

Charles Woodward Memorial Room

The Memorial Room area of the Woodward Library consists of two rooms on the main floor of the Woodward Library and a gallery above. The first room is called the Charles Woodward Memorial Room, a gift of Mr P.A. Woodward in honour of his father, founder of the department store which formerly bore his name. It is dedicated to the pioneer physicians of British Columbia, whose names appear on four bronze plaques above the fireplace. The W.C. Gibson collection previously housed in the upper gallery was moved to Rare Books and Special Collections in 2013 to provide optimum conditions for more than six thousand historical and important volumes in the biological and health sciences. The second room is the Sherrington Room, used for seminars and small meetings, and is named for the Nobel Prize winner Sir Charles Scott Sherrington, friend of Dr F.F. Westbrook, first President of the University of British Columbia.

Wall Hangings

Three wall hangings are hung in the Memorial Room area. The two tapestries facing the entrance door are from France. They are the gift of Mr P.A. Woodward. The upper is called *Masters of the Spirit* and the lower *Masters of Science*. The former is of particular interest because of its imperfections which arose from a stroke suffered by the craftsman who created it. The third wall hanging is a needlepoint, which hangs on the west wall of the Sherrington Room. It was the gift of Mr H.R. MacMillan. Made in the People's Republic of China, it depicts Canadian surgeon, Dr Norman Bethune, operating in a Buddhist temple. He was assisting the 8th Route Army in northwest China in 1939.



Masters of Science



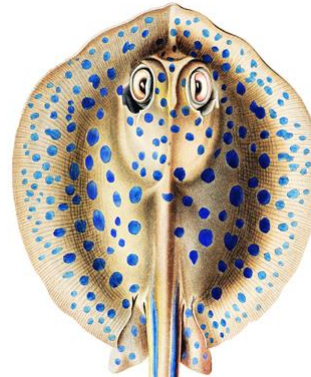
Masters of the Spirit



Norman Bethune



Queen of the Night
Selenicereus grandiflorus
QK98.T5 1951
Photo: UBC Library



Blue-spotted Ribbontail
Taeniura lymma
QL5.L3 1826
Photo: UBC Library



Trumpet manucode
Manucodia keraudrenlii
QL5.L3 1826
Photo: UBC Library

Book Collection

Although the collecting of special materials in the biological sciences dates back to the beginnings of the University in 1913, the first major acquisition of historical medical material occurred in 1963 when a grant from the Mr and Mrs P.A. Woodward Foundation enabled the University to purchase a well-chosen collection of rare medical books from Dr C.D. Leake. Two other important collections were subsequently acquired, one through the generosity of the late Mr H.R. MacMillan of Vancouver. The Wellcome Trust assisted the Library with other purchases. And, in 1998, a gift of rare obstetrical and gynecology books from Dr. G.W. Korn strengthened that subject area. In Canada, the medical portion of the Memorial Room collection ranks second only to that of the Osler Library at McGill University. Not surprisingly, the collection, which includes many items published between the late 1440s-1600s, attracts scholars from many places.

The collection of books and periodicals on sport fish and sport fishing was moved to Woodward Library from the Main Library in 1978. A substantial number of these books were bought with funds provided by the Harry Hawthorn Foundation, and also with monies given as a memorial to Leon Ladner, a long-time member of the Foundation. The bulk of this collection is shelved in the Woodward Library stack area but selected items are housed in a cabinet in the Sherrington Room. This cabinet is designed as a memorial to the late Roderick Haig-Brown of Campbell River, British Columbia, author, magistrate, sportsman and conservationist. The Hawthorn Foundation added display cases and extra shelving in 2003.

Artifacts

The Memorial Room Collection includes a modest compilation of artifacts. Notable among these are infant feeders, largely the gift of Miss Alice Wright of Vancouver. There are also sets of older surgical instruments and nineteenth century microscopes and pharmaceutical kits.



Use of the Memorial Room

The Memorial Room is currently in transition.



CHARLES WOODWARD MEMORIAL ROOM AND ITS COLLECTIONS

Other Materials

- Charles Darwin Letters
- Florence Nightingale Letters

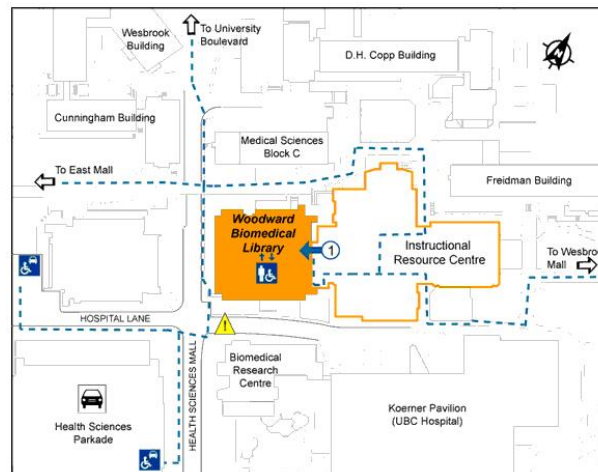
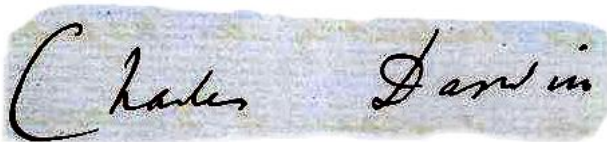


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Infant feeder, Memorial Room, *Jill Pittendrigh*
Wall hangings, *Suzan Zagar*

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