

# Resources



The [Peirson Library](#) holds a wealth of printed materials and e-resources on the early modern period. Alongside established databases, such as EEBO and ECCO, the library subscribes to a range of subject-specific journals. It operates a continuous expansion policy to make available up-to-date resources whether in print, visual or electronic format.

The new Library and History Centre - due to open in 2011 - will accommodate the Worcestershire County Council's Heritage Services, including its History Centre, Record Office and Archaeology department.



The [Worcester Cathedral Library's](#) unique collection "comprises 298 medieval manuscripts which range mainly from the tenth to the fifteenth centuries", "5400 post medieval books collected by the post medieval Dean and Chapter and the Bishops of Worcester", "19,000 archive documents which belong to the Dean and Chapter and stretch from the middle ages to the present day", and "a music collection which contains works by many famous composers including Sir Edward Elgar and Thomas Tomkins", and music archives.



The [Hurd Library at Hartlebury Castle](#) is "a unique example of a working library, formed by an 18th century scholar bishop of wide interests, which remains on its original shelves and in the original room built for it shortly after Hurd moved to Hartlebury Castle, as Bishop of Worcester, in 1781." The collection "contains about 4,500 volumes, representing about 2,050 separate titles" and "its value [.] lies in the richness of its provenances (signatures, inscriptions, marginal notes and bookplates), in its early printed and famous books, in the variety of its subject matter and in the sheer beauty of its appearance. There are 43 books from Pope's library, 97 from Warburton's and 103 gifts from George III, often with the royal arms on the binding. Double provenances appear in some volumes; for example, Pope's Greek New Testament, 1543, was given to him by Jonathan Swift."



Our proximity to Stratford allows for easy access to the Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, the Shakespeare Institute and the Courtyard Theatre. Modules currently running occasion exploration of these resources, and dissertation and MA research projects involve collaboration with these institutions.



We have links with regional theatres, which include The Birmingham Rep and [Shakespeare at the Tobacco Factory](#), Bristol.

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