Monk visits OSU for Hilandar dedication

By Steve Sterrett

Ohio State is now the guardian in "this new continent" of the national and religious history of Old World Serbia.

A nearly 1,000-year history of Serbia, now a part of Yugoslavia, is preserved on microfilm in the Hilandar Room of the Main Library.

Father Mitrofan, a monk from the Serbian Orthodox Hilandar Monastery on Mt. Athos in northeastern Greece, is visiting Ohio State and participated in the dedication of the Hilandar Room Dec. 2.

The entire library of manuscripts from the monastery was microfilmed during four trips to Mt. Athos from 1970 through 1975 by Father Mateja Matejic, professor of Slavic languages and literatures; his son Predrag Matejic; and Walt Craig, then associate professor of photography and cinema and currently university ombudsman.

They photographed 830 complete Slavic codices and 117 Greek codices as well as edicts, title pages of printed books, frescoes, icons and architectural and religious art objects.

Fr. Mitrofan, with Matejic as translator, said the elders of his monastery approved the microfilming for two reasons. The first was the security of the materials, the oldest of which dates back to 1000. He noted that the Serbian National Library and its holdings in Belgrade were destroyed by an air raid in 1941 and that the Hilandar collection faced the threat of fire or other disaster on Mt. Athos.

"Reason number two is that we would like to have this material available to the scholars in this new continent, as America is known, because by studying the manuscripts they will learn something about the national and religious history of the Serbian nation," Fr. Mitrofan said.

Matejic described the collection as internationally important with inquiries already coming in from around the world. Women scholars in particular will benefit from the microfilmed documents because women are banned from the monastic community on Mt. Athos.

He said the collection includes both religious and civil documents which invite study of such diverse topics as the development of Serbian language over 800 years and medieval law, medicine and folklore.

"If this material is going to be locked in our files and our cabinets (and not used), then you know it will be a terrible mistake," Matejic said. "I hope we will develop some of our own specialists in this field (of Serbian studies) because right now we don't have them."

Matejic, a native of Yugoslavia who settled in the United States with his family in 1956, sees the Hilandar project as a personal contribution. "I think that, having brought this material here, I can say that I've paid a debt not only to this University that offered me the opportunity to do this, but I feel I paid it to America," he said.

Mt. Athos is a self-governing territory of 122 square miles with 20 monasteries and about 1,000 monks. The present Hilandar Monastery was founded in 1198 and was built on the ruins of the old Monastery of Hilandari, begun by the first Serbian ruler who united Serbian lands and by his youngest son.

Fr. Mitrofan, the first Hilandar monk ever to visit the U.S., is Hilandar's representative to the monastic governing body of Mt. Athos. Hilandar currently has about 25 monks.

"In the tradition of the Holy Mound (Mt. Athos), the primary occupation and interest of monks is praying and meditating," Fr. Mitrofan said.

He noted, however, that more people than ever are coming to Mt. Athos as either pilgrims, scholars or tourists. "The monks are serving, in a sense, the needs of these people by offering to each that which he came for," he said.

"For those who are coming for reasons of scholarship, we are trying to not only offer what we have to them, but to also point out the spirituality of the material preserved there because indeed it is a product of the spirit and spirituality."

During his month-long visit to Columbus, Fr. Mitrofan is staying with Matejic. "Fr. Mitrofan was surprised by one phenomenon," Matejic said. "Here in our country he does not see people walking along the street, but sees cars running."

Following the dedication ceremonies in the Hilandar Room Dec. 2, a banquet honored those involved in the project. Among the speakers were Robert Stone, of Pittsburgh, president of the Serbian National Federation which has donated $20,000 to the project; and John Thacher, director emeritus of Dumbarton Oaks Research Library and Collection, a Byzantine and medieval research foundation in Washington, D.C.
Rare manuscripts microfilmed for new library wing

By Julie Hartborn
10-21-79

A new wing to open next February in the Main Library will contain microfilmed texts as old as 900 years. The Hilander Room, named for a monastery on Mt. Athos in Greece, will be a microfilm archive of Slavic manuscripts.

Mateja Matejic, associate professor in the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures has accumulated 830 rare codices (ancient books or unbound sheets in manuscripts) as well as Bulgarian, Byzantine, Russian, Serbian, Turkish and Wallachian edicts (public orders) and charters (written statements of basic laws or principles) for the collection.


"The manuscripts are useful for many disciplines, from the linguist to the psychologist, the historian to the law student, people in these fields and others will benefit from the manuscripts."

THE ORIGINAL microfilms are traded with Bulgaria, the Soviet Union, the Netherlands, Sweden and Israel to expand the collection, plans are being made to add Romania and Yugoslavia to the list.

Matejic, a priest, feels that his priesthood helped him attain the collection.

"If I wasn't orthodox I wouldn't have had the freedom I did at Hilander Monastery. Previously no one has been allowed to stay longer than six days," he said.

MATEJIC'S LAST trip to the monastery lasted close to four months. The Serb National Federation of Pittsburgh is funding the library. Although funding has been slow, Matejic said he hopes things will improve so the library will open on the proposed date.

A national conference on the material is planned in February at Ohio State, with an international conference possible in the next three years, Matejic said.
Campus will dedicate Hilander Room housing records of Greek monastery

The Hilandar Room, which houses a collection of microfilmed manuscripts from the Hilandar monastery on Mt. Athos, Greece, will be formally dedicated in ceremonies Dec. 2 in the Main Library.

The collection was assembled during four trips to Mt. Athos from 1970 through 1975 by Mateja Matejcic, professor of Slavic languages and literatures; his son Predrag Matejcic; and Walt Craig, associate professor of photography and cinema. They filmed 830 complete Slavic codices and 117 Greek codices as well as edicts, title pages of printed books, frescoes, icons and architectural and religious art objects.

Participating in the dedication ceremonies at 2:30 p.m. will be Fr. Mitrofan, a monk from the monastery; Leon I. Twarog, chairman of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures; others from the department; and a number of guests.

Following the ceremony, a program about the Hilandar Room and its contents will be held in the Ohio Union Conference Theater from 3-5 p.m. It will include a slide show, movies and discussion of the significance of the Hilandar Monastery.

A reception will follow from 5:30-6:30, then more than 300 persons are expected to attend a banquet at 6:30 p.m. The program for that event features a number of speakers including Twarog; Serbian and Bulgarian bishops to the United States; Robert Stone, president of the Serbian National Federation, which has donated $20,000 to the project; Matejcic; and Fr. Mitrofan. There will be choral entertainment.

For more information call the Slavic Department at 422-6733.
Mill town digs for OSU

By Don Baird

12-1-82

They became nationally famous when they turned down an Arab sheik's offer to buy their votes.

Then their city's name appeared in a new hit song, Steel Mill Blues, hailed as a potential national anthem for America's unemployed.

They are the residents of the depressed mill town of Midland, Pa.

And although the name Midland has become almost synonymous with bad times, unemployed residents are digging into their pockets to make a $7,000 donation to Ohio State University.

Leon Twarog, chairman of OSU's Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures, said Midland residents already have forwarded $2,000 in cash to the university and have promised that another $5,000 is coming.

The money will go for support of OSU's Hilandar Research Project, a collection of rare manuscripts from the Hilandar Monastery on Mt. Athos, Greece.

Columbus residents might find it puzzling that jobless steelworkers would open their wallets for a library collection in another state.

But Midland's Mike Raisch says their culture is at stake.

Raisch, 65, who retired from Midland's steel mills early this year, is chairman of the committee formed to operate the Hilandar fund drive.

"UNDERSTAND that the people who contributed are of Serbian Orthodox heritage," said Raisch, whose father arrived in the United States from Yugoslavia in 1912 to work in the steel mills. "This library will preserve our history and our culture."

Most of the Midland donors are first-generation Americans, Raisch said.

"Since our parents' homeland is such a small country," he said, "we have to do these things if we're going to bring this (heritage and history) out."

The OSU Hilandar Room is an important source of Serbian manuscripts for world scholars. The only other source is the Hilandar Monastery, which bans women and severely restricts male visitors.

"This gives everyone here in the United States an opportunity to see these things," Raisch said. "How many of us would visit Mt. Athos?"

SAUDI SHEIK Mohammed al-Fassi tried to bribe Midland last October by offering its financially pressed residents $3 million to vote against President Reagan in 1984.

The answer: No. They were too proud to sell out.

But they are determined to eke out $7,000 to help OSU preserve their heritage.
COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Ohio State University has received a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to build an endowment to support the university's unique collection of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microfilm.

The Hilandar Room in the university's Main Library is the major repository of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microfilm in the Western Hemisphere.

The room contains microfilmed copies of the complete collection of manuscripts, dating back nearly 1,000 years, from the Hilandar Monastery, a Serbian Orthodox monastery on Mt. Athos, Greece, and Slavic and non-Slavic medieval manuscripts from a variety of sources.

Under the terms of the challenge grant, the National Endowment for the Humanities will provide up to $260,000 for a Hilandar endowment fund over the next three years if the university is able to raise at least $780,000.

Ohio State must raise its first $100,000 by July 31 of this year.

The annual income from the endowment will be used to support acquisitions of additional manuscripts and microfilmed copies, research by scholars, conferences and publications.

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Ohio State President Edward H. Jennings said the challenge grant is "a recognition by the National Endowment for the Humanities of the value which the Hilandar Room has for scholars in the United States and throughout the world and of Ohio State as a national center for this type of research."

"The Hilandar Room is a unique resource, and Ohio State is committed to a major effort to raise its share of the endowment to assure that this resource can be fully used to extend our knowledge and appreciation of Slavic culture," Jennings said.

Mateja Matejic, professor of Slavic languages and literatures and director of the Hilandar research project, describes the Hilandar Monastery "as the cultural and religious center of the Serbian people for centuries."

The manuscript collection represents "a wonderful opportunity to fill the gaps in our knowledge about our past," explains Matejic, who also is an archpriest in the Serbian Orthodox Church.

The information to be gained from a study of these manuscripts will add to an understanding of all human culture, Matejic emphasizes. "The manuscripts provide extremely valuable research data for scholars of many fields -- including history, art, folklore, literature, geography, religion and law," he said.

The Hilandar Collection was assembled during four trips to Mt. Athos from 1970 through 1975 by Professor Matejic; Predrag Matejic, now curator of the Hilandar Collection; and Walt Craig, then associate professor of photography and cinema at Ohio State.

They photographed 830 complete Slavic codices and 117 Greek
codices as well as edicts, title pages of printed books, frescoes, icons and architectural and religious art objects.

The Hilandar Monastery was founded in 1198 and contains one of the most beautiful churches on Mt. Athos. About 25 monks currently inhabit the monastery.

The loss of the world's largest and most important collection of Serbian manuscripts resulted from a bombing raid in World War II which destroyed the Serbian National Library in Belgrade.

"The collection of manuscripts in Hilandar Monastery is now the largest single collection of Serbian manuscripts in the world," Matejic said. The elders of the monastery agreed to the microfilming out of concern that fire or earthquake could destroy their collection and the value it represents to the Serbian heritage, he said.

Leon Twarog, chairman of the department of Slavic and East European languages and literatures at Ohio State, emphasizes the value that access to the Hilandar Collection will have for scholars.

Access to the original manuscripts is very difficult. "Women are not permitted to enter the monastery, and those men granted access cannot stay for long and can only work during restricted hours," Twarog said.

He also pointed out that a group of 45 scholars representing 31 institutions in North America and Europe have designated the Hilandar Room as "The Information and Resource Center for Slavic Manuscripts" for the Western Hemisphere.

The scholars described the Hilandar Room as "a neutral place
where all scholars are welcome," Twarog said.

"This neutrality is important because in Eastern Europe age-old prejudices and political battles often prevent scholars from the full use of materials which may be housed in the country next door," he said. "Columbus, Ohio, may be easier to reach and may be a better place to do research than any one of several European repositories."

Twarog and Matejic expect that major support for the Hilandar endowment campaign will come from the Serbian and Eastern Orthodox communities in the United States and Canada.

"The achievements and contributions of Slavic cultures are relatively unknown outside their respective ethnic communities," Matejic said.

"Scholars now have ready access to the primary materials housed in the Hilandar Room," Matejic said. "With an endowment to support research and publications, the scholars will be able to bring the rich culture and history of the Slavic people to a much wider audience."

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(Editor's note: Black and white photographs of Hilandar Monastery and of Slavic manuscripts are available upon request. For further information on the Hilandar Room and the endowment campaign, contact Leon Twarog, (614) 422-6733 or 422-8770.)

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Hilandar Room receives national challenge grant

By Steve Sterrett

Ohio State has received a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to build an endowment to support the University's unique collection of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microfilm.

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OHIO STATE'S HILANDAR ROOM contains a unique collection of medieval Slavic and non-Slavic manuscripts. The above folio, from "Lives of Saints" written in the middle of the 17th century, was photographed by Mateja Matejic.
Most microfilmed manuscripts in hemisphere

OSU library maintains huge Slavic collection

By Rexanna Yerian
Lantern staff writer

Tucked away in the far northeast corner of the third floor of the main library, there is a small room that contains the largest collection of Slavic manuscripts on microfilm in the Western Hemisphere.

The Hilander Room has thousands of manuscripts written in Latin, Greek, Turkish, Russian, Albanian and Bulgarian. In all, there are manuscripts in nine different languages, said Father Mateja Matejic, director of the Hilander Research Project.

Recently OSU has received a challenge grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities to build a fund to support this collection of manuscripts. The grant will provide up to $260,000 over the next three years, Matejic said.

"The university pays for the curator of the Hilander Room, but certainly there is not enough to pay for all the work we do on the project. Therefore, we work on the project in our spare time," Matejic said.

The money will be used for acquisitions of new material, to publish new information and reports and to maintain the microfilm equipment here, he said.

Until receiving this national endowment, the project was funded entirely by private gifts and donations. Now, only a percentage of the money will have to be raised by those working on the project, Matejic said.

"Now that the National Endowment for the Humanities has given us this money we hope that others will see the value of what we are doing," he said.

Matejic and his son, Predrag Matejic, have been working together researching manuscripts since 1971. Predrag did his graduate work here at OSU and for the past year has been the curator of the Hilander Room.

Manuscripts obtained from Greece

Many of the manuscripts date back over 1,000 years to the Hilander Monastery, a Serbian Orthodox Christian monastery on Mt. Athos in Greece. Mt. Athos is an island in the Aegean Sea that is inhabited only by monks, Matejic explained.

The manuscripts deal with various topics. Much of the material is related to the history of Christianity, but some is also related to literature, folklore, history and geography, Matejic said.

"Since most of the manuscripts belong to monastic libraries like those of Mt. Athos, it is very hard to get in to study them," Matejic said.

Access to originals restricted

Visitors are permitted on the island for only four days and no women or children are allowed. Few roads are on the island and the only mode of transportation is to travel by foot. Once a visitor reaches the monastery he may gain access to the library only when the library monk has free time, which usually consists of about one hour each day.

"That does not allow enough time to even begin to study a manuscript," explained Matejic. "But since I am a Father in the brotherhood they allowed me to study the manuscripts extensively."

Predrag said he traveled to Mt. Athos in 1971 with his father to photograph many of the manuscripts that are now on microfilm in the Hilander Room. Predrag said, "We returned again in 1975 to photograph new manuscripts and to do more research on some we had seen before."

Old Slavic knowledge required for reading

"There is something for everyone here," he said.

The only problem with others, such as historians, studying the manuscripts is that one must know the old Slavic language. It is not at all like the modern Slavic spoken today, Matejic said.

Ohio State has the largest collection of manuscripts, but there are a few universities such as Yale and Indiana University that have two or three manuscripts.

"It is very good that the Hilander Room is part of the main library because there is so much supplementary material that can help people who come in here to do research," Predrag said.

"The primary goal of the Hilander Room is to let the local population, particularly the students, know we are here, even if they gain nothing more than an awareness of Mt. Athos," Predrag said.
Це славіський рукопис з середини 17 століття, що містить інформацію про біографію Іосифа та Саратія. Цей рукопис є видатним унікальним матеріалом з колекції Фекули в Нью-Йорку та досі зберігається на мікрофільмі в галереї Хайлінду в основному бібліотеці ОУУ.
COLUMBUS, Ohio -- Four Ohio State University faculty will visit Yugoslavia for scholarly research and an equal number of Serbian scholars will visit Ohio State's Hilandar Research Project under a new international exchange.

The three-year project is funded by a $49,210 grant from the United States Information Agency to cover transportation and living costs of exchange participants in the agency's University Linkages Program.

The exchange grant was one of 121 September research agreements totaling $3,850,446 reported Friday (11/2) to the university's Board of Trustees.

The exchange project will be conducted in conjunction with the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, the Serbian National Library, and Ohio State's department of Slavic and East European languages and literatures, according to Leon I. Twarog, director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies.

The first of the four Ohio State faculty in the exchange will be David F. Robinson, associate professor of Slavic languages, who will leave in January. Later participants will be Charles E. Gribble, also associate professor of Slavic languages; Eve R. Levin, instructor in the department of history, and Predrag
Matejic, curator of the Hilandar Collection. The first Serbian visitor is expected to arrive next spring quarter.

Twarog says the exchange is one of only five or six projects under the USIA's University Linkages Program with Yugoslavia.

"This exchange is especially significant because of the large repository of Serbian manuscripts in the Serbian National Library and because Ohio State's Hilandar Room has the largest collection of Slavic manuscripts on microfilm in the Western Hemisphere."

Twarog is co-director of the exchange project with Professor Mateja Matejic, who is director of the Hilandar Research Project.

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OSU exchange participants to do research in Yugoslavia

By Beth Baldridge
alumni staff writer

Four Ohio State faculty members will lecture and do research in the area of their expertise halfway around the world as a result of a new international exchange program.

Each member will travel to Yugoslavia within the next three years and change places with four Serbian scholars who will come to OSU, said Leon I. Twarog, director of the Center for Slavic and East European Studies.

A $49,210 grant from the United States Information Agency will provide the project's money as part of the agency's University Linkages Program to develop research.

The grant will pay for the transportation and living costs plus a supplementary stipend for all the participants, Twarog said.

The exchange participants will be doing research on their own, but they will also give seminars to faculty and graduate students in their special area of study.

The OSU faculty members who will be going to Yugoslavia are David F. Robinson, associate professor of Slavic languages; Charles E. Gribble, associate professor of Slavic languages; Eve R. Levin, instructor in the department of history; and Predrag Matejic, curator of the Hilendar Collection.

OSU was awarded the exchange project because of the research that has been done in the Hilendar Room, which is on the second floor of the Main Library, Twarog said.

The room holds the largest collection of Slavic manuscripts on microfilm in the western hemisphere, he said.

More than 2,000 manuscripts of religious documents, folklore and literature from 20 different Slavic and European countries are stored there, he said. The materials date from the year 1000 through the 20th century, he said.

The four Serbian scholars will use the room for most of their research.

The OSU exchange participants will do much of their research at the Serbian Academy of Scholars and the Serbian National Library, which has the largest collection of Serbian manuscripts in the world, Twarog said. Both are located in Serbia, a state in Yugoslavia.

Robinson is expected to leave for Yugoslavia next quarter and the first Serbian visitor should arrive spring quarter, Twarog said.

For the past several years, Matejic has studied the history of paper and its use in dating manuscripts. By identifying watermark patterns found in the paper on which Slavic manuscripts are written, he has been able to date and categorize manuscripts in the Hilendar Room.

By traveling to Serbia, Matejic said he can expand his research because the libraries there have a vast collection of historical watermarks.

Twarog said the OSU participants can help "transmit to (the Serbians) information on how to use technology, such as computers, to help them with work on bibliographies and descriptions of manuscripts."

The Serbians who are in the exchange program are professors or people who study various manuscripts, Twarog said.

"They're experts and we need some of that expertise here," he said. "They have been in this business a lot longer than we have."

The Serbians are more used to dealing with old printed books, Matejic said.

The Hilendar Room and the university will both benefit from the exchange, he said.

"In the last ten years, the international scholarly community has become increasingly aware of our collection," Matejic said. "The more exchanges we have, the more we publish, and the more we bring a greater awareness of what we have, the more people will use it."

The Hilendar Room is named after the Hilendar Monastery, a Serbian monastery founded in 1198 on Mt. Athos in Greece. In 1971 and 1973, the entire collection of manuscripts from the monastery's library was photographed by Mateja Matejic, director of the Hilendar Research Project, and his son, Predrag Matejic.

Researchers may spend their entire lives trying to track down manuscripts because they must travel all over the world to find them, he said.

The Hilendar Room, with its vast collection of manuscripts from all over the world, allows the research to be done in one place, he said.

Many European countries have restrictions on the use of manuscripts, Twarog said. The Hilendar Room is one of the few places that allows any scholar from any part of the world to come anytime, he said.
COLUMBUS, Ohio -- An exhibit focusing on ancient manuscripts in Cyrillic, the unique alphabet common to many Slavic languages, is on display in the Ohio State University's Main Library, 1858 Neil Ave. Mall.

The exhibit, titled "From Cyrillic Manuscript to Cyrillic Printed Book: 11 Centuries," will be in the Skylight Gallery of the Main Library through Sept. 26. The exhibit is open to the public free of charge.

The Hilander Research Library of Ohio State prepared the exhibit. Books and manuscripts from the Hilander collection, one of the largest of its type in the world, make up the exhibit.

The exhibit includes many facsimiles both from hand lettered manuscripts and printed books, says Predrag Matejic, curator of the Hilander library. The facsimiles, done in color, are copies of original manuscripts that are exact "except for the texture."

Some of the manuscripts from the 14th century are "among the most beautiful illuminated manuscripts in the world," Matejic says.

The exhibit includes some of the earliest examples of "Glagolitic," the original alphabet created by St. Cyril, a
ninth century Byzantine missionary to the Slavs. The alphabet was patterned after Greek, but designed to render the sounds of the literature of the Slavs, especially for use in the Eastern Orthodox Church, Matejic explains. The Cyrillic alphabet was named in St. Cyril's honor, he says.

Printed books did not supplant hand-lettered manuscripts with the advent of printing in the 1500s. "In Cyrillic, the hand-lettering tradition continues parallel to printed books for the next 400 years," Matejic says.

"Cyrillic is especially interesting because, in contrast to other alphabets, we know who created it and when," Matejic points out. The alphabet was created about 863 and was accepted for liturgical purposes by Pope Hadrian in 869, becoming the fourth language to be accepted by the church. Others are Greek, Latin and Hebrew.

Ohio State's Hilander collection began with the Hilander Research Project of 1969. The project photographed works from the library of the Hilander Monastery, a Serbian monastery on Mt. Athos, Greece, with the intention of preserving the material and making it accessible to scholars. With the collection at Ohio State, the material for the first time became accessible to women scholars, who were not allowed in the monastery, Matejic points out.

The Hilander collection became the basis for the Hilander Research Library. The Hilander Library now includes books and manuscripts from 35 collections from 16 different countries, Matejic says.

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Contact: Predag Matejic (614) 422-1327.
Written by David Tull.
Library for Communication and Graphic Arts (CGA)
147 Journalism Building
242 West 18th Avenue
614-292-0338

The Library for Communication and Graphic Arts houses collections related to the arts of the mass media, which include comic strips, editorial cartoons, film posters and stills, magazine illustrations, comic books and photographs. Both original works and related manuscript materials are available, in addition to more than 4,000 published works on cartoon art.

The papers of Milton Caniff, the Walt Kelly Collection, the Woody Gelman Collection of Winsor McCay cartoons, and the Will Eisner Collection are among the notable cartoon art collections. The archives of the Association of American Editorial Cartoonists and the National Cartoonists Society are in the Library. More than one hundred thousand film posters and stills are available in the collections originally assembled by Richard E. Teichart and Philip Sills. Extensive holdings of historic photographs may be found in the Floyd and Marion Rinhart Collection.

Hours: Weekdays 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

University Archives and Photo Archives (ARV)
169 Converse Hall
2121 Tuttle Park Place
614-292-2409 Archives
614-292 1767 Photo Archives

The University Archives and its Photo Archives contain materials that document the history of the university community. Included are publications (such as histories of the university and its departments and buildings, directories, catalogs, and yearbooks), minutes of committees, office files, and clippings. Papers of distinguished faculty, general biographical information concerning faculty and administrators, and the records of many student organizations are also in the Archives. The Photo Archives has photographic images of the university from the 1870s to the present.

Hours: Weekdays 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Special Collections and LCS

Many materials in the special collections are represented in the Libraries' computerized catalog, LCS (Library Control System). Records describing manuscripts and other unpublished original works are identified by the call number prefix "SPEC," for special collection. Rare books and other published materials are assigned call numbers in the Library of Congress classification system.

In some cases, the catalog record describes a group of related materials collectively, rather than providing item-by-item descriptions. The reference staff of the library locations can provide further information about materials within their collections, and about collections not yet represented in the catalog. For many collections, finding aids are available in the appropriate library.

Because of the unique nature of many of the materials held in the special collections of The Ohio State University Libraries, items may not be taken from their library locations.

The Ohio State University
LIBRARIES

Special Collections

A double-headed unicorn watermark from Hilender Slavic manuscript 6/6 (ca. 1410).

There are six special collections libraries within the Ohio State University Libraries system. They contain primary source materials and supporting published works that do not circulate, but are available for advanced study and research at the facilities described in this brochure.

- Hilliard Research Library
  - Jerome Lawrence & Robert E. Lee Theatre
  - Research Institute Library
  - Library for Communication and Graphic Arts
  - Rare Books and Manuscripts
  - University Archives and Photo Archives
  - William Chait Collection of American Fiction
Rare Books and Manuscripts (RAR)
327 Main Library
1838 Neil Avenue Mall
614-292-5938

Among the strengths of Rare Books and Manuscripts are the Talfourd Linn and related collections of the work of Cervantes; science fiction, including extensive runs of British and American magazines and a full set of Star Trek scripts; American popular sheet music; Reformation era history; and the writing of such authors as Nathaniel Hawthorne, T.S. Eliot, James Joyce, Ernest Hemingway, Jack London, W.H. Auden, and Anaïs Nin.

The comprehensive James Thurber Collection includes some 20,000 pages of manuscript and 375 original drawings. Other important manuscript holdings include works by Samuel Beckett, Hart Crane, T.J. Holmes, Jessica Mitford, W.W. Charters, F.L. Utech, and Ralph D. Mershon. Rare Books and Manuscripts also contains the OSU Collection of published works issued by or concerning The Ohio State University.

Hours: Weekdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

William Charvat Collection of American Fiction (RAR/CHA)
324 Main Library
1838 Neil Avenue Mall
614-292-3029
614-292-5938

The William Charvat Collection of American Fiction is nationally recognized for its outstanding holdings of American fiction from the eighteenth century to the present. The number of earlier American fiction titles, 1787-1900, is comparable to similar collections at Yale and the Huntington Library. The Charvat Collection is particularly strong in the period 1876-1900. For twentieth century American fiction, the Charvat Collection’s holdings for the years 1901-1925 are rivaled only by those of the Library of Congress.

Contemporary twentieth century fiction titles are augmented by manuscripts and papers of contemporary authors, including the contributors to the literary journal Conjunctions, Nelson Algren, Frederick Busch, Raymond Carver, James Purdy, and Helen Hooven Santmyer.

Hours: Weekdays 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Hilandar Research Library (HIL)
227 Main Library
1838 Neil Avenue Mall
614-292-1327

The Hilandar Research Library has the largest collection of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microform in the Western Hemisphere. The more than 2,000 Slavic manuscripts from sixteen countries and more than thirty different monastic, private and national collections, are used by scholars from all over the world who regularly conduct research at the Hilandar Research Library. Of special interest are more than 1,000 Slavic manuscripts from different monasteries on Mount Athos, Greece, including the entire Slavic collection of Hilandar Monastery. These materials on microform are now accessible to women scholars for the first time. Other collections, such as those of the Serbian Orthodox Church in Hungary, that are remote and/or generally closed, are also available.

The Hilandar Research Library also contains a large specialized reference collection, both in print and in microform, as well as numerous microform readers, a reader-printer, and microcomputers.

Hours: Weekdays 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Jerome Lawrence & Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute Library (TRI)
1430 Lincoln Tower
1800 Cannon Drive
614-292-6614

The Jerome Lawrence & Robert E. Lee Theatre Research Institute Library houses materials which document the history of Western theatre from the Middle Ages to contemporary times. The McDowell Film Archives holds approximately 450,000 frames of microfilm of rare theatrical materials acquired from libraries and museums internationally.

Original materials in the collection documenting regional theatre include the Armour Theatre Almanac, the Hamshot Uncle Tom’s Cabin Collection, the Hartman Theatre Collection and the Players Theatre Collection. Materials of national and international coverage include the Lawrence & Lee Collection; costume and scene designs by Alexandra Exter, Simon Lissim, and Mordecai Gorelik; the Eileen Heckart Collection; the Otis Guernsey Collection of playbills; and regular deposits of the plays published by Samuel French, Inc. and Dramatists Play Service, Inc.

Hours: Weekdays 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Slavic artifacts shown

Hilander library collects monastic pieces

By EILEEN MALONE

Lantern staff writer

Artifacts dating back as far as the 10th century can be found in the Hilander Room at the Main Library, the world's second largest Slavic literature library.

The Hilander Research Library contains more than 500,000 microfilmed pages of Slavic art and some 17,000 manuscripts from 17 countries, some of which date back to 1009. Many of the treasures are from the 20 monasteries on Mount Athos in Greece.

The library is part of the Hilander Research Project, said Predrag Matejic, curator of the project and professor of Slavic and medieval studies.

The project began in 1969 when Matejic's father, Mateja Matejic, a Serbian Orthodox priest and professor of Slavic studies, realized the importance of preserving manuscripts housed in the Hilander Monastery on Mount Athos.

Mount Athos is located in northeastern Greece on the Chalkidiki Peninsula, which extends into the Aegean Sea. It is known as the Holy Mount because monks occupied it as early as the sixth century.

“I was aware of the existence of the objects at Hilander because some of my friends are monks there,” Mateja Matejic said.

“The monks trust my father because they know he's a scholar and a priest and that he will treat these objects, which to them are quite precious, with all the respect they deserve,” Predrag Matejic said.

With permission from Greek civil authorities, the monastic government and Hilander Monastery, Mateja Matejic and his son photographed various rare manuscripts, icons and frescoes (paintings on plaster) from 1970-75. Walt Craig, professor of photography and cinema, also helped with the photography.

“Since then, through the exchange and purchase of microfilm, or going out and doing the microfilming ourselves, we've more than doubled the original collection,” Predrag Matejic said.

The goal of the project is to capture as much material as possible on microfilm and make it easily accessible at the Hilander Room, Predrag Matejic said.

Historically, women have been prohibited from visiting monasteries on Mount Athos. Predrag Matejic said the collection enables women to see the manuscripts for the first time.

“(The artifacts) are scattered in dozens of countries and hundreds of libraries,” Predrag Matejic said. “So we provide a service by having these things all in one central place.”

Predrag Matejic said scholars from all around the world go to the Hilander Room to see the collection.

“People come here because it's easier and cheaper to look at them here than to try to see the originals, even if the originals are literally only 100 miles away,” Predrag Matejic said.

Although most of the manuscripts in the Hilander Room are on microfilm or are facsimiles, the Hilander Room does have several originals, including a 1693 Byzantine manuscript and a 1763 Slavo-Bulgarian history book.

Hilander Monastery was built in 1198 by Stefan Nemanja, the first Serbian ruler, and his sons. Since its founding, it has been the most important religious and cultural center for Serbs and Serbian Orthodox.
OSU's TREASURE CHESTS

University is home to one-of-a-kind collections

Story by Tim Doulin
Photos by Tom Dodge

Cynics are quick to count Columbus as a cultural wasteland. But stuck in the nooks and crannies of The Ohio State University are museums and rare collections that can't be matched in some of the world's more cosmopolitan cities.

Researchers, scholars and diplomats from around the world go to OSU to visit some of the collections.

If your interest is science, the Borror Laboratory of Bioacoustics is the world's second-largest animal sounds laboratory, with about 21,000 recorded animal sounds.

If you are looking for rare written works, the Hildandar Research Library on the second floor of the Main Library, boasts a collection of Slavic manuscripts that are a primary source for scholars around the world.

If you have an eye for fashion, the Optometry Clinic houses an offbeat collection of celebrity eyeglasses, including a pair from race car driver Bobby Rahal.

Ihor Ciszkewycz, a research librarian, examines Slavic manuscripts at Hildandar Research Library.

Rest of article can be found in "Museum" folder.
Hilander Research library bridges gap between U.S. and Mount Athos

By Staci Patrick
Lantern staff writer

The Hilandar Research Library at Ohio State is home to a collection of Slavic writings that is unequaled in the United States.

The library contains microfilms of nearly 80 percent of all manuscripts from Mount Athos, an island that is home to a community of monasteries off the coast of Greece. The library also houses microfilms of manuscripts from 20 different countries and 40 different libraries, said Dr. Predrag Matejic, library curator.

"We have what no other university has and have accomplished a great deal in bridging Mount Athos and America," Matejic said.

The library's goals are to gather microfilm of Slavic manuscripts from all regions and preserve them to make them accessible to all people, Matejic said.

The library is a great benefit to many people, even those who cannot use the library but are aware of its existence, said Professor Klimentina Ivanova, from the University of Sofia in Bulgaria.

Ivanova has come to Columbus specifically to study the microfilms in the library because she is not permitted to go to Mount Athos.

"Women and children are not permitted on Mount Athos because they are a reminder of a life the monks have left behind," Matejic said.

The Mount Athos material is central to Ivanova's research and will put the entire 20 years of her Slavic manuscript research in focus, she said.

"Importance of places such as this that help confirm ties we have to the past and are especially important in the preservation of culture and knowledge of the past," Ivanova said.

Robert Bradley, a senior at Ohio State studying Russian language and literature, finds the library fascinating and useful for students studying Old-Church Slavonic.

"We have what no other university has and have accomplished a great deal in bridging Mount Athos and America."

-Predrag Matejic, curator for the OSU Hilander Research Library

"The Hilandar Research Library is helpful and efficient," Bradley said.
"Everything on the microfilm is easily accessible and quick to find."

Matejic said he is dedicated to the collection of all Slavic manuscripts on microfilm and to making them accessible to all people.
The Hilandar Research Library - A Rare Gem

by Dr. Charles C. Cole Jr.

The Hilandar Research Library is located in a remote corner of the second floor of the Main Library in room 227. Although its two rooms seem small by some standards, the materials contained there come from forty collections in twenty countries and constitute a unique, valuable religious and cultural resource.

This area contains, according to Dr. Predrag Matejic, the Curator, “the largest collection of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microfilm and microform in the Western Hemisphere.”

The most celebrated portion of the collection consists of microforms of more than 1,000 Slavic Cyrillic manuscripts housed in monasteries on Mount Athos, Greece. The entire Slavic collection in the Hilandar Monastery, built in 1198, was photographed in the 1970’s by members of the Department of Slavic and East European Languages and Literatures. As a result, the information in the manuscripts, letters, edicts, codicils, and other materials is much more accessible to scholars, most of whom could not see the originals.

This project was funded by The Ohio State University, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and the American Council of Learned Societies, an indication of how significant it was considered by scholars.

The Holy Mount, as the island is called by members of the Eastern Orthodox Church, is practically inaccessible. It can be reached only by boat. There are few unpaved roads and no means of transportation. The only permanent inhabitants are monks. Women are not allowed on the island and the few male outsiders permitted to visit can do research only for a limited time.

The Hilandar Library, therefore, is the only resource available to women scholars and for that reason alone it is a rare treasure because the majority of scholars of medieval Slavic religion and culture are women.

The Hilandar Library contains on microfilm approximately ten percent of the world’s south Slavic manuscripts. Dr. Matejic estimates that ninety percent has probably been destroyed over the centuries.

In addition to the document from Greece, there are materials from Russia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Serbia, Jerusalem, and Mount Sinai. The rooms in the Hilandar Library also contain books and slides of art, icons, embroidered curtains, and frescoes. There is a copy of the first poem in the Serbian literature written by a woman. The earliest manuscripts on microfilm date from 1009 and the latest are from the nineteenth century. Scholars in religion, linguistics, history, art, literature, law, geography, and folklore have found the collection extremely valuable.

But one need not be a scholar to visit Room 227. Anyone interested in the subject is welcome and there is a brief slide show on the collection available in eleven different languages.

Predrag Matejic calls the collection, “the scattered fragments of a heritage” and sees Hilandar’s mission as accumulating, preserving and making accessible the materials under his care. Because the accumulating continues and the preserving is costly, there is a constant need for contributions to ensure that the accessibility remains for all time.
The Hilandar Research Library has the largest collection of medieval Slavic manuscripts on microform in the Western Hemisphere. The more than 4,000 Slavic manuscripts from twenty countries and more than seventy different monastic, private, and national collections are used by scholars from all over the world. Of special interest are more than 1,000 Slavic manuscripts from monasteries on Mount Athos, Greece, including the entire Slavic collection of Hilandar Monastery.

William J. Studer, Director of University Libraries and Kathleen H. Ransier, President of Friends of The OSU Libraries invite you to a reception and viewing of the exhibition

HILANDAR
To commemorate the 800th anniversary of Hilandar Monastery on Mount Athos and the 20th anniversary of the Hilandar Research Library at The Ohio State University
By Predrag Matejic, Curator, Hilander Research Library

Friday, 14 August 1998, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.
The Phillip Sills Exhibition Hall
Thompson Memorial Library, 1858 Neil Ave. Mall
The Ohio State University

Please respond by August 12 to Friends of The OSU Libraries at 292-3387
William Oxley Thompson Memorial Library is the Main Library on The Ohio State University campus. It is located on the West end of the Oval, directly west of High Street. Parking on campus can be limited, and it is suggested that guests coming from off-campus will find the two garages on High Street to be the most dependable sources for parking.
Sponsors

Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, The Ohio State University
Hilandar Research Library, The Ohio State University

We are grateful for the additional support provided by:

The Ohio State University College of Arts and Sciences, University Libraries, Center for Medieval and Renaissance Studies, and Center for Slavic and East European Studies

Additional support provided by:

Olga Nedeljkovic, professor emerita
Department of Slavic and Baltic Languages and Literatures
University of Illinois at Chicago

RESOURCES CENTER FOR MEDIEVAL SLAVIC STUDIES
119 Thompson Library
1838 Neil Avenue Mall
Columbus OH, 43210-1286
Phone: (614) 292-0634
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Predrag Matejic, director and curator, Hilandar Research Library (matejic.19@osu.edu)
M A. (Pasha) Johnson, associate curator, Hilandar Research Library (Johnson.60@osu.edu)

rcmss.osu.edu

6TH INTERNATIONAL HILANDAR CONFERENCE
Medieval Slavic Text and Image in the Cultures of Orthodoxy
July 19-21, 2013
Friday, July 19
Blackwell Inn

6:00 pm
Opening by Predrag Matijic, director, Resource Center for Medieval Slavic Studies, curator, Hilandar Research Library, The Ohio State University
Welcome by David C. Manderscheid, executive dean and vice provost, College of Arts and Sciences, The Ohio State University
Welcome by Lisa A. Carter, associate director, University Libraries for Special Collections and Awa Studies, The Ohio State University
Ikeynote Speech by Mijana Živojinović, president of the Hilandar Committee, member of the Institute for Byzantine Studies, and member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts, Discovering Hilandar

7:00 pm
Reception and Dinner Buffet

Saturday, July 20, 2013
165 Thompson Library
Oval Mall

9-10:15 am
Panel 1: Hilandar Monastery
Chair: David Goldfrank, Georgetown University, Washington DC
Abercius, the Principal Scribe of the Hilandar Menologium, the Largest Extant South Slav Menologium – Francis J. Thomson, University of Antwerp, Belgium
Shedding New Light on the Ties of Moro Branković to the Holy Mountain of Athos and the Translation of Relics – Mihailo Popović, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria
Hilandar Slavic Manuscript 280: Josephus’ History of the Jewish Wars and the Tale of Constantinople – Věry Rev. Živković Jakovljević, Cleveland State University, Cleveland, Ohio

10:15-10:30 a.m
Break

10:30 am-12:15 pm
Panel 2: Image – Visual Theology
Chair: Priscilla Hunt, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
The Mission of Saint Stephen of Perm and the Treatment of Religious Duellism in Muscovite Texts and Images – Isolde Thyret, Kent State University, Kent, Ohio
Textual and Visual Veneration of the Theotokos in the Past Medieval Russian Mileš: Hilandar Research Library Slavic Manuscript 12 – Adelina Angushvili-Titarenko, Manchester University, Great Britain, and M.A. Johnson, The Ohio State University
The Mosaic of Alexander’s Flight in Medieval Slavic Art and Architecture – Enrique Santos Marinas, Universidad Complutense de Madrid, Spain
Text and Image in the Four-Port Icon of the Virgin Annunciation Cathedral – Priscilla Hunt, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

12:15 to 1:30 pm
Lunch Buffet – Gallery Talk

1:30 to 2:45 pm
Panel 3: Focal Points of Culture
Chair: Mihailo Popović, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria
Mount Athos and the Venetian Cyprian Printing in the 16th Century – Mariyana Titevatska-Kostova, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Sofia, Bulgaria
Gradualistic Exegesis in the Preslav Literary School – Priska Penkova Leyser, Kalundborg, Denmark
NIUM Ms. S22 and the Cusp of Liturgical and Musical Reform Among the Balkan Slavs in the Thirteenth Century – Gregory Myers, Independent Scholar, Canada

2:45 to 3:00 pm
Break

3:00 to 4:45 pm
Panel 4: Medieval Textual Tradition
Chair: Francis J. Thomson, University of Antwerp, Belgium
The Biblical Song of Songs in Medieval Slavic Culture: Textual and Visual Exegesis – Margaret Dimitrova, Sofia University “Kliment Ohridski,” Sofia, Bulgaria

Solumsko Legend – Daniel E. Collins, The Ohio State University
Stanislao’s Chef-Milieu and the Construction of an Hagiographic ‘Canon’ in the South Slavic Literary Tradition – Diana Atanassova, Sofia University, Kliment Ohridski, Sofia, Bulgaria
Byzantine Letters and Spiritual Direction at the Courts of the Lazarević – Robert Romanchuk, Florida State University

Sunday, July 21, 2013
165 Thompson Library
(Enter at west entrance, on Neil Avenue)

9:00 to 10:00 am
Panel 5: Liturgical Tradition
Chair: Very Rev. Vasilije Vranich, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
The Tipik Solovetskogo in the Context of pre-Petrine Russian Tipik and Ustoty – Jennifer Spock, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky
The Feculencies of Creating Two Services to One Saint on the Example of Russian Services to St. Nicholas and the Holy Martyrs Boris and Gleb – Victor Legki, Independent Scholar, Munich, Germany

10:15 – 10:30 am
Special Presentation by Rauli Smith, Research Fellow, Museum of Russian Icons, Clinton, Massachusetts

10:30 to 11:45 am
Panel 6: Reinterpreting the Textual Tradition
Chair: Predrag Matijic, The Ohio State University
Ilioupolis as an Ancient Trajectory of the Eastern Orthodox Monastic Theology – Very Rev. Vasilije Vranich, Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wisconsin
Telling and Retelling the Life of 20th-Century Russian Saint Natala Mostrovatska: Texts and Icons – Lyubomira Petrova Gribble, The Ohio State University
Maintaining the Old Rite in Modern Russia: Feodor Pemirokov’s Vypsi of 1910 in an Historical Context – Peter T. DeSimone, Utica College, New York