Please note that all Chemistry Department materials in this Archive are collectively and individually protected by copyright.

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As far as possible, the material in this draft catalogue has been organized into groupings of similar items, such as Balances, Thermometers, etc. Within these main classification folders, there are subfolders identifying the current different physical locations of the items that have been collected. Within all folders and sub-folders, the various items are listed as pictures, with brief descriptors and, where appropriate, “Information” folders or files that contain additional descriptive or clarification material. The whole catalogue is searchable for basic key words (such as Oertling for Oertling balances) using the usual protocol(s) for the web browser(s) you use.

I emphasize that this is a draft only, intended to bring the collection to public attention as soon as possible. In the meantime Patricia Meindl (Chemistry Librarian, pmeindl@chem.utoronto.ca) is undertaking the enormous and slow task of augmenting this draft version with a view to creating a museum-calibre archive. In this initial draft archive, an IMG number of each item has been retained as an unique identification code to facilitate the quick location of any item. IMG numbers will be removed in the final, museum-calibre, archive. Furthermore, it is recognized that having so many different item locations, as at present, is undesirable. The eventual goal is to house the material in just a few locations, and mainly in the Chemistry Library, where it will enjoy Patricia’s excellent care and oversight. Display cabinets are also planned for the Chemistry main lobby, in addition to the display case already outside the library on the fourth floor of the Davenport wing.

Further information on the structure of the archive, its background, and future plans for its improvement is provided in the “Additional Background, Historical and General Information” file.

Since this Chemistry Archive is a work-in-progress with many gaps in provenances, identification, age, etc., I would appreciate any input that will correct errors, or expand and clarify the descriptions, backgrounds or identifications of any item. Such contributions and comments should be sent to me, by email to bryan.jones@utoronto.ca

Finally, I’d like to emphasize that we would very much appreciate any donations of chemistry-related archival materials that you may have. All donors to the collection will be individually identified and thanked.

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