

American Insight: Charting Terra Incognita

In 1933, Dartmouth College was invited to become one of seventeen college libraries to participate in a philanthropic plan initiated by a wealthy bibliophile named Tracy McGregor. Dartmouth's Library, under the direction of Nathaniel Goodrich, was in the process of growing into a true research library. One major aspect lacking in its collections was a strong rare book collection. This exhibit illustrates how Dartmouth's participation in the McGregor Plan laid the groundwork for the Library's rare book collections and their integration into the curriculum.

The exhibit was curated by Josh Lascell and Peter Carini and was on display in the Class of 1965 Galleries from July 10 to August 31, 2009.

Materials Included in the Exhibition

Case Title	Materials included
Case 1. The McGregor Plan	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. American Historical Association pamphlet providing overview of the McGregor Plan, 1937. Library Depository 025.29 A512m [not available at Rauner]2. All titles purchased on the Plan were affixed with the McGregor Plan Bookplate.3. Official catalogues were issued from 1937 to 1940. McGregor Z1207 .A58 no.1-6 1937-19404. Issued separate from the catalogues and including the condition and points of issue, the pricelists were, in part, a measure taken to ensure the Plan did not negatively affect the rare book market.5. Dartmouth Professor of History Frank Maloy Anderson's reply to J. M. Jameson's proposal to join the McGregor Plan.6. Letter to Dartmouth President Ernest Martin Hopkins notifying the college of the Plan's demise due to declining endowment funds and World War II.
Case 2. Frank Maloy Anderson and Nathaniel Goodrich	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Frank Maloy Anderson (1871-1961) Dartmouth Professor of History. Anderson's expertise was

	<p>in modern Europe and World War I in particular. His class on World War I was the one of the most popular courses at Dartmouth.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Nathaniel Goodrich (1880-1957). Dartmouth College Librarian. 3. The 1935/36 Dartmouth course catalog was the first evidence the effect of the McGregor Plan on teaching at Dartmouth. Reference LD1427 .D3 4. Early McGregor Plan typescript catalogue (circa 1934-36). "A" stands for acquire. McGregor Z1207 .A58 no.1-6 1937-1940 5. In the lead-up to Anderson's retirement, Goodrich takes on more responsibility for shaping the collection. 6. An important motive of the Plan was integration into the curriculum of participating colleges. Both McGregor and Goodrich shared this view.
<p>Case 3. The McGregor Collection at Dartmouth College</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ptolemy, <i>Geographie</i>, Argentine 1513. McGregor 141 2. John Smith. <i>The Generall Historie of Virginia, New England, and the Summer isles</i>, London, 1624. McGregor 164 3. John Bartram, <i>Observations on the Inhabitants, Climate, Soil, Rivers, Productions, Animals, and Other Matters Worthy of Notice</i>, London, 1751. McGregor 13 4. Galloway, Joseph, <i>Letters to a Nobleman, on the Conduct of the War in the Middle Colonies</i>, London, 1780. McGregor 66 5. Patrick Gass, <i>A Journal of the Voyages and Travels of a Corps of Discovery, Under the Command of Capt. Lewis and Capt. Clarke</i>, Pittsburgh, 1807. McGregor 71 6. James Redpath, <i>Hand-book to</i>

	<p><i>Kansas Territory and the Rocky Mountains' Gold Region</i>, New York, 1859. McGregor 148</p>
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