Catalogues of the John Innes Archives

Catalogues

At present catalogues of the John Innes Archives are available in the following formats:

1. Hard copy catalogues and lists of collections available via the Archivist
2. Collection level descriptions and other selected entries are available on the Library's computerised catalogue, Unicorn.
3. Bateson Letters Database (This is currently under development. Please contact the Archivist for assistance.)

List of Significant Collections housed in the John Innes Archives

These are divided into:

- CORPORATE COLLECTIONS
- PERSONAL & RESEARCH COLLECTIONS
- FURTHER SCIENTIFIC COLLECTIONS
- OTHER COLLECTIONS NOT RELATED TO JIC

Note about changes to corporate name
There have been three changes to our corporate name:

John Innes Horticultural Institution 1910-1960
John Innes Institute 1960-1994
John Innes Centre 1994-

Therefore, when referring to the institute at any point in its history, it is usual to use the familiar term “the John Innes”.

Catalogues
Basic lists and catalogues exist for certain collections; others are in progress and these will conform to new cataloguing standards e.g. ISAD (G).

CORPORATE COLLECTIONS
- John Innes Company Archives 1910-
Minutes and other papers of the meetings of the Trustees of the John Innes Foundation (formally known as John Innes Charity), John Innes Council meetings, papers for ARC/BBSRC Visiting Groups, John Innes Symposia. Also staff records, accounts etc.

Material is also held from the following which have either been incorporated within or form a close alliance with the JIC:

- **Plant Breeding Institute (PBI) c. 1928-1993**
  
  In 1990 the non-privatised part of PBI moved to Norwich as the Cambridge Laboratory. Annual reports, correspondence, administrative papers, photographic collection.

- **Virus Research Unit (VRU), formerly known as Potato Research Station, 1952-1979**
  
  Correspondence, papers, photographic collection.

- **Sainsbury Laboratory (SL) c.1987-**
  
  Correspondence, administrative papers.

- **Nitrogen Fixation Laboratory (NFL) 1966-87,**
  
  Formerly the Unit of Nitrogen Fixation (UNF). From 1999 NFL has been split into two departments: Molecular Microbiology and Biological Chemistry. Correspondence, administrative papers.

- **General history 1910-**
  
  Historical material relating to the development of the John Innes Centre on its three sites, Merton, Bayfordbury and Colney and other associated material including:

  - Correspondence
  - Photographs of individuals, plants used in research and buildings
  - Maps and plans
  - Awards for research, fruit-breeding and shows e.g. Chelsea.
  - Audio-visual section including oral history material.
  - Printed histories and other leaflets
  - Lecture and seminar notices

  Also material relating to special plant collections previously housed at the John Innes:

- **National Rose Collection (Bayfordbury) Papers 1947-1952, 1961**
Correspondence, species notes and records.

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**PERSONAL & RESEARCH COLLECTIONS**

There are many collections relating to individuals associated with the history of the John Innes Centre, including directors and research scientists. These collections relate to various research programmes on arabidopsis, antirrhinum, cereals, brassicas, fruit-breeding, potato genetics etc.

**Format of list**

The following details are included for each collection entry:

- Name of individual with personal dates
- Name of collection (if used) and/or dates of papers
- Identification of scientist
- Posts held during career
- Contents of collection
- Availability of catalogue
- Other related publications

**Links to further information**

Some collection entries on this page have links to other pages with further biographical information.

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- **William Bateson (1861-1926) FRS**

  **William Bateson Letters 1883-1926**
  Geneticist
  Posts as Deputy Professor of Zoology, Reader in Zoology, Professor of Biology, Cambridge, 1899-1908, First professor of Genetics, Cambridge 1908-1910; First Director of the John Innes Horticultural Institution, 1910-1926.
  Correspondence, notebooks, diaries, articles, specimens. Includes correspondence with his wife, Beatrice Bateson and other scientists and geneticists including: Erwin Baur (1875-1933); Francis Galton (1822-1911); Julian Huxley (1887-1975); Thomas Hunt Morgan (1866-1945);
  *A database of brief entries is available.*

- **George Douglas Hutton Bell (1905-1978)**
George Douglas Hutton Bell Papers 1928-1978
Botanist
Director of PBI 1948-1971
Includes lecture notes, reprints of papers by GDH Bell, Plant Breeding Institute (PBI) material, Royal Society papers, photographs and slides of barley, wheat, sugar beet, oats and potatoes.
Catalogue available.
See also The Plant Breeding Institute 75 Years 1912-1987 (1987)

- Andrew Gavin Brown (1910-1987)

A Gavin Brown Collection 1925-1987
Fruit breeder
John Innes 1930-1975
Papers and photographs on fruit-breeding research at JI including apples, pears, cherries; also some personal papers.
New catalogue available.

- Joseph Chatt (1914-1994) FRS

Papers c.1950-1980
Chemist
First director of the Unit of Nitrogen Fixation, Sussex 1963-80.
Correspondence, ICI reports, photographs, chemical samples.

- Dr. Albert Charles Chibnall (1894-1988) FRS

Papers c. 1940s.
Biochemist
Sir William Dunn Professor of Chemistry, Cambridge
Papers and reprint collection.

- Reginald John Chittenden (1901-1950)

Papers 1922-1926.
Geneticist
JI 1922-26, worked on pelargonium etc.
Notebooks on genetics and cytology of pigeons, protozoa, roses, etc.

- Benjamin Morley Crane (1893-1983)

Papers c. 1914-1952
Pomologist
JI 1911-1953, Head of Pomology Department, JI 1934-1952, Deputy Director 1950-1953
Fruit-breeding research papers.

- Cyril D Darlington (1903-1981) FRS
Papers c. 1923-1971
Cytologist, botanist
Director of John Innes 1939-1953; Sherardian Professor of Botany, Oxford 1953-71.
Correspondence, research papers, manuscripts, lecture slides. Also personal library.
See also Alton & Harper (NCUACS) Catalogue of papers and correspondence (1985)

- Dr. Kenneth Sydney Dodds (1912-1987)

Papers 1959-1963
Geneticist
Lecturer in Botany & Genetics, Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture, Trinidad 1937-47, Professor of same 1947-49; Potato Genetics Research Station, Cambridge 1949-51, Director 1951-4; Director of JI 1954-1966; FAO Turkey 1966-?
Correspondence and research papers on pisum and potatoes, including expedition to Bolivia 1963.

- Prof. Richard B Flavell CBE, FRS

Papers 1988-1998
Scientist
Director of the John Innes Institute 1988-1998; Chief Scientific Officer, Ceres, California 1998-.
Correspondence, manuscripts for talks and lectures, 1988-1998.

- Sir Alfred Daniel Hall (1864-1942) FRS

Papers 1927-1939.
Scientist
Director of Rothamsted Experimental Station, 1902-12; Director of John Innes Horticultural Institution 1927-1939
Correspondence, research papers, manuscripts and drawings for work on Tulipa.
See also “Working papers of Sir A D Hall” in Rothamsted Experimental Station: Catalogue of records in the Station Library compiled 1985-87

- Sydney Cross Harland (1891-1982) FRS

Harland Collection 1897-1965
Botanist and geneticist
Professor of Botany and Genetics, Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture Trinidad, c.1920s-35; State Cotton Industry, Brazil, 1936-1941; Director of Institute of Genetics, Peru, 1940-9; Reader in

- **Brian J Harrison (1923-1997)**

  *Brian J Harrison Papers 1944-1983*
  Geneticist
  John Innes 1941-1983
  Correspondence, research papers, manuscripts on seed storage and Antirrhinum, slides, reprint collection.

- **Prof. Joseph Burtt Hutchinson (1902-1988) FRS**

  *Hutchinson Collection 1940s-60s.*
  Cotton geneticist and agricultural policy
  Trinidad 1920s-33; Institute of Plant Industry, Indore 1933-1937; Trinidad again 1937-1944; posts in Uganda, Sudan; Drapers’ Professorship of Agriculture, St. John’s College, Cambridge 1957-69; Trustee, John Innes Foundation, 1965-1981
  Manuscripts, reprints and book collection on cotton (Gossypium).

- **Innes Family**

  *Papers 1820s-1904*

  - **John Innes senior (1768-1869)** West India Merchant
    Correspondence, addresses to Parliament 1820s, diary 1849-1866

  - **John Innes (1829-1904)**, business man, founder of John Innes Horticultural Institution
    Correspondence 1840s-1904; business papers; diaries, notebooks, photographs, will.

  - **James Archibald Innes (1875-1948)**
    Correspondence to his sister, Agnes Caroline (Cara) (1874-1971), during Boer War, 1899-1902.

- **Prof. Roy Markham (1916-1979) FRS**

  *Papers 1950-1979*
  Scientist
Director of John Innes 1967-1979
Correspondence at Virus Research Unit 1950-67; correspondence, manuscripts and papers at John Innes 1968-79.

- **Gwynfryn Ellis Marks (1928-)**
  
  **Papers c.1950s-81**
  Cytologist
  Research notes and scientific notebooks on pisum, lathyrus, rubus, correspondence, slides; collected papers and reprints.
  *Box list of files and slides available*

- **Sir Kenneth Mather (1911-1990) FRS**
  
  **Papers 1932-1987**
  Geneticist
  JI 1931-33; UCL 1934-37; Pasadena, California 1937-38; JI 1938-48, Head of Genetics Dept., JI 1939; Chair of Genetics, University of Birmingham 1948-65; Vice Chancellor, Southampton University 1965-71; Honorary Professor, Birmingham 1971-90
  Research papers on *drosophila* (with Brian Harrison); notes and manuscripts, lecture notes, correspondence, reprints, personal ephemera
  *Catalogue available of papers donated to the Genetical Society (includes subject index).*

- **Peter Matthews (1928-)**
  
  **Papers c. 1950s-88.**
  Research notes, papers, slides on cherries, pisum etc.
  *New catalogue available.*

- **Katherine (Kitty) Audrey Plaskitt (1932-)**
  
  **Papers 1932-92**
  Biologist
  Virus Research Unit, Cambridge; JI 1968-1992, Ultrastructural studies, then Cell Biology
  Correspondence, diaries, research notes, photographs, reprints on maize, *arabidopsis*, viruses.

- **Ronald Alfred Silow (1908-1990)**
  
  **Ronald Alfred Silow Collection c.1962-1990**
  Geneticist
  Correspondence, articles, news cuttings
  *List of files available*
• Kenneth Manley Smith (1892-1981) CBE, FRS

Papers c.1938-47
Virologist
Potato research at Manchester University, 1920-27; Potato Virus Research Station, Cambridge 1927-39; Director of Virus Research Unit 1939-59, Cambridge; after retirement, posts funded by ARC & in USA 1959-62; Visiting Professor, University of Pittsburg, USA 1962-64, Visiting Professor, University of Texas, 1964-69
Notes on biochemistry course, Cambridge (1930s) and notes on aphids (1946); correspondence and research notes from work at VRU
See also Kassanis in Biographical memoirs of Fellows of the Royal Society Vol. 28, (1982) pp. 451-77

• Harold William Woolhouse (1932-1996)

Papers c.1951-1989
Scientist
Leeds; Director of John Innes Institute, 1980-1987; Director of Waite Institute, Adelaide Australia 1987-1996.
Correspondence, administrative papers, lecture notes, research papers.

FURTHER SCIENTIFIC COLLECTIONS

• John Innes Reprint Collection c.1750s-1960s
Significant collection of scientific reprints on subjects ranging from genetics, cytology, taxonomy, zoology etc.

• Scientific Notebooks c. 1910-1980s
Research notes from various departments all three sites, Merton, Bayfordbury and Colney

OTHER COLLECTIONS NOT RELATED TO JIC

• Barrie Burnet (?)
Barrie Burnet Reprint Collection c. 1900-1980s
Geneticist, book collector
Molecular Biology, University of Sheffield; studied at JI ?, adviser on
JIF History of Genetics Collection
Reprints on drosophila, microbiology etc from the collections of Sir
Ronald A Fisher, Prof. Julian Huxley, JA Roper

- William Henry Flower (1831-1899)

William Henry Flower Letters 1862-1908
Zoologist
Collection includes letters from Charles Robert Darwin, Alfred
Wallace (1823-1913).

- The Genetical Society

Papers 1919-
Minutes, correspondence, accounts, photographs, publications.
Housed at the John Innes Centre on behalf of the Genetical Society. 
Catalogue in progress.

- Herman J Muller (1890-1967)

Material collected or BBC Open University Course, Jan 1980 –
correspondence, papers,
photographs, tapes
Muller was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physiology of Medicine in
1946 for his discovery of the use of X-rays to induce genetic
mutations. Concerned about the effects of radiation, he advocated the
use of sperm banks to preserve and maintain the human gene pool.

- Jean Sénébier (1742-1809)

Jean Sénébier Collection 1776-1807
Botanist
First demonstrated that green plants convert carbon dioxide to oxygen
under the influence of light.
Papers and correspondence with Charles Bonnet, Lazzaro Spallanzani
and PF Tingry.
Basic list available.

For more information on any of these collections, please contact the
JIC Library