



Mission

The Ayn Rand Archives is a corporate repository maintained by the Ayn Rand Institute. The collections in the Ayn Rand Archives document Ayn Rand’s historical development and impact.

Holdings

The Ayn Rand Archives acquires items that reflect the scope of Ayn Rand’s life, work, and influence. These include originals and facsimiles of her papers, books that were part of her personal library, books that mention her or her philosophy of Objectivism, and digital downloads of various sorts (eBooks, substantial media mentions, films and television episodes). Items about other individuals and organizations are collected if they provide additional context for understanding Rand’s development as a novelist and philosopher.

The Ayn Rand Papers (approx. 150 linear ft.) contains the personal papers and effects left by Ayn Rand at her death in 1982, and includes: manuscripts, notes, and outlines of novels and articles; business correspondence with publishers, agents, and attorneys; personal correspondence with colleagues and relatives, including 900 letters from her family in Leningrad; research files on architecture and current events; marginalia; daily calendars; address books; and more than 1,000 photographs.

Other collections include: recordings of Ayn Rand’s radio programs, lectures, workshops and interviews; oral history interviews of friends, relatives and associates; Russian academic and legal documents; authorized and unauthorized translations of her work into more than twenty-five languages; screenplays; Objectivist periodicals; and materials from Objectivist organizations.

Our oral history project gathers information about Ayn Rand and the history of the Objectivist movement. In 2010 a selection of these interviews was published as [100 Voices: An Oral History of Ayn Rand](#).

Reading Room

The Ayn Rand Archives reading room is located in Irvine, California. Appointments are available from 10 to 5, Monday through Friday, and at least two week’s advance notice is required. In addition to a small reference library, we have both print and digital copies of the Ayn Rand material held at the Library of Congress (drafts, typescripts, and galley proofs for *Anthem*, *We the Living*, *The Fountainhead*, and *Atlas Shrugged*). Interlibrary loan requests are fulfilled via PDF. Remote access is available for certain materials.

continued

Access

Serious researchers from across the critical spectrum are welcome to apply for access privileges. Access is extended to academic and independent scholars, including journalists, as well as college students. (High school students are welcome and should obtain a letter of sponsorship from a supervising teacher or school official.)

Access privileges are granted at the discretion of the Ayn Rand Institute. A reference interview and signed researcher agreement is required of all scholars. Visiting scholars will receive a brief orientation upon their arrival. On-site and remote access, as well as reference services, copy services, lockers, and parking are available free of charge.

History

In 1995 Leonard Peikoff placed the remainder of the Ayn Rand Papers at ARI, which established the Ayn Rand Archives as its repository. Since then, we have acquired many related collections. The Ayn Rand Archives contains the most comprehensive grouping of Ayn Rand material in the world. We promote our collections by publishing monographs, curating exhibits, and producing other public programming; collaborations with interested libraries and museums are welcome.

“Please write archives@aynrand.org to ask a reference question, request a visit, or obtain our researcher agreement.”

Staff and Consultants

Digital archivist and department manager Jenniffer Woodson earned her MLIS from San José State University in 2011 and became a Certified Archivist in 2012. Prior to that, she managed the Ayn Rand Papers digitization project from 2005 through 2008.

Curator Jeff Britting, author of *Ayn Rand* (a biography in the Overlook Illustrated Lives Series, 2004), has worked for the Ayn Rand Archives since 1997, when he began the first systematic preservation of its holdings.

Senior adviser Michael S. Berliner was executive director of ARI for its first fifteen years. Dr. Berliner edited *Letters of Ayn Rand* (1995), Ayn Rand’s *Russian Writings on Hollywood* (1999), and *Understanding Objectivism* (2012).

Contact Us

Please write archives@aynrand.org to ask a reference question, request a visit, or obtain our researcher agreement.