Exploring the art of writing manuals through Special Collections

WRTG 3035

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Writing through-out time

1. Cuneiform
2. Papyrus
3. Velum Rolls
4. Oak Galls, Minerals, Wax, Quills
5. Illuminated Manuscript Page
6. Medieval craftsmen, scribes, and illuminators by Christopher de Hamel 1992, Hays 227
8. Movable Type (Letterpress)
9. Royal Typewriter, Jean Stafford, 1930
10. Fortran Punch Cards
11. IBM Selectric System/2000 Wheelwriter Typewriter 6746 Operator’s Guide

Engineering

1. The History of Imbanking and Draying of Divers Fens and Marshes, Both in Forein Ports and in this Kingdom by William Dugdale Esquire, Oversize TC 795 D83
2. Mechanick Exercises: or, the Doctrine of Handy-Works Applied to the Art of Brick Layers-Work 1700 Willard 247
3. On Wheel Carriages by Jacob Rowe 1731 TJ181.5 R68. “Jacob Rowe was one of the pioneers of English diving. He wrote A Demonstration on the Diving Engine around 1730, the year in which he successfully salvaged more than 33 tons of silver from the wreck of the East India Company ship Vansittart. It is the earliest such treatise on diving known to exist in English. Rowe also held other interests: he was referred to as Captain Rowe from as early as 1721, so was obviously a sea captain and he also published works on navigation and improving the effectiveness of carriages by reducing the friction affecting their wheels.”

(http://www.nmm.ac.uk/explore/collections/by-type/archive-and-library/item-of-the-month/previous/jacob-rowes-demonstration-of-the-diving-engine)
4. *Experiments and Observations Relating to Various Branches of National Philosophy; with a Continuation of the Observations on Air* Vol. III by Joseph Priestley, LL.D F.R.S 1786, QD 27 P75 v. 3 “He is best known for his discovery, simultaneously with Antoine Lavoisier, of oxygen gas. Throughout his life, Priestley was known not only as a political and theological controversialist but also as a natural philosopher. His scientific reputation rested on his writings on electricity, his invention of soda water, and his discovery of 10 previously unknown "Airs" (gases), that he reported about from 1774-1786 in a giant book of 6 volumes. The most important of these newly discovered airs, was named by Priestley as "dephlogisticated air" (oxygen).” (Wikipedia)

5. *The Manufacture of Iron in All Its Various Branches* by Frederick Overman, Mining Engineer, 1849 (although the print date is 1854!) TN 705 O97 1854


8. *The Manual of Dyeing: for the Use of Practical Dyers, Manufacturers, Students, and All Interested in the Art of Dyeing* by Edmund Knecht, Christopher Rawson, and Richard Loewenthal, 1893 TP 897 K68 v. 3


**Architecture**

1. *Regole generali di Archittectura* by Sebastiano Serlio, 1540, NA 2810S47
   Serlio helped canonize the classical orders of architecture in his influential treatise and was part of the team that built Chateau Fountainbleau in France.

2. *Unterweysung der Messung (drawing manual)* by Albrecht Durer, 1525, Plume was a [German painter, printmaker, mathematician, engraver, and theorist](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Albrecht_Durer) from Nuremberg. His prints established his reputation across Europe when he was still in his twenties, and he has been conventionally regarded as the greatest artist of the [Northern Renaissance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Renaissance) ever since.

3. *I Manoseritti dell’Institut de France: MS 3*, Leonardo da Vinci (1452-1519), OSi ND 623 L5A4

4. *The First book of Architecture* by Andrea Palladio, 1663, NA 2515 P21. Palladio (1508-1580) was one of the most celebrated architects of the Renaissance, so important that the term Palladian has been applied to a particular style of architecture which adheres to classical concepts. The Four Books of Architecture offers a compendium of Palladio's art and of the ancient Roman structures that inspired him. The First Book is devoted to building materials and techniques and the five orders of architecture.

5. *The Mirror of Architecture or the Ground Rules of the Art of Building Exactly Laid Down* by Vincent Scamozzi, Master Builder of Venice 1700 NA 2515 S3. “Whereby the principal points of architecture are easily and plainly demonstrated for the benefit of all lovers and ingenious practitioners in the said art. With the description and use of a joynjt-rule, fitted with lines for the ready finding the lengths and angles of rafters, and hips, and collar-beams, in any square or bevelling roof at any pitch; and the ready drawing the architrave, frieze, and cornice in any
order. With other useful conclusions by the said rule. By John Brown. The fourth edition. Whereunto is added a compendium of the art of building. Giving a brief account of the names, natures, and rates of all the materials, belonging to the erection of an edifice: and what quantity of each sort will be needful for the building of any house.”


7. **A Book of Architecture Containing Designs of Buildings and Ornaments** by James Gibbs 1728 Oversize 2 NA 2620 G5. “It was intended to be a pattern book for both architects and clients, and became, according to John Summerson, "probably the most widely-used architecture book of the century, not only throughout Britain, but in the American colonies and the West Indies.”

**Farming/Housekeeping/Family life**

1. **Cheape and Good Husbandry for the Well-Ordering of All Beaste and Fowles and for the General Cure of their Diseases** Markham Gervase 1648 S509 M34

2. **The Squires Home-Made Wines as describ’d and set-forth in the Journal of Thomas Hoggson, Gent.**, 1765 TP 548 H65 1924 reprint

3. **Farriery Improved; or, a Complete Treatise on the Art of Farriery.** “Wherein is fully explained the nature and structure of that useful creature, a horse; with the diseases and accidents he is liable to; and the methods of cure. Exemplified by ten elegant cuts, each the full figure of a horse. Describing all the various parts of that noble animal. Likewise rules for breeding and training of colts: practical receipts for the cure of common distempers incident to oxen, cows, calves, sheep, lambs, hogs, &c. To which is prefixed ten minutes advice to the purchasers of horses.” By Henry Bracken M.D. 1796 SF 955 B8 1796

4. **A New System of Domestic Cookery** by A Lady, 1814 TX 715 R935. “The original domestic goddess, an elderly widow whose best-selling book on cookery, medicinal remedies and household management defined the perfect home. Maria Rundell taught her readers how to cook a goose, brew beer, make ink and cure baldness. A New System of Domestic Cookery was a publishing sensation in the early 1800s. It sold half a million copies and conquered America, and its profits helped found one of the Victorian era’s most influential publishing empires, one which boasted Lord Byron, Charles Darwin, Sir Walter Scott, Jane Austen, Benjamin Disraeli and Arthur Conan Doyle among its authors.” Her real name wasn’t disclosed until her death at 83 years old in 1828.

5. **Book of Remedies** by Mary Flower. 1850, MS108. Handwritten recipes for folk medicine.

6. **Games of Skill and Conjuring** 1862, GV 1229 G19

**War/Mountain Climbing**

1. **National Guard Manual** By Stephen R. Pinckney, 1863, U 143 P56

4. **Mountain Rescue Techniques** by Wastl Marner 1963 Mount RD 131 M3813

**Medical**

1. Grimaldi’s *Dell’Alchimia*, 1645 QD 25 G75, Grimaldi’s book describes alchemy (or the divine chemistry) as a science as well as an attempt to attain health and longevity or even immortality.
3. **The Family Doctor or Guide to Health Containing a Brief Description of the General Causes of Disease** by H.B. Skinner, 1844, 96-3-3
4. **The Family Advisor; or, Practice of Physic**; Henry Wilkins, 1795 RC 81 W68 1795
5. **53 Emergency Aids....While Waiting for the Doctor**, by Dr. Allan Roy Dafoe Physician to the Dionne Quintuplets

**Art**

1. *Indian Basket Weaving* by the Navajo School of Indian Basketry, 1903 TS 910 N31 “Baskets are the Indian Woman’s poems; the shaping of them her sculpture. They wove into them the story of their life and love.”
4. **Creating Artists’ Books** by Sarah Bodman N 7433.3 B63 2005
5. *Moby-Dick* by Herman Melville, 1851.