The Holdings

Keble College was founded in 1870 in memory of John Keble (1792-1866), a founding member of the Tractarian movement, also known as the Oxford Movement, which sought to recover the Catholic heritage of the Church of England. Whilst relatively young by Oxford standards, the College’s history and importance should not be underestimated. Its archival holdings bear witness to changes in the College, the University and in British society.

The Archives are a rich resource for research, especially for current students. For those reading History, English or Theology, the Archives could be a fount of valuable primary source material.

Among the records of Keble College held here are:

- Minutes of the meetings of the College Council from 1870 to 1950
- College accounts and ledgers
- Historical material on the advowsons of which Keble College is the patron
- Records of JCR sports clubs and societies
- Architectural records, including the original designs by the architect William Butterfield
- Personal papers and memorabilia of key members of the Oxford Movement, including Canon H. P. Liddon and Dr E. B. Pusey
- Personal papers and memorabilia of members of the College.

One collection of international importance held at Keble College is that relating to John Keble, father of the Oxford Movement. The material held here includes:

- Keble’s manuscripts of poems that became *The Christian Year*
- Correspondence between John Keble and his family, friends and associates, in particular, with John Henry Newman, 1829-1863. The Special Collections in Keble College Library also holds John Keble’s own personal library.
- John Keble’s papers on the lives of Richard Hooker, Anglican divine and Thomas Wilson, Bishop of Sodor and Man.

Please note that while the College Archivist is in the process of cataloguing the archives to modern standards many collections are only accessible through older hardcopy hand lists.

Enquiries via Letter or Email

The archivist is able to undertake a small amount of research in response to questions received via letter or email. For queries requiring more in-depth research, the archivist will invite you to make a research booking, where appropriate. However, please do bear in mind that enquiries cannot always take priority, and there may be a delay in answering some queries.
Admission and opening hours

Current members of College are encouraged to make use of the Archives for their research and study, whether for pursuing their academic interests, or on behalf of a College group, society or sports team. Members of College, including College staff, are permitted to access archival material with the supervision of the Archivist.

Where possible, archival material will be made available for research by members of the public, via pre-arranged appointments. Please write (at least one month in advance) to arrange a time and date for your visit. Booking slots are available Monday to Friday, 9.30-12.30 and 1.30-4.30. We regret that it is not usually possible to accommodate enquirers who arrive without an appointment.

Access to the Archives Reading Room

Access to the Reading Room can only be gained by stairs. Please contact the Archivist prior to your visit if you have any queries about accessibility.

Access to documents

Access to archival material is in accordance with relevant legislation. In the case of enquiries involving sensitive or potentially damaging information the Archivist reserves the right to refuse access. Requests to access records that contain data relating to living individuals will be judged on a case-by-case basis, and access may only be granted subject to the decision of the College.

Readers must read and sign the ‘Conditions of Access’, which will be issued to you by the Archivist when arranging to visit.

Contacting the Archivist

If you have any enquiries or would like to make a booking please contact the Archivist at archives@keble.ox.ac.uk or 01865 282400.

Current members may feel free to visit the Archivist in person for a chat about their research and how the Archives may be of benefit to them; she can be found in the Library, downstairs in the office.