

Special Recognition

IET'S OUTSTANDING COLLECTIONS RECOGNISED

IET LIBRARY & ARCHIVES
IS AWARDED DESIGNATION
STATUS FOR ITS
COLLECTIONS AND
RARE BOOKS

The IET is one of only 22 organisations in London to have received special recognition from the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) through its Designation Scheme. The Designation of the IET Library & Archives collections and rare books means it has been recognised as being of outstanding national and international importance.

The Designation Scheme identifies the pre-eminent collections of national and international importance held in England's non-national

museums, libraries and archives, based on their quality and significance. These inspiring collections represent a vital part of our national cultural and artistic heritage. The Scheme now covers over 100 collections held in museums, libraries and archives.

John Coupland, Manager of the IET Library & Archives Services, commented: "This is a great boost to the IET, as it provides independent recognition of the importance of our collections. This will support our assertion that the IET is working to relevant national and professional standards in the care of its collections. It also raises the profile of our services as well as recognising the IET's work in science, engineering and technology; and will provide new opportunities at the national and local level through the MLA and its local regional organisations."

The IET's collections cover a remarkable range of scientific history, especially on the subject of electricity and magnetism. The Rare Books Collection



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includes manuscripts of Geoffrey Chaucer's 'On the Astrolabe' and Peter Peregrinus' 'Letter on the Magnet', and many vital books on the development of experimental physics in the last 600 years. The Archive includes Michael Faraday's papers on electromagnetism, from his lecture notes and laboratory books to correspondence with figures

such as Dickens, Lord Melbourne, and André-Marie Ampère. Many other crucial figures and organisations in the history of physics and engineering are also represented.

For more information please contact John Coupland, IET Library & Archives (tel +44 (0)20 7344 5451; email jcoupland@theiet.org).

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