

HELENE VAN ROSSUM

As an archivist and writer I have extensive experience with researching, publicizing, and documenting history. For a portfolio with examples of exhibits, blog posts, and publications please visit <https://helenevanrossum.com>.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Archival and historical consultant

March 2016–present

Recent projects:

- Calendar of historical events relating to Princeton University for the new *Princeton Companion*, Princeton University Press (Apr-Jul 2020)
- Surveying collections and updating of finding aids at Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library prior to the move of the library collections (Oct 2018-Mar 2020)

Rutgers University Special Collections and University Archives Public Services and Outreach Archivist

New Brunswick, NJ
August 2016–June 2018

Responsibilities: Reference services; blog posts; reviewing and updating of policies and procedures; website development and maintenance; development of outreach materials; undergraduate class instruction.

Major projects:

- Subject guide to the collections; website for students and teachers participating in National History Day
- Inventory and description of all Dutch materials in the Manuscript Collection

Curtis Institute of Music Archivist

Philadelphia, PA
October 2011–February 2016

Responsibilities: Research and promotion of the school's history; reference; development of policies and procedures; collection management and development; conversion of legacy data and creation of finding aids.

Major projects:

- Developed online presence of the archives with nine online exhibits and contributions to the blog "Notes from the Archives"
- Contributed to 90th anniversary celebration and alumni reunion with ideas and content for publicity, and alumni appeal for archival materials
- Organized and oversaw oral history project about student life

Seeley G. Mudd Manuscript Library, Princeton University Special Projects Archivist (part-time)

Princeton, NJ
July 2008–September 2011

Responsibilities: Processing of collections, contributing to library blogs; provided online access to selection of digitized film footage in the library on the university's YouTube channel.

Major projects:

- Research and identification of scenes and context of John Van Antwerp MacMurray's silent movies of China (1925-29) for a finding aid to his papers
- Coordinator, main writer and researcher for a blog about the library's audio-visual holdings

Responsibilities: processing of collections, reference, and the curating of exhibits.

Major projects:

- Exhibit 'Capturing China, 1913–1929: Photographs, Films and Letters of Diplomat John Van Antwerp MacMurray' (Mudd Manuscript Library, Oct 2007–Jan 2008)
- Exhibit 'Robert F. Goheen at Princeton, 1936–2006' (Firestone Library, Sep–Dec 2006)

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCES AND SKILLS

Professional and creative writing

- Articles about archival exhibits and collections, 2008–17 (see <https://helenevanrossum.com/publications>)
- Four picture books in Dutch, one of which was translated in the US (2004–06, 2018); Finalising YA historical novel, set in Amsterdam, 1786–87

Public presentations

- "That class of people called Low Dutch,' African Enslavement Among the Dutch Reformed Churches of Ulster County and New Jersey's Raritan Valley," with Wendy Harris at Historic Huguenot Street, New Paltz, NY (April 7, 2018)
- "Land, Faith, and Slaves: the shared heritage of the Hardenbergh family, Rutgers University, and the Dutch Reformed Church," with Thomas Frusciano and John Coakley at the Dutch Parsonage, Somerville NJ (June 13, 2017)

Website and social media content development

- Founder, educator and content creator of website "Past Times" <http://www.pasttimeshistory.com/>
- Editor and contributor to blog "What Exit? New Jerseyana at Rutgers University" at Rutgers Special Collections and University Archives
- Blog posts "Notes from the Archives"; maintenance Archives website at Curtis Institute of Music (2013–16)

Educational experience

- Shadow puppetry performance workshops and online tutorials about using silhouette puppets to engage with history, mythology, and stories from the past at <http://www.pasttimeshistory.com/> (2006–present)
- Instructor in Dutch in person (1995-96, 2017-18) and online (Berlitz Language School, 2021–present)

Computer literacy

Proficiency in ArchivesSpace and Archivist Toolkit; Microsoft Suite; Airtable; Oxygen; WordPress; Final Cut Pro; Adobe Photoshop; LibAnswers.

EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS

Academy of Certified Archivists

Certificate (2016)

School of Library, Archives and Information Studies, University College London, UK

Diploma, Archive Studies (1992)

University of Amsterdam, The Netherlands

MA, Modern History, specialisation in Dutch history (1989)