

French Letter.

Imagine a typographic institution established in 1539 by King François I, with a collection of hundreds of thousands of letterforms as well as a number of functioning workshops including a foundry, presses for lithography and copper-plate engraving, not to mention a library of over 30,000 volumes. Now imagine that the entire collection has been earmarked for removal by the French government. Pencilled in for the first half of 2005, there's little time to prevent all those books, machines and character punches from being scattered around the globe. Never fear, a petition is already under way and, with 12,021 signatories at the time of writing, it's gathering speed. Join the cause at www.garamonpatrimoine.org

