

What are “Special Collections”?

“...library and archival materials in any format (e.g., rare books, manuscripts, photographs, institutional archives) that are generally characterized by their artifactual or monetary value, physical format, uniqueness or rarity, and/or an institutional commitment to long-term preservation and access. They generally are housed in a separate unit with specialized security and user services. Circulation of materials usually is restricted.”

Taking Our Pulse: The OCLC Research Survey of Special Collections and Archives
Jackie M. Dooley and Katherine Luce, for OCLC Research



Special Collections

- Dates from 1932, when it was first decided to build an Africana collection.
- Through various donations, particularly of entire, private book collections, the unit grew into what it is today.
- We have three main categories of collections:
 1. African Heritage Collections.
 2. Rare Books and UP Collections.
 3. Theology Collections.



African Heritage Collections

1. The Africana Collection

Books in all disciplines limited to the history and heritage of Sub-Saharan Africa in general, and South Africa and Pretoria in particular.

2. Adv. J. de Villiers Roos Collection

Includes an Africana book collection, personal archives, photo albums and maps.

3. Du Plessis Collection (Africana)

Prof. J du Plessis' Africana book collection.

4. SA Music Collections

Includes score sheets in printed or manuscript form emanating from a South African composer or performed by a South African artist, audio/audio-visual material concerning South African performers and the personal collections, including all forms of memorabilia, of internationally acclaimed South African artists.

5. The Struggle History Collection

Made up of smaller collections, all of which relate to the struggle against Apartheid.

6. Various smaller collections.



Our cradle of sub-Saharan Africa studies

The **AFRICANA** *Collection*

The Africana collection focuses on the history and heritage of Sub-Saharan Africa in general, and South Africa and Pretoria in particular.

Adv. J. de Villiers Roos, a polymath and obsessive collector of books

The **DE VILLIERS ROOS** *Collection*

Jacobus de Villiers Roos (1869-1940) was a journalist, advocate, Secretary of Justice for the Transvaal, Director of Prisons, Auditor-General of the Union of South Africa from 1918-1929, financier and founder of the Transvaal University College and Chairperson of the Mapungubwe Archaeological Committee from 1934-1938. Roos bequeathed not only his extensive library and Africana book collection, but also his personal document archive to the University of Pretoria.

Prof. J du Plessis, theologian and African exploration enthusiast

The **DU PLESSIS AFRICANA** *Collection*

Prof. J du Plessis (1868-1935) was a theologian at Stellenbosch. His Africana book collection is housed in our Africana section, and has a large selection of old travel accounts of explorations of the African continent.

A medley of South African music collections

The **SA MUSIC** *Collection*

Our South African Music collection is made up of various different collections including the FZ van der Merwe Collection, the Stofans Grove Collection and the Nemi Coertzel Collection, and includes score sheets in printed or manuscript form, audiovisual material, and the personal collections - including memorabilia - of internationally acclaimed South African artists.



Rare Books and UP Collections

1. Juriaanse Collection

Dr Aardt Jurriaanse's collection of books covers the classics in literature and medicine.

2. Reserved Collection

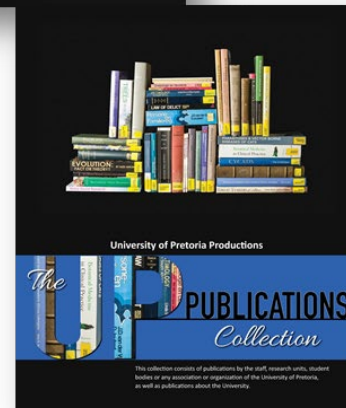
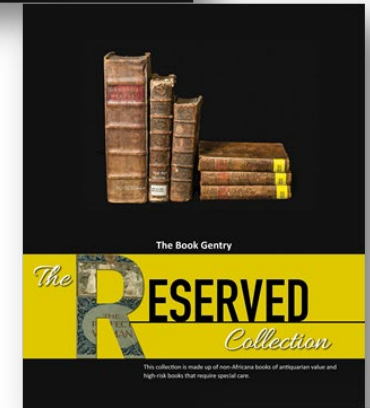
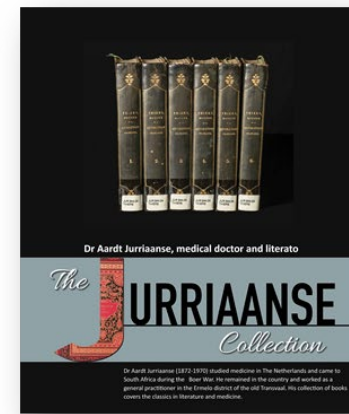
This collection is made up of non-Africana books of antiquarian value and so-called high risk books that require protection/preservation.

3. UP Publications

This collection consists of publications by the staff, research units/student bodies or any association/organization of the University of Pretoria. Also included are all publications that deal with the University of Pretoria or publications that were published with financial assistance from the University of Pretoria.

4. Netherlands Cultural History Collection

This collection is the most extensive Dutch collection in the Southern Hemisphere.



Theology Collections

1. Du Plessis Collection (Theology)

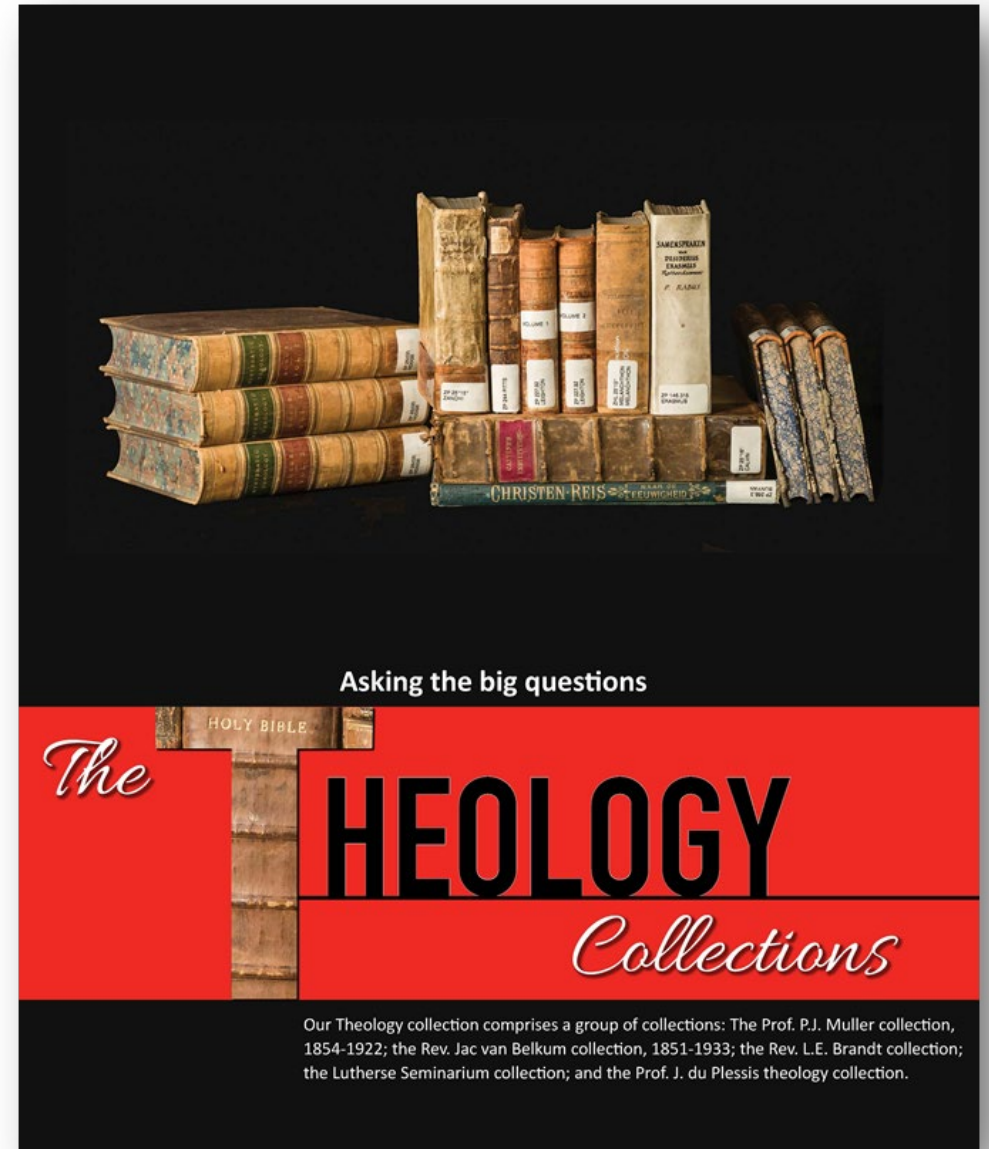
In 1939 the book collection of Prof Johannes du Plessis (1868-1935) was bought by the Library. Du Plessis was a Protestant Missionary and founding member of the South African Institute of Race Relations.

2. The NHK (Nederduits Hervormde Kerk) group of collections

- Muller Collection – collection of books donated by Prof Pieter Johannes Muller (1854-1922), a Minister and Professor at the University of Amsterdam.
- Van Belkum Collection – Collection of Rev Jacobus van Belkum (1851-1933), a Minister at the Dutch Reformed Church.
- Brandt–van Warmelo Collection - which includes the book collections of Rev Louis Ernst Brandt (1873-1939) and his father-in-law Rev N.J. van Warmelo.

3. Lutherse Seminarium Collection

Donated by the Holland-Zuid-Afrikaanse Unie in 1939.



African Heritage Document Collections

1. Adv. J. de Villiers Roos Collection

- Auditor-general of the Union of South Africa from 1918-1929, as well as journalist, secretary of the Judicial Department of Transvaal, Secretary of Justice and director of Prisons.
- personal archives, photo albums and maps.

2. The Struggle History Collection

- Rumpff Collection - Frans Lourens Herman Rumpff was Chief Justice of South Africa from 1974 to 1982.
 - court proceedings pertaining to the 1956 Treason Trial, the 1964 Johannesburg station bomb trial, and the Delmas Treason trial of the 1980s, as well as a compilation of works done by Rumpff (tributes, forewords, letters, speeches, opinions, facts and personal).

3. Boer War Collection

- Newspaper clippings, scrapbooks, photo albums, documents .

4. Van Warmelo Collection

- 97 boxes of manuscripts in South African indigenous languages on the history and traditions of various indigenous groups.



The Van Warmelo Collection

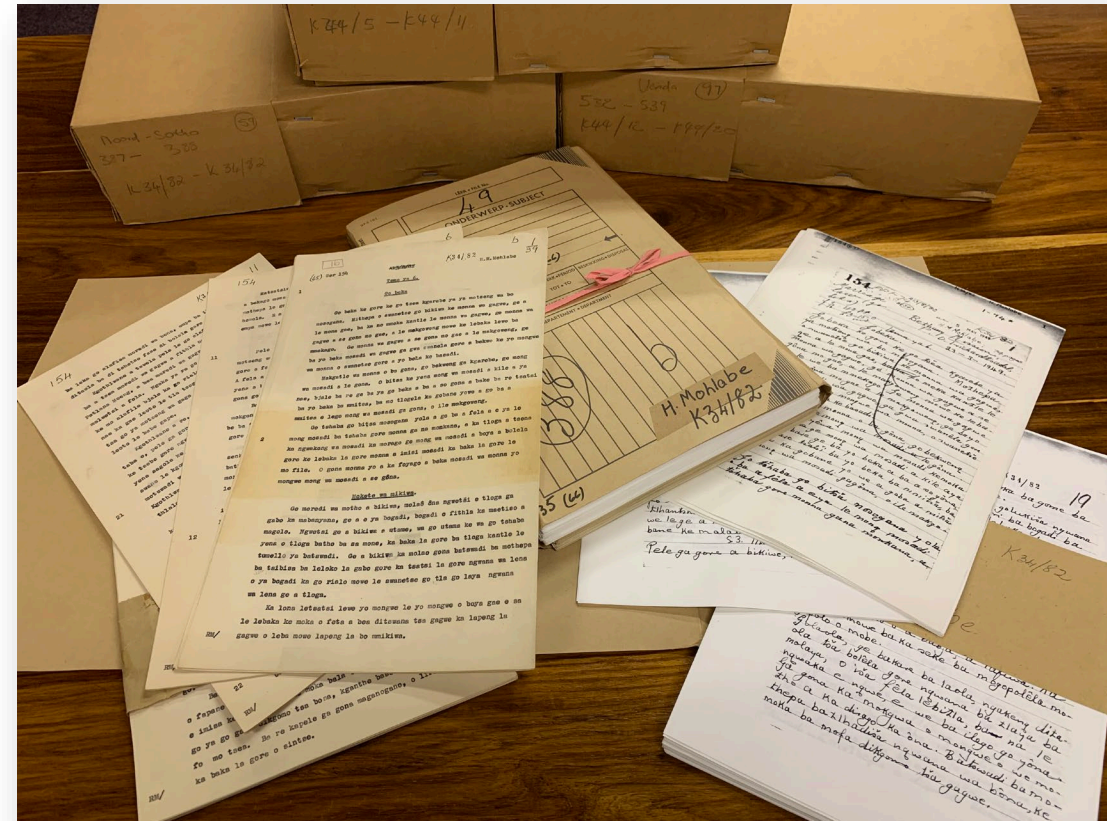
Dr Nicolaas Jacobus van Warmelo (1904-1989) was an internationally recognized anthropologist. He served as State Ethnologist for the Republic of South Africa from 1930-1969. Dr van Warmelo also sat on the Language Councils for Venda, North Sotho and Tsonga as well as the National Council for Place Names. On 23 March 1989, Dr van Warmelo received an Honorary Doctorate from the University of Pretoria.

The van Warmelo Collection, donated to the University after the doctor's death, comprises over 57 000 pages of writings, concerning different South African indigenous groups and collected whilst he was in the employment of the Department of Bantu affairs as the State Ethnologist. These include manuscripts on the Xhosa, Zulu, Swazi, Tsonga, South Sotho (Sesotho, Tswana, North-Sotho (Sepedi) and Venda (Tshivenda). Most of these manuscripts were written in the original indigenous language. These manuscripts include detailed information about the history, traditions, way of life, dress, laws, warfare and religion of the groups as well as the traditional life-stages that an individual goes through from birth to death. Dr van Warmelo collected this information over a period of 30 to 40 years and it forms part of his unpublished legacy, which will be invaluable to future generations of researchers. The collection also includes a number of photographs, albums, and cultural samples.



The Van Warmelo Collection

Between 2020 and 2022, the collection was digitised and is now available on UPSpace. The DLS Special Collections Unit has collaborated with SA Heritage Publishers, who have worked from the scans of the original documents and are currently translating them into English. The Ancestral Voices project is an enormous undertaking, as it involves transcribing and translating over 800 manuscripts. SA Heritage Publishers are also tracing descendants of the original authors of the manuscripts. This significant collection has preserved what was previously thought to be unwritten history, in a written form, and includes writings on clan history, traditional law, games, songs, folklore, hunting and trapping, material culture, customs, medicine, divination, and agriculture.



Indigenous Knowledge Systems keyword matrix

	A : belief	B : ceremony	C : custom	D : divination	E : medicine	F : ritual IKS	G : sacrifice	H : tradition	I : treatment	J : veneration	K : worship
1 : isiXhosa Volume 1	4	10	39	2	12	10	6	13	0	0	0
2 : isiXhosa Volume 2	0	0	3	4	7	6	5	8	0	0	1
3 : isiXhosa Volume 3	0	1	0	10	13	0	3	1	1	0	0
4 : isiXhosa Volume 4	3	7	60	5	33	2	7	4	0	0	7
5 : isiXhosa Volume 5	6	2	63	7	37	8	14	0	5	0	15
6 : isiZulu Volume 1	0	2	5	10	14	10	9	9	0	1	0
7 : isiZulu Volume 2	2	2	2	10	12	3	2	2	0	0	0
8 : Sesotho sa Leboa Volume 1	3	8	5	4	25	29	0	12	6	0	1
9 : Sesotho sa Leboa Volume 2	1	10	4	3	28	15	0	9	1	1	9
10 : Sesotho sa Leboa Volume 3	1	23	1	10	34	34	1	12	3	0	0
11 : Sesotho sa Leboa Volume 4	0	1	0	8	30	19	0	8	0	0	1
12 : Sesotho sa Leboa Volume 5	1	14	8	7	46	31	1	3	2	0	9
13 : Sesotho sa Leboa Volume 6	2	0	3	0	20	3	0	4	1	0	2
14 : Sesotho sa Leboa Volume 7	3	4	3	8	25	10	0	2	2	0	0
15 : Sesotho Volume 1	2	4	13	3	11	3	0	5	0	0	0
16 : Setswana Volume 1	0	8	6	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0
17 : Setswana Volume 2	0	9	12	4	15	0	1	4	1	0	1
18 : Setswana Volume 3	1	18	37	1	54	0	2	0	0	0	0
19 : Setswana Volume 4	0	4	9	0	23	0	0	0	0	0	0
20 : Setswana Volume 5	8	10	19	16	50	1	2	1	4	0	4
21 : Setswana Volume 6	9	4	61	7	34	1	0	2	1	0	0
22 : Setswana Volume 7	0	4	16	13	46	0	1	1	0	0	0
23 : Setswana Volume 8	1	0	5	3	37	0	0	2	5	0	0
24 : Setswana Volume 9	0	0	0	0	40	0	0	0	0	0	0
25 : Xitsonga Volume 1	0	8	8	16	45	22	4	0	3	1	25
26 : Xitsonga Volume 2	4	2	1	35	82	16	8	0	3	0	8
27 : Xitsonga Volume 3	4	0	11	5	51	8	4	0	12	0	0
28 : Xitsonga Volume 4	2	0	14	7	7	2	0	1	6	0	0
29 : Xitsonga Volume 5	5	22	1	41	53	9	5	0	11	0	9
30 : Xitsonga Volume 6	3	1	5	22	11	17	2	1	4	0	3
31 : Xitsonga Volume 7	2	4	6	17	7	7	2	0	0	0	0



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Bundel No	Outeur Naam	No	Manuskrip Serie No	Titel
Xhosa				
0	M M Balfour	11/3	132	Gcaleka history and customs
1	S T Mnto	11/15	50	History and customs of Amatshezi
2	S T Mhluzana	11/19	92	Hlubi history and custom
3	A T Z Mbebe	11/21	87	History of the Hlubi
	A T Z Mbebe	11/21	290	History of the Hlubi of Mt Fletcher, their country and some customs and law.
4	M Nkopo	11/23	67	History of the Thembu and some customs.
5	H D Mancotywa	11/28	84	Thembu custom.
6	D J Mapekula	11/29	85	Bhaca history and incube.
7	I B Gqwabaza	11/31	57	Hlubi history
8	M A Dlamini	11/36	144	Bhaca history
9	J Makalima	11/40	462	Various customs of the Fingo of Umtata district
10	J Makalima	11/40	774	Account of Thembu law and custom.
11	do	do	do	
12	T K Jubase	11/46	200	Mpondomise of Qumbu, history.
Zulu				
13	R J A Magagula	13/1	35	Umulandu namasiko abantu
14	R Dhlomo	13/3	152	Various items (22) of Zulu custom and four histories of the Bhaca, Sibiya, Sikhakhana and Cele.
15	J F Mucunu	13/12	101	Ukuhlabela amadlozi (Zulu custom)

Digitised by the Open Scholarship & Digitisation Programme, University of Pretoria, 2016

The original Van Warmelo finding aid

132

K11/3 M. Balfour.

93

K11/3

1-93*

PP-1793
 M. M. Balfour K11/3
 M. M. Balfour wase Teko Springs
 elungu-ke Bhunga.
 make senze intshayelelo
 pambi Kokuba Sibalise.
 Kacche ke wogonda umhlekarzi
 ukuba imbali zama Xosa hezi-
 qcinwa ngenzako, ginqabhalwa-
 Nam ndandi bali-selwa ngu-
 hawo u Makapela into ka Noyi
 ssibonda sase Teko Springs kwisi
 tili Sakwa Centane owa gqiba
 ikulu eline Shumi ubudala (100)
 ndapinda ndabaliselwa ngu Nggaba
 into ka Kontso, edikeni ngo-
 1888 Sifunda e Konedale sinento
 zo Mzimba David, No S. Honono
 Ono William Botoman Matchikwe
 C. Koti Nakanye. Lamabali Sivutata
 nako Shuka, Matayo, Amalego naba-
 nnye. Ke sakunana sitata imibibo
 ngaminye kwibali likantu.
 ndaye-andiye ali-ngakubi-ndingcauni!

masitate imveli Sibalise ngayo
 Babesiti ababalisi isizwe esim-
 -nyama sapuma kunyana omnei
 ka Nam ikutiva ngu Kanana, Sa-
 za ukwa hlekana kwezizwe.

A page from the manuscript MM Balfour/
 11.300/132/Gcaleka history and customs

For more information:

- Nikki Haw - nikki.haw@up.ac.za
- Special Collections webpage - <https://www.library.up.ac.za/special>
- Van Warmelo Collection on UPSpace - <https://repository.up.ac.za/handle/2263/63072>
- SA Heritage Publishers Ancestral Voices project - <https://saheritagepublishers.co.za/ancestral-voices/>

THANK YOU



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