

COLLECTIONS OF CORRESPONDENCE AND MANUSCRIPT DOCUMENTS

NAME OF COLLECTION: PLAYING CARD COLLECTIONSOURCE: Gift of John F. Fleming, 1981 (Item 1); Gift of Frank Sypher, 1984 (Item 2)SUBJECT: German, Italian and French playing cards, 15th-16th centuries; French, English and American playing cards, 19th century.DATES COVERED: 15th, 16th, 19th centuriesNUMBER OF ITEMS: 5 (1 bound vol.; 3 sets
of cards
in box)
1 book

STATUS: (check appropriate description)

Cataloged: Listed: X Arranged: Not organized:

CONDITION: (give number of vols., boxes, or shelves)

Bound: Boxed: 1 Stored: LOCATION: (Library) Rare Book & ManuscriptCALL-NUMBER Playing Cards
VAULT 13: Aisle U-WestRESTRICTIONS ON USE DESCRIPTION: German, Italian, French, English and American playing cards from the 15th, 16th and 19th centuries:

- 1) Bound volumes containing 68 playing cards from the 15th and 16th centuries:
German, Italian and French. SEE VERSO FOR CONTENTS LIST.
- 2) In a 19th century playing card box:
 - a) 1 deck of French playing cards, ca. 1850 (52 cards)
 - b) 1 deck of English, Regency playing cards, ca. 1818 (52 cards & extra card)
 - c) 1 deck of American playing cards, ca. 1850, manufactured in New York by Samuel Hart & Co. (52 cards)
- 3) Les Cartes a Jouer et la Cartomancie / par Paul Boiteau. -- Paris : Librairie de L. Hachette et Cie., 1854.

Bound volumes of 15th - 16th century playing cards:

A set of 43 cards: deuces through 9's, Queens and Kings of Hearts, Bells, Leaves and Acorns, the Knave of Leaves and the Aces of Leaves and Hearts. Woodcuts printed together on one sheet, mounted as two leaves, the missing Knaves and Aces cut out. Decorated with eleven people, "The marks of the suits on the earliest cards (German) are hearts, bells, leaves and acorns." - Encyclopaedia Britannica.

A set of 12 cards: 4's through 9's, of Swords and Chalice. Woodcuts printed together on part of a sheet, showing the edge of six cards of the Money suit. " ... Next in antiquity to the marks mentioned are the swords, batons, cups and money. These are the most common on Italian cards of the late 15th century." - Encyclopaedia Britannica.

A set of 3 cards: 3, 4, 5 of Bells, decorated with birds. Woodcuts printed together on a slip.

A set of 9 cards: 1, 2, 3 of Hearts, 6 through 10 and Knave (?) of Acorns, all in duplicate. Woodcuts printed on six slips, three cards per slip, each set probably from one sheet,

A single card, the Knave of Swords, possibly French, 16th century. Woodcut, retouched in places with grey wash.