SPECIAL COLLECTIONS
COLLECTION DEVELOPMENT POLICY STATEMENT

I. PURPOSE AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

A. Library Collection Development Objective

The primary collecting emphasis of Odum Library's Special Collections is information about South Georgia. South Georgia is the region defined by the Georgia Library Consortia on January 22, 1982, as the boundaries lying south of a line running from west to east from the Alabama border along the northern borders of the following counties: Clay, Randolph, Webster, Schely, Sumter, Dooly, Pulaski, Bleckley, Dodge, Telfair, Jeff Davis, Appling, Wayne, Long, and Liberty; and thence running north along the eastern border of Chatham and Effingham counties and east along the northern border of Effingham County, ending at the South Carolina line.

The first copy of all South Georgia materials will be shelved in the closed stack area designated as the "Special Collections." The second copy of any South Georgia material may be shelved in the General Collection or in Special Collections and will circulate according to regular policies. Two copies of all South Georgia material will be purchased, when available. The Special Collection is primarily a non-circulating collection with the major exceptions being theses and dissertations.

Other areas of collecting include materials dealing with the earliest history of the State, from originals to reprints. Older materials not related to Georgia, but not quite deserving of the designation "rare," which are deemed to have need of the protection afforded by Special Collections location and policies are also included on the basis of item by item decisions.

B. Description of User Groups Supported

The user groups supported include undergraduate students, graduate students, faculty, and anyone outside of the University conducting research on a topic relating to South Georgia.

C. New and Expanding Areas of Interest

Georgia-related works of regional presses such as Snake Nation, Beehive press and others that cover South Georgia will be collected in their entirety, where funds are available. Selected works on border counties of North Florida are an area of new collecting interest as this area culturally and geographically mirrors South Georgia.

D. Areas of Established Specialization

Areas of established specialization for Odum Libraries Special Collections include county histories, Civil War History, South Georgia, Georgia Political History, Native Americans, and History of Race and Slavery in Georgia, and Georgia Educational History. Other specializations include Valdosta State University publications, including theses and dissertations.

II. TREATMENT OF SUBJECT DEPTH

A. Treatment of Subject Depth

The primary emphasis will be on any and all materials treating some aspect of South Georgia. These materials will be housed in Special Collections (SP COL) on a non-circulating basis. A second copy in Special Collections may circulate. Major exceptions to this guideline are materials dealing with the state's earliest history. They will also be housed in SP COL, usually on a non-circulating basis. Materials on developments in North Georgia and adjacent states which influenced South Georgia should be collected, but would be better housed in the general collection.

To support the Special Collections, the library will collect materials in the following subject areas at the Comprehensive and Research Levels:

SUBJECT DIVISIONS	COLLECTING LEVEL
Valdosta, GA	5
Georgia--History.	4-5 (Comprehensive for South Georgia; Research Level for Georgia Generally)
Georgia--History--Civil War, 1861-1865.	4
Georgia--History--Sources.	4

B. Specific Delimitations

General: All decisions concerning the inclusion of materials in Special Collections should consider three factors:

1. Reasonable representation of the geographic area
2. Access by library users
3. Relative scarcity of materials, or likely future scarcity of information

Materials that are ambiguous or exceptions to the policies for SP COL will be reviewed by the Archivist, who may consult with a member of the Reference Department, the Collection Development Librarian, and a member of the Cataloging or Acquisitions. As needed, these “consultants” can form an advisory committee for Special Collections Development.

Formats collected: There are no limitations on the types of material collected. If the treatment of the subject matter is juvenile or textbook material the following applies:

1. Juvenile materials will not be a part of the collection.

2. Textbooks at the high school level or above may be considered.

   Any format of material relating to South Georgia will be acquired, although most material acquired will be in the form of books. The following guidelines cover the majority of materials considered for the Special Collection:

3. Georgia Geological Survey Materials

   Should be in the general collection.

4. Official County Histories

   If feasible, two copies should be purchased, one non-circulating copy for SP COL and one circulating copy for the general collection. If there is only one copy, it should be in SP COL, non-circulating.

5. Valdosta State University Theses and Dissertations

   These items should be housed in SP COL, but should circulate. A second, non circulating copy is always housed in the Archives Collections.

6. UDC Gifts

   These gifts are presented with the understanding that they are to be housed in SP COL, and should never circulate. If the gift duplicates an item already in SP COL, the first copy may be transferred to the general collection, but still may not circulate.

7. Monographs about Georgia

Pamphlet material and other unpublished items should be considered for Archives before being considered for SP COL. The library should acquire both scholarly and popular materials about the entire state of Georgia, but non-circulating status in SP COLL should be limited to South Georgia. For those items placed in SP COL there should, where feasible, be second, circulating copies in the general collection or in Special Collections.

8. Serials about Georgia

Periodicals should be placed with the library's other periodicals. Monographic series should be treated in accord with the policy on monographs.

9. Literary works by Georgia Authors

If a work by a Georgia author is deemed worthy of purchase, two copies should be acquired, one for SP COL and one for the general collection.

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If a work about a Georgia author is deemed worthy of purchase, two copies should be acquired, one for SP COL and one for the general collection.

Works of other kinds by Georgia authors, including Valdosta State University Faculty

Generally, works of other kinds by Georgia authors, including VSU faculty should be included in SP COL only if they meet the geographic criteria of treating some aspect of South Georgia, although exceptions may be made.

11. Church Histories

Histories of churches from South Georgia should be housed in SP COL as non-circulating items. Material about churches in other areas should be judged for inclusion in the general collection on their literary and historical merits.

12. Old/Valuable/Limited Editions

These items should be examined to determine whether "RARE**"** might be a more appropriate designation. Special Collections may

occasionally be an appropriate home for older materials deemed especially vulnerable, though not technically rare. Some less valuable older materials may be located in the general collection.

Imprint dates collected: Both current and retrospective purchases will be made. Reprints will be purchased when original editions are prohibitively expensive or unavailable for either the first or second copy.

Chronological focus: While there will be no chronological limits, emphasis will be on 18th, 19th, 20th, and 21st centuries.

Languages collected: English will be the primary language of the collection. Works in Spanish and French will be considered if they are not available in translations.

Places of publication: We will prioritize materials published in South Georgia and then Georgia. However we will consider materials published anywhere as long as it meets our collection criteria.