant, its services, its collections, or its staff—you can find the positive imprint of his contributions.

Shortly after his arrival at Notre Dame, Dr. Sereiko helped coordinate the shift of the entire library collection from what is now the Architecture Library to what is now the Theodore M. Hesburgh Library. Formally responsible for the move of the Social Sciences Division, he developed floor plans, pushed book trucks, and did whatever was necessary to smooth the transition.

Over the years, he has spearheaded or participated in nearly all of the major remodeling projects concerning the public service areas in Hesburgh Library: the development of the College Library; the creation of a periodicals room; the consolidation of Reference Services; the transfer of microtexts, documents, and reserves; the reorganization of the Medieval Institute; and the expansion of the Audio Center. Working with Bill Berndt, Dave Thornton, and Sue Dietl, he managed the use of public space in Hesburgh Library by assigning carrels, approving shifts, and balancing the needs of studying students and the growing collections.

During his years here, Dr. Sereiko worked to improve service. His early annual reports document his tireless efforts to bolster the quality of the staff and to expand our resources. As the Assistant Director for Social Sciences, he encouraged librarian liaison activities and the expansion of library instruction.

By his own example and counsel, he urged librarians to become active in the academic community on campus and in the profession. While meeting the responsibilities of a major administrative position, he completed a doctoral program at Case Western Reserve and received his Ph.D. in library and information science in January 1973.

On campus and in the library profession (particularly within Indiana), he served on and chaired innumerable committees including, but certainly not limited to: the Faculty Senate, the Academic Council, the Committee on the History of the University, the Advisory Committee for the Cushwa Center for the Study of American Catholicism, the American Association of University Professors, the Library Committee and the Director Search Committee of the Indiana Historical Society, the Library Committee of the Northern Indiana Historical Society, the Bibliographers Section of the Organization of American Histo-

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Kennys Bookshops: "A love of things Irish"

by Laura A. Jenny

This November marks the 50th anniversary of one of the most widely known and respected landmarks in Galway, Ireland. Kennys Bookshops & Art Gallery, Ltd. has been described as "a world of its own," "an architectural gem," and "a paradise for secondhand bookshop fanatics, with its rambling staircases, interconnecting rooms, and shelves of books." Spanning three floors, and two adjoining buildings (actually a 500 year old castle), Kennys stretches between High and Middle Streets in this university city of Ireland.

The present collection, last counted at 150,000 volumes, contains one of the largest collections of books, magazines, and maps on all aspects of Ireland, from music to geology to folklore. In addition, the Kennys' collections include antiquarian Irish maps, woodcuts, illustrations, prints, and engravings. In their contemporary art gallery, located in the back part of the bookshop, the Kennys regularly host one-person art exhibits. To round out its business, Kennys also maintains a binding and printing operation, managed by master printer Gerry Kenny.

Today, one half of Kennys' business is in the export market. The bookshop publishes 14 catalogs per year to support its thriving mail order business. The Kennys travel through-

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Library Space at the University of Notre Dame: an Interim Report

by Robert C. Miller

The basic goal of the space program of the University Libraries is the provision of appropriate and reasonably convenient housing for all University library collections, staff, services, and users, with ready access to any materials not located at the user's site. A review of the current facilities reveals some significant immediate problems and a critical one on the horizon, necessitating action in the immediate future.

The facilities include the Theodore M. Hesburgh Library, constructed in the early 1960's with in excess of 295,000 assignable square feet, and five branch libraries of between 1,500 and 5,500 square feet each, serving Architecture, Chemistry/Physics, Engineering, Life Sciences and Mathematics, each housed in an academic building serving the discipline. In addition there is a special unstaffed library facility serving the Radiation Laboratory, and a small Reading Room for the Earth Sciences Department. With the exception of the Mathematics Library which was recently expanded and for which additional growth space apparently could be made available, each of these facilities is facing very difficult space problems. All lack space for appropriate local collections, even with those collections defined as narrowly as the last five to ten years only. Indeed, the Libraries are currently engaged in a major project to shift in excess of 50,000 volumes from the branches to Hesburgh over the next five years. Even with this, it is anticipated that at the end of that period all branches will again be at or close to capacity.

Severely unfavorable environmental conditions are a special problem in the Architecture Library. The environment is very damaging to materials and at many times almost unbearable for staff and patrons because of the lack of air conditioning. Indeed, a steam pipe in that facility burst on December 26, 1989, creating a crisis situation for collections, staff and users. Fortunately, it occurred when the library was closed, but necessitated extensive repair and rehabilitation work which in turn kept the library closed throughout the interterm period. It is imperative that conditions be drastically improved soon or this library will need to be closed.

While the Hesburgh Library is a large and spacious facility with reasonable if not ideal environmental conditions, its long range viability as the center of the University Libraries system, and for research and study in business, the social sciences and humanities is vitiated by four factors: 1. the increasing need for work space by a necessarily growing staff for processing and public service; 2. the increasing need for specialized service space for audio-video materials, electronic media and the sports research collection; 3. the forthcoming (date uncertain) arrival of the Anastos Collection with more than 50,000 volumes and specialized service

needs; and 4. the large scale transfer of materials in science and engineering necessitated by severe overcrowding in most branch libraries serving those disciplines.

None of these would present a critical problem but for the fact that more than 18% (some 90,000 square feet) of the assignable space in the Hesburgh Library is currently devoted to non-library functions including: campus telecommunications, offices for the Emeriti President and Vice President, Campus Ministry, journal offices, faculty offices for the College of Arts and Letters, Career and Placement Services, the Institute for Pastoral and Social Ministry, University Archives, the Cushwa Center, the Center for the Study of Contemporary Society and the Social Science Training and Research Laboratory.

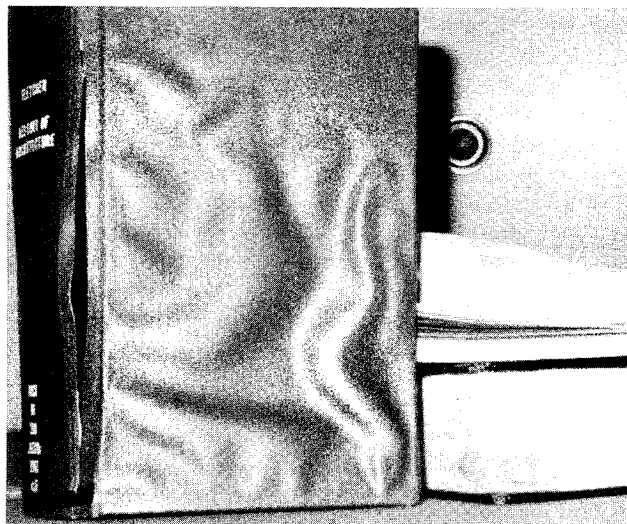
In attempting to address long range space planning, the University Libraries have made a number of assumptions:

Advancing technology will significantly affect libraries, particularly but not exclusively in science and engineering, in terms of both storage requirements and delivery modes. The precise impact of the pending changes in technology is uncertain—indeed in some ways it could be contradictory. It will not, however, "solve" the Libraries' space problems. Print-based collections will continue to be of major importance to researchers in many disciplines and will grow in some cases at even faster rates than in the past.

The current space for the Joyce Sports Research Collection in the basement of Special Collections in the Hesburgh Library is inadequate because of the difficulty of public access, security problems, lack of exhibit space and limited space for growth.

The University Archives will require significantly more space to accommodate its expanding collections.

With the present space allocated to library purposes within the Hesburgh Library, after five years there will no room for additional transfers from branch libraries.



Victims of Architecture Library

Sometime within the next 10 years, the Anastos Collection of Byzantine Studies, currently located in Los Angeles, will be coming to Notre Dame with ca. 50,000 volumes, significantly exacerbating current problems.

Thus, while a number of factors impact library space, the fundamental long-term space problem is room for collections, and in particular, materials that the branch libraries can no longer accommodate. To resolve these problems, there are really only two basic approaches: stop the flow of materials from the branch libraries to the Hesburgh Library and relocate elsewhere the materials currently transferred from those locations; or relocate non-library functions out of the Hesburgh Library and use that space to accommodate such material.

More concretely, there would seem to be four alternative actions the University could take:

1. Build a new central science/engineering library facility to handle material currently in Hesburgh. From the standpoint of operational cost alone, a single library serving all would be ideal, but combining the storage and one or more of the current branches might be reasonable; choices might include Life Sciences, Earth Sciences or Engineering.

2. Build a new storage facility for older science and engineering materials, combined perhaps with Archives and Sports Research currently in Hesburgh.

3. Build one or more new facilities for current non-library occupants of Hesburgh Library including Archives and Sports Research, thus freeing space in Hesburgh for storage of science/engineering materials.

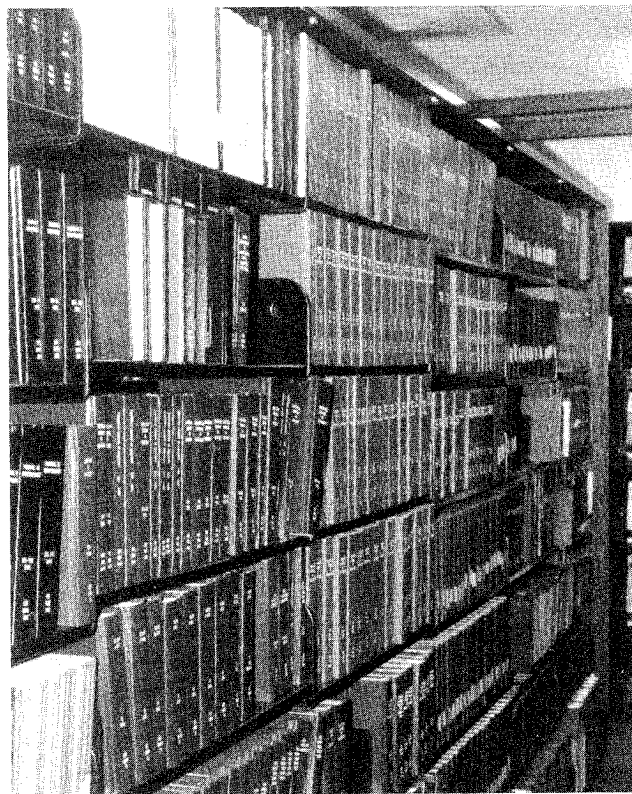
4. Provide existing space on campus to any of above three alternatives.

There are, of course, numerous variations of each of these, but the basic patterns would remain the same. Several other options exist in theory but were not given serious consideration because their implementation seemed highly unlikely. These include major expansion or replacement of all of the current branch library facilities with enough space to accommodate pertinent materials currently shelved in Hesburgh, and the conversion of major portions of the collections to microform or electronic format.

After prolonged and careful consideration of a number of strategies, the following steps are suggested as the most reasonable, although, clearly, broad campus discussion is essential prior to action.

1. Immediately begin planning for the remodelling of the Architecture Library with provision of both increased space and a sound, preservation-dictated environment. Because of the severity of this situation, if significant progress is not evident by the end of the next academic year, plans for closing the facility will need to be implemented.

2. Begin planning for the relocation of the basement Arts & Letters offices, including the Social Science Training Laboratory. Hayes/Healey/Hurley may be a reasonable possibility, but new construction might be necessary. The vacating of this space will permit the development of a compact shelving facility, primarily for lesser used materials in science and engineering.



H. Blackstead

*Floor-to-ceiling, wall-to-wall
in Life Sciences Library*

3. Begin planning for new quarters of at least 70,000 assignable square feet for the University Archives and the Sports Research Collection. Such a facility should be planned to allow ready expansion for both the principal occupants and for general library collections storage well into the 21st century. This will free space in the basement for growth in Special Collections and allow for the move of the Anastos Collection to the sixth floor, adjacent to the Medieval Institute Library, the area with the most natural relationship.

4. Begin discussions on the conversion of existing branch libraries to current information centers, housing only current and heavily used materials and enhanced by electronic resources and document delivery from other locations.

5. Finally, relocate the Institute for Pastoral and Social Ministry offices from the 12th floor of the Hesburgh Library, along with any offices remaining in the basement; 12th floor space would be used for the general collections while in the basement there would be expanded compact shelving and additional space for Technical Services, preservation and gifts storage.

CONCLUSION

The University Libraries of Notre Dame face a variety of space-related problems in the coming years, the most serious of which is collection space for materials from the current branch libraries. One strategy for resolving these problems has been outlined in some detail. There are undoubtedly others that may be preferable in circumstances currently not known. Indeed, it is recognized that much more information is required on costs and service implications before final decisions can reasonably be made. Toward that end, the University should obtain the services of an experienced library space consultant to review the situation and the strategy proposed, along with any others that may seem appropriate. The important thing is that discussion and planning begin at once.

GOODBYE *continued from page 1*

rians, our Library Administrative Committee, and Library Executive Committee. Within the American Library Association, he served on committees dealing with reference services, library history, and library research.

As the Associate Director for Access Services, he expanded that Division's service to University faculty and graduate students. Recognizing the limitations of any single University collection, he led our participation in the Association of Research Libraries/Online Computer Library Center (ARL/OCLC) reciprocal faculty borrowing programs and encouraged our membership in the John Crerar Library. He represented the University Libraries at the organizational meetings of the Area Library Services Authority, Region 2, and thus assured Notre Dame's participation in this regional library resource-sharing network.

Long though these lists of accomplishments are, they do not fully capture the sense of professional librarianship which George Sereiko has brought to his many positions. Dr. Sereiko is a librarian, as defined by Webster in 1961 as: "a specialist in the care and management of a library." The most enduring gift which Dr. Sereiko has given the University Libraries is the care which he has consistently demonstrated for its collections and its people.

It was Dr. Sereiko's great sense of history and caring which pushed the University and the Libraries into adopting an active preservation program. For years, he was the most visible and vocal leader in this area. In 1985 he prepared a report alerting the Faculty Committee on University Libraries to the Libraries' preservation needs and costs. He prepared a series of extensive grant requests to support the

establishment of a preservation laboratory and projects to preserve parts of our collections. He created and presented the first program to the Libraries' staff on the care and handling of library materials. He secured a Higher Education Act (HEA) Title IIC grant and coordinated the restoration and cataloging of the Libraries' valuable Greene Collection of botanical specimens and writings.

Many volumes in our Libraries owe their very lives to Dr. Sereiko's attention. Many human lives were also touched by his concern. Dr. Sereiko supervised more than half of the Libraries' staff during his time here. Two of his long-term staff members claim that his greatest contribution to the Libraries over 29 years has been his ability to maintain high morale. Known as a "quiet" man, Dr. Sereiko has achieved high morale in a very low-key way. He has given critical attention to listening. He has treated his staff as adults. He has met crisis with calmness. And, every now and then, he has sent a spark of humor (a surprising memo, an e-mail message, or an offbeat comment) to break the weight of a traumatic moment.

In a period of technological changes, stretched staffing, and revolutionary challenges, many have found this quiet man to be the keystone in the Libraries. He will be sorely missed.



B. Harlan

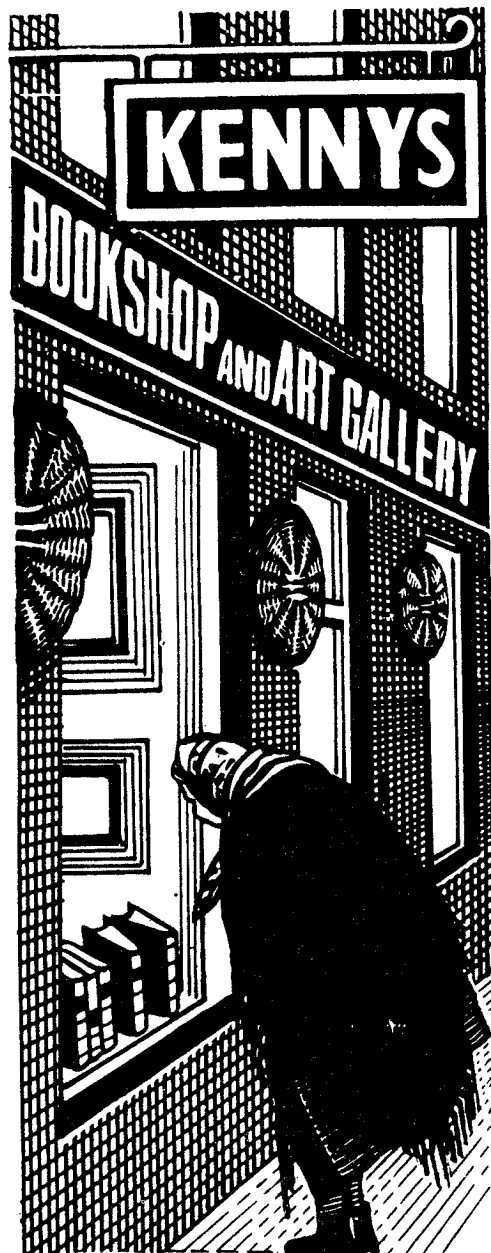
George E. Sereiko

out the world in search of Irish materials. This past January, they could be found in Chicago at the American Library Association's Midwinter Conference. Following the conference, Conor Kenny, who handles most of the bookshop's antiquarian materials, and Kennys' U.S. Sales Representative, Maryse Murphy, visited Notre Dame to evaluate our Irish collections.

Conor Kenny also offered assistance to the Department of Special Collections in planning for its Exhibit of Irish Music and Dance. This exhibit highlights the Captain Francis O'Neill Collection of Irish Music and will be displayed in the Rare Book Exhibit Room of Special Collections until September 1990. Through Mr. Kenny's contacts, Special Collections hopes to exhibit record sleeves and photographs of contemporary Irish musicians and performers, as well a set of Uilleann Pipes belonging to the "Elder Kenna" (mentioned in one of O'Neill's books) dating from the 1790's. Aside from this exhibit, our most recent acquisition is the *Collection of Contemporary Books, Pamphlets and Newspapers Relating to the 1798 Rebellion in Ireland*. As interest in Irish literature, history, and music increases at Notre Dame, Kennys becomes an ever more valuable source for acquiring such materials.

This "bibliophile's delight," however, did not become a success overnight. During the 1930's, Maureen Canning and Des Kenny were students at the University College Galway. Upon completion of their degrees (Maureen's a commerce degree and Des' an art degree), this young couple found themselves faced with limited job prospects. Likewise, World War II was raging, and funds were scarce. In hopes of realizing a dream, Maureen and Des opened their bookshop on November 23, 1940. The bookshop started out as a lending library for secondhand textbooks, as well as a book collection containing what few books they could acquire from friends and relatives.

As the bookshop continued to grow, so did the Kenny family. Today, five of their six children actively work in the business, as do some of Maureen and Des' 21 grandchildren. The true realization of their dreams came ten years ago when the Kennys finally bought the premises housing their marvelous collections. It is evident that Maureen and Des Kenny have brought their love of books and their Irish heritage to their business, and have passed these values on to their children. Tom Kenny, the eldest son and "roving ambassador" for the bookshops, recently commented to an Irish-American newspaper on his parents' lifelong passion. "They have given us . . . a love of things Irish, especially books. They have taught us that the work of Irish writers and painters is as good as can be found anywhere."



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A Special Look at Special Collections (Where What's New is Probably Old)

by Laura Fuderer

“Who fears to speak of Ninety-Eight?” asked John Kells Ingram, referring to the Irish Rebellion of 1798. In partial reply on the centenary of the event, W. T. Stead wrote, “No Englishman ought ever to mention the word Ireland in the hearing of the civilized world unless he first arrays himself in the sackcloth and ashes of the penitent.”

Through the auspices of Kenny’s Bookshops & Art Galleries, Ltd., in Galway, Ireland, the Libraries have acquired a special collection of 75 items relating to “the awful period of 1798” (in the words of one participant). The collection includes books, pamphlets, and newspapers published before, during, or after the Rebellion. Many items are rare or ephemeral, and all are of historical importance.

The collection includes the writings or speeches of many of the major participants in this revolutionary period of Irish history. *Miscellaneous Works of the Right Hon. Henry Grattan* reveals the thinking of an early leader of opposition to English political control of Ireland. Grattan formed the para-military Irish Volunteers, who numbered 40,000 by 1780. Their newspaper, *Volunteers Journal or Irish Herald*, is represented by 23 issues that appeared in 1784.

In 1795 Prime Minister William Pitt was forced to recall his Viceroy of Ireland, Lord Fitzwilliam, a reformer who was attempting to implement the Catholic Relief Act and other reforms. Two letters by Fitzwilliam, “Explaining the causes of that Event,” were published the same year, as well as a reply by the Earl of Carlisle. The withdrawal appeared to signal the end of English conciliation and precipitated skirmishes between Catholic and Protestant peasantry. In consequence, John Beresford and John Fitzgibbon organized the Society of Orangemen. The two-volume set of Beresford’s correspondence is described as “The rarest of the correspondence dealing with the period.”

Theobald Wolfe Tone was the leader of a democratic movement that was greatly inspired by the revolutions in America and France. The collection contains his 1792 *Argument on Behalf of the Catholics of Ireland*, and extracts from the 1797 and 1798 issues of the newspaper of the Society of United Irishmen. Suppressed by the Irish government, the anthology of extracts was printed in Philadelphia in 1802. Tone led the Rebellion of 1798 with French assistance. The French were conveying him and 3,000 men to Ireland when they were captured by a British squadron. After receiving a death sentence, he committed suicide. His two-volume biography was edited by his son, William T. W. Tone, and published in Washington in 1826.

In 1801 Pitt secured the Act of Union, which united Ireland and Great Britain as the United Kingdom. The Irish Parliament was dissolved and Ireland thenceforth elected 100 members to the British Parliament in London. The collection offers numerous writings pertaining to union, including a speech by Pitt and other arguments for and against union published in 1798 and 1799. *The Constitution, or Anti-Union Post* appeared in 20 issues in 1800.

Other important sources include a complete run of *The Parliamentary Register* of the Irish Parliament, from 1784 to 1795. The two volumes by Mary Leadbeater, known as “The Leadbeater Papers,” are said to be “The best Quaker account of the Rebellion of 1798.” In addition to correspondence they provide gripping descriptions of her interaction with soldiers, insurgents, and innocent victims in the neighborhood of her home, Ballitore. Finally, numerous court proceedings give detailed accounts of the trials of individuals accused of high treason in both the Rebellion of ‘98 and the Insurrection of 1803.

Professor Robert Burns of the Department of History considers the collection extremely good and a fine supplement to state papers and parliamentary diaries already in the Libraries. As an example of how extraordinary are certain items, he observed that he has not seen a complete set of the Irish *Parliamentary Register* for sale in the last 30 years. We look forward to the collection’s use by his graduate seminar and by other researchers exploring 18th century Ireland.