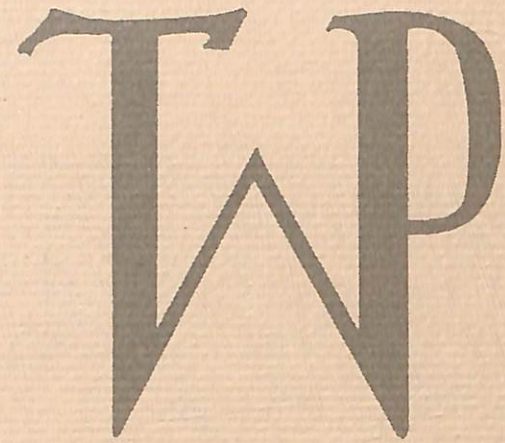


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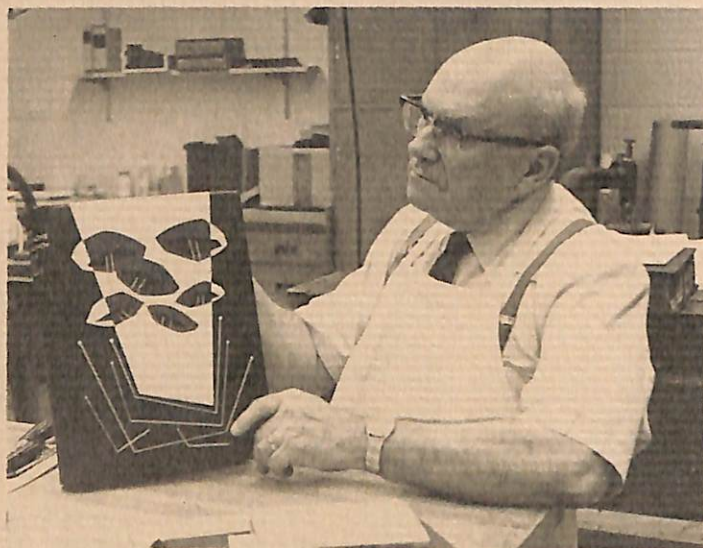


Thomas W. Patterson

BOOKBINDER

april 17 • august 31

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
Penthouse Hunt Library
Carnegie-Mellon University



Thomas Wightman Patterson became interested in art in the 1920's, taking a special interest in calligraphy and bookbinding. In pursuit of this interest, he read extensively and took occasional night courses at Carnegie Institute of Technology to further his knowledge of bookbinding and related arts. During the depression, bookbinding became his means of livelihood. After making his own workbench, a few presses, and a finishing stove, he began to bind books (most often family bibles) for friends and others who were acquainted with his work. Having developed a successful trade, Tom entered his favorite bindings in several Associated Artists exhibitions, and in the early 1930's a friend from Associated Artists introduced him to Mrs. Hunt, herself a bookbinder and book collector. It was she who gave him commissions of a finer sort: treating rare, old botanical books on handmade paper, where not only his binding skill was involved, but a knowledge of preservation and conservation was a necessary prerequisite.

Long before the Hunt Botanical Library actually came into being in October of 1961, Mrs. Hunt realized the importance of having a professional bookbinder on its staff, and in April of that year Tom was appointed as Master Bookbinder. During the past 12 years, Tom and the assistants whom he trains have treated literally thousands of books. Not all of these books are bound: old publications in their original wrappers are frequently boxed or cased in portfolios; old bindings, broken at the hinges, are rebacked, repaired, and thus strengthened. Countless hours are spent washing, bleaching, deacidifying, mending, and strengthening pages before binding is even considered. A binding may be of paper, cloth, leather, or any combination of two of these, and when a book is finally bound, the detail of the perfectionist is obvious.

This same sense of perfection is evident in Tom's early bindings. Even while initially learning his trade, each handmade object was beautifully and skillfully produced. And today, 45 years later, Tom feels there is still much to learn. New restoration and conservation procedures are constantly being tested. He is one of the few bookbinders who carries out every stage of the operation himself. He does his own edge gilding, often cuts tools for gold stamping, fashions parts of metal or wood, carves oriental bone closers, does hand lettering, rubricating, and illuminating, and has even printed an occasional title-page on his small home press.

Tom has exhibited his bookbindings in New York and Los Angeles, as well as in Pittsburgh, and has won several prizes for artistic merit. He was commissioned by the University of Pittsburgh to do several bindings for their Fine Arts Library and for the Nationality Rooms, and Donors' Books for various institutions exhibit his calligraphy as well as his bookbindings. This exhibition is a presentation of Tom's exquisite bindings and provides some insight into the complete craftsman: the preserver of yesterday's and today's books for tomorrow.

*They will maintain the state of the world,
and all their desire is in the work of their craft.*

Ecclesiasticus 38:34

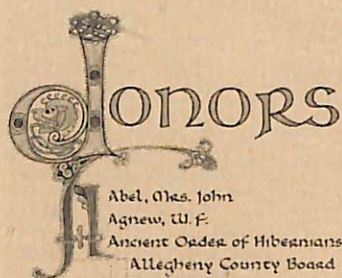
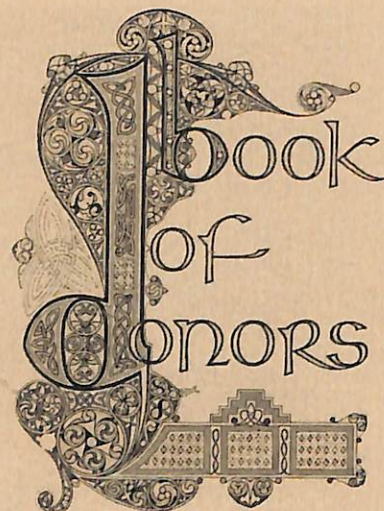


Books are arranged chronologically by year of binding.
Unless otherwise indicated, all items are in the
Hunt Botanical Library collection.

- 1933 1. Husbandry. Manuscript, 1650.
Navy/Brown morocco, gold tooled borders and inner
panel filled with flowers and original designs.
- 1933 2. Tristram. E. A. Robinson, 1929.
Dark blue oasis morocco, gold lines and first use
of the binder's *flying gull*.
Lent by Mrs. G. K. Douglas.
- 1933 3. Gardener's Labyrinth. Thomas Hill, 1608.
Brown oasis morocco, blind tooled with border,
corner designs and inner panel.
- 1933 4. Mistletoe. John Colbatch, 1730.
Apple green oasis morocco with inlays of dark
green and white stylized mistletoe outlined in
gold.
- 1933 5. New-Englands Rarities. John Josselyn, 1672.
Brown oasis morocco, blind tooled border and inner
panel with floral design.
- 1933 6. Faust. Goethe, 1871.
Black levant morocco, gold tooled. Title-page
lettered and illustrated by the binder.
Lent by the Hunt Library, Rare Book Room.

- 1934 7. The Fine Book. Porter Garnett, 1934.
Light brown levant morocco, gold and blind tooled.
Lent by the Binder.
- 1935 8. The Black Douglasses. 1935.
Black oasis morocco with inlaid coat of arms in
red, white, and blue. Gold lines and crowns.
Lent by Mr. G. K. Douglas.
- 1937 9. The Odyssey of Homer. 1932.
Navy oasis morocco, gold tooled using *flying gull*.
Lent by the Binder.
- 1938 10. Scottish Room. Donors' Book.
Brown levant morocco, gold tooled on covers and
edges of boards.
Lent by the Scottish Nationality Room,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1939 11. Chinese Room. Archives.
Antique Chinese silk brocade covered boxes with
bone closers hand carved by the binder.
Lent by the Chinese Nationality Room,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1939 12. The Old-Book Peddler. Stefan Zweig, 1938.
Green oasis morocco with gold tooled line design.
Lent by the Binder.
- 1939 13. Green Mansions. W. H. Hudson, 1916.
Dark green levant morocco with gold tooled
original floral design using *bud* tool.
Lent by the Frick Fine Arts Library,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1941 14. Le Chef d'Oeuvre Inconnu. Balzac, 1931.
Illustrated by Picasso.
Dark grey levant morocco with a gold tooled
composition of lines and dots.
Lent by the Frick Fine Arts Library,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1943 15. The Fine Book. Porter Garnett, 1934.
Red-orange oasis morocco, with gold tooling
of lines and dots, using *row of dots* tool.
Lent by the Frick Fine Arts Library,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1946 16. The Harmony Society. J. M. Tate, 1925.
Dark blue levant morocco with original gold
tooled design. Covers lined with Harmonite silk.
Lent by the Darlington Library,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1950 17. Recollections. Mary Jane Craig Miller.
Maroon levant morocco with gold tooling and
initials on cover. Title-page printed by the
binder.
Lent by Mr. Alfred M. Hunt.
- 1951 18. The Story of Manon Lescaut. Abbe-Prevost
d'Exiles, 1938.
Dark red oasis morocco with gold tooling on
covers and doublures using original designs.
Lent by the Binder.
- 1951 19. The Doom of King Acrisius. William Morris, 1902.
Navy oasis morocco, gold tooled with lines, dots,
and *flying gull*.
Lent by Mrs. H. J. Deibel.
- 1951 20. Manru. Paderewski. Original Score.
Dark brown oasis morocco. One volume of three.
Traditional gold tooling and gold lines. Moiré
doublures and endsheets.
Lent by the Polish Nationality Room,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1951 21. Polish Room. Archives.
Three volumes and two cases in orange oasis morocco
set in a hand crafted oak cabinet made by the binder.
Lent by the Polish Nationality Room,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1952 22. Fifty-five Rare Books. Hunt Botanical Library,
1949.
Brown oasis morocco with border of five blind tooled
lines and gold floral inner border, using *buttercup*
tool.
- 1952 23. Our Rose Varieties. Edwin Bechtel, 1949.
Half dark green oasis morocco with Cockerell paper
sides and paper label.
- 1952 24. Dead Souls. Nikolai Gogol, 1944.
Purple levant morocco with gold tooled lines and
flowers.
Lent by the Binder.
- 1952 25. The Red Badge of Courage. Stephan Crane, 1944.
Navy blue and grey levant morocco with inlays in two
shades of red. Gold tooling.
Lent by the Binder.

- 1952 26. Soliloques. Georges Rouault, 1944.
Orange-red oasis morocco with modern design of
blind tooled lines and gold dots.
Lent by the Frick Fine Arts Library,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1953 27. Western Pennsylvania Hospital Book.
Red oasis morocco with gold tooled covers and
doublures. Title-page and entire book lettered by
the binder.
Lent by Western Pennsylvania Hospital,
Gift and Memorial Fund.
- 1956 28. Huit Sonnets d'Edgar Degas.
Red oasis morocco with gold tooled vertical lines
on covers and doublures. Title on front.
Lent by the Frick Fine Arts Library,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1956 29. George Washington in the Ohio Valley.
H. Cleland, 1955.
Dark brown oasis morocco. Blind and gold tooled
design of Forts Pitt and Duquesne.
Lent by Miss Jeannette Seneff.
- 1956 30. World Atlas.
Fabricoid case binding with front cover inlaid
with map-like design of the Western Hemisphere,
Pennsylvania, and the Pittsburgh point.
Lent by Dr. Solomon Freehof.



Abel, Mrs. John
Agnew, W. F.
Ancient Order of Hibernians
Allegheny County Board
Castle Shannon
Ancient Inisfail Association
All Ireland Athletic Club
Alter, Mrs. George E.
American Gas Accumulator Co.
Anderson, John
Arm Egan Travel Service
Arbuthnot, Thomas E.
Aule, H. C.

- 1958 31. Irish Room. Donors' Book.
Dark green oasis morocco with very elaborate gold
tooling on the covers and doublures. Inlays of
light green and natural. Original title-page design
inspired by the Book of Kells. Entirely hand drawn,
colored, and lettered by the binder.
Lent by the Irish Nationality Room,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1958 32. Andrey Avinoff Exhibition. 1954.
Green oasis morocco. Gold tooled diamond pattern
on covers. Tooled doublures, Japanese endpapers.
Lent by the Frick Fine Arts Library,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1959 33. Richard M. Hunt. Thesis, 1951.
Apple green levant morocco with traditional blind
and gold tooling.
Lent by Mr. Alfred M. Hunt.
- 1959 34. Botanical Books, Prints, and Drawings. Hunt
Botanical Library, 1952.
Turquoise blue oasis morocco with all-over pattern
of *buttercup* and wavy lines. Navy inlays on the
doublure.
- 1959 35. Le Poète Assassiné. Appolinaire, 1926.
Black and magenta morocco with white inlays.
Gold lines and dots in modern design.
Lent by the Frick Fine Arts Library,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1959 36. University of Pittsburgh. Guest Book.
Navy blue oasis morocco with traditional gold
tooling and elaborate inlaid doublures with red
oasis and Cockerell paper. Hand lettered title-
page.
Lent by the Chancellor's Office,
University of Pittsburgh.
- 1960 37. The Life of Saint Francis. Saint Bonaventura,
1904.
Deep red oasis morocco binding. Plain outside with
very elaborate doublures of natural leather and gold.
Lent by the Binder.
- 1961 38. Hunt Botanical Library. Visitors' Book.
Apple green oasis morocco, tooled in palladium leaf
on cover and doublures. Title-page lettered and
illuminated in palladium by the binder.

- 1961 39. Reeves Memorial Library. Builders' Book.
Red oasis morocco with gold tooled borders on covers and doublures. Title-page illuminated and entire book hand lettered by the binder.
Lent by Seton Hill College Library.
- 1961 40. Hunt Library. Dedication Photographs, 1961.
Apple green oasis morocco with traditional gold tooling and lines.
Lent by Mr. Alfred M. Hunt.
- 1962 41. La Dame a la Licorne. Etienne de Sadeleer, 1945.
Deep rose oasis morocco. Modern pattern of gold tooling using some of the binder's tiny tools and flowers.
- 1962 42. A Treasury of Kahlil Gibran. 1952.
Turquoise oasis morocco with inlays of black and white levant. Palladium tooling on back and doublures.
Lent by the Binder.
- 1962 43. Preface to Hunt Catalogue. Volume II.
Dark green oasis morocco with borders of blind lines and gold stamped outline of Saint Fiacre.
Lent by Mr. Alfred M. Hunt.
- 1963 44. Herbario Nuovo. Castore Durante, 1585.
Natural limp vellum binding laced on with pigskin. Pigskin ties. Back lettered by the binder.
- 1963 45. Andrey Avinoff Exhibition. 1953.
Bright green oasis morocco with gold tooling on either side of the back.
- 1963 46. Les Relieurs Francais (1500-1800). Ernst Thoinan, 1893.
Navy oasis morocco with gold tooled covers in eclectic style representing designs included in the text. Gold tooled doublures.
- 1963 47. Nederlandsch Bloemwerk. 1794.
Light brown mottled morocco with traditional gold tooling of two borders and flowers at corners.
- 1963 48. Redouté et Son Temps. Charles Léger, 1945.
Dark red oasis morocco with Modern/traditional gold tooling using lines, flowers and *graduated row of dots*. Gold tooled doublure.

- 1963 49. Champignons Hallucinogènes du Mexique. Roger Heim, 1958.
Black oasis morocco with inlays of white pigskin and red-brown oasis. Gold lines representing the mushroom and its spores. Modern doublures.
- 1965 50. The Natural History of Lancashire. Charles Leigh, 1700.
Light brown sprinkled calf in traditional style with gold and blind tooling.
- 1965 51. Bookbinding in America. 1941.
Light brown levant morocco with gold and blind tooling, using gilt *bud* and lines.
Lent by the Binder.
- 1968 52. Bibliographia Medica. Giovanni Carbonelli, 1914.
Mottled light brown morocco with traditional gold tooling of outer border and inner panel. Gold tooled doublure.
- 1968 53. Die Bildnisse Albrecht von Hallers. Artur Weese, 1909.
Red-brown oasis morocco with gold tooled design of lines and dots. Wide raised bands on back.
- 1971 54. Prominent Danish Scientists.
Navy oasis morocco with inlays of red oasis and white pigskin. Abstract representation of the Danish flag. Gold tooling on covers and doublures.
- 1971 55. Nova Plantarum Genera. Johan Gaston, 1729.
Light brown oasis morocco with traditional gold tooling.
- 1972 56. The Poems of Longfellow. 1944.
Red calf case binding with traditional border design tooled in gold.
Lent by Mr. Boyd Hanna.

Table Cases

- Case A - The Hand Bound Book
Case B - XVI Century Bookbindings
Case C - Book Restoration

Wall Cases

- Case D - A Variety of Botanical Books
Case E - Traditional or Period Bindings
Case F - Binding and Boxing at HBL

