



Art Bank works include "Lake Shore, Late Afternoon" (2017), Kathleen Best-Gillmann, pastel on paper (left) and "Tempest" (2015), Marlene Rye, pastel on paper (right).

ART BANK PROGRAM

The Art Bank Program was established in 1984 to acquire artworks that could be displayed throughout the Department's offices and annexes. The works of art are displayed in staff offices, reception areas, conference rooms, the cafeteria, and related public areas. The collection consists of original works on paper (watercolors and pastels) as well as limited edition prints, such as lithographs, woodcuts, intaglios, and silk-screens. These items are acquired through purchases funded by contributions from each participating bureau.

RARE & SPECIAL BOOK COLLECTION

In recent years, the Ralph J. Bunche Library has identified books that require special care or preservation. Many of these publications have been placed in the Rare Books and Special Collections Room, which is located adjacent to the Reading Room. Among the treasures is a copy of the Nuremberg Chronicles, which was printed in 1493; volumes signed by Thomas Jefferson; and books written by Foreign Service authors.

CULTURAL HERITAGE COLLECTION

The Cultural Heritage Collection, which is managed by the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations, Office of Residential Design and Cultural Heritage, is responsible for identifying and maintaining cultural objects owned by the Department in its properties abroad. The collections are identified based upon their historic importance, antiquity, or intrinsic value.

SECRETARY OF STATE'S REGISTER OF CULTURALLY SIGNIFICANT PROPERTY

The Secretary of State's Register of Culturally Significant Property was established in January 2001 to recognize the Department's owned properties overseas that have historical, architectural, or cultural significance. Properties in this category include chanceries, consulates, and residences. All of these properties are used predominantly in general government operations and are thus classified as multi-use heritage assets. Financial information for multi-use heritage assets is presented in the principal statements. The register is managed by the Bureau of Overseas Buildings Operations, Office of Residential Design and Cultural Heritage.