



GUIDE TO EARLY MODERN SOURCES (BRITISH AND WESTERN EUROPEAN)

Printed and electronic resources

Bodleian History Faculty Library

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/history/training/guides>

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Introduction

Oxford's collections (primary & secondary) for early modern British and European history are outstanding by both national and international standards. The principal collections are housed in the Bodleian Library. This guide aims to give an overview of some of the Bodleian's most important and useful finding aids and collections.

Contacts

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Website: <http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/history>
Blog: <http://blogs.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/history>



Why not find us on Facebook and follow us on Twitter @HFLOxford.

History Subject Librarian (British and West European history)
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1. Bibliographical sources

i. Library catalogues

SOLO	http://solo.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/
COPAC (UK Union catalogue)	http://copac.jisc.ac.uk/
WorldCat [via SOLO]	[via SOLO + http://www.worldcat.org/]
Library of Congress	http://catalog.loc.gov/
Karlsruhe Virtual Catalog	https://kvk.bibliothek.kit.edu
Gemeinsamer Bibliotheksverbund Katalog (GBV)	http://www.gbv.de/
Zeitschriftendatenbank (German Union Catalogue of Serials)	http://zdb-katalog.de
Catalog Collectif de France	http://ccfr.bnf.fr/
Servizio Bibliotecario Nazionale (SBN)	http://opac.sbn.it/
Biblioteca Nacional de España (BNE) Catálogo	http://catalogo.bne.es/uhtbin/webcat

A guide to microform holdings in the Bodleian Library. 5th ed. (2002)

[In most reading rooms – ask staff]

ii. Bibliographical sources

★ *Bibliography of British and Irish History (BBIH)*

Being the successor to the *Royal Historical Society Bibliography* online, BBHI is a comprehensive guide to historical writing about the history of Britain, Ireland, and relations with the empire and Commonwealth from 55BC to the present. The database consists of more than 470,000 records giving as comprehensive a guide as possible to books, articles in journals, and articles in books published since 1901, and to a considered selection of those published before 1901. The database consolidates a number of existing bibliographies (primarily series published by the Royal Historical Society and the Institute of Historical Research) together with some additional material. It is not intended to be a guide to the raw material of history - the manuscripts, printed books, buildings, artefacts and so on which constitute the historical record. However, published guides to these sources are included, as are modern editions of primary material and a selection of printed primary material published up to 1900.

★ *Historical Abstracts*

Historical Abstracts is one of the most important bibliographical databases for the history of the world from 1450 to the present. Since 1954- it indexes journal articles, dissertations, book reviews (selectively) and essays from over 2,000 sources.

Oxford Bibliographies Online: Reformation & Renaissance

OBO is a library of disciplined-based subject modules. In each subject module, leading scholars have produced a literary guide to the most important and significant sources in an area of study they know best. The guides feature a selective list of bibliographic citations supported by direct recommendations about which sources to consult. Each topic has a unique editorial commentary to show how the cited sources are interrelated. The period of the Renaissance and Reformation, which spans roughly from the 14th through 17th centuries, is rich in history and culture. The field of Renaissance and Reformation studies, which has a critical importance for the understanding of Western culture, can best be approached through a combination of several disciplines including history, the arts, and literature.

Arts & Humanities Citation Index

Indexes content of major scholarly journals since 1975-. Particularly useful for finding book reviews.

British Humanities Index

An international abstracting and indexing tool for research in the humanities, BHI indexes over 320 internationally respected humanities journals and weekly magazines, as well as quality newspapers published in the UK and the United States. 1962-current.

★ *Index Religiosus: International Bibliography of Theology, Church History and Religious Studies*

Index Religiosus is a reference bibliography for academic publications in Theology, Religious Studies and Church History. It covers publications written in various European languages (English, French, German, Italian, Spanish, Dutch, etc.) and is the result of collaboration between the Catholic University of Louvain and the KU Leuven, which are both recognized internationally for their excellence in the field of Theology and Religious Studies.

JSTOR

JSTOR is a trusted archive of important scholarly journals. Amongst the journals of interest for the study of US history are *American Historical Review*, *Journal of African American History*, *Journal of American History*, *William and Mary Quarterly*. Thanks to its full-text searching functionality, JSTOR is also a resource to find articles and book reviews. However, being an archive of back issues, it does not provide access to current content.

Periodicals Archive Online & Periodicals Index Online

Previously known as PCI Full Text, this resource is a major online periodical archive that makes the backfiles of periodicals in the humanities and social sciences available electronically. Periodicals Index Online is an electronic index to millions of articles published in over 4,500 periodicals in the humanities and social sciences. Both resources are useful discovery tools for finding older published material.

DigiZeitschriften

DigiZeitschriften offers electronic access to the back issues of over 200 scholarly German journals, some going back to the 19th century.

Austria

Österreichische historische Bibliographie = Austrian historical bibliography. 1967-.

Available online at <http://wwwq.uni-klu.ac.at/oehb/oehbquery/>

Belgium

Bibliographie de l'Histoire de Belgique (BHB).

1952-2008 at http://www.rbph-btfg.be/fr_biblio.html.

2009- at <http://biblio.arch.be/webopac/Vubis.csp?Profile=BHBBGB&OpaLanguage=eng>

France

Répertoire bibliographique de l'histoire de France. 1920-31.

[URR K.8.38]

Bibliographie annuelle de l'histoire de France. 1953-.

[URR K.8.38]

Germany

Jahresberichte der Geschichtswissenschaft, 1880-1916

Jahresberichte der deutschen Geschichte, 1918-1924

Jahresberichte für deutsche Geschichte. (Leipzig, 1927-).

[URR K.7.278]

1974-2015 available online at <http://www.jdg-online.de/>

Historische Bibliographie. 1986-.

1990- available online at <http://historische-bibliographie.degruyter.com/>

Great Britain

Bibliography of British and Irish History (BBIH)

Also known as *Annual Bibliography of British and Irish History*, 1975-

Annual Bulletin of Historical Literature; IHR. 1, 1911

Writings on British history: a bibliography of books and articles on the history of Great Britain from about 400 A.D. to 1914 R.H.S.

Also available as the *Bibliography of British and Irish History* (s.a.)

Italy

Bibliografia Storica Nazionale. 1939-99.

2000- available online at <http://www.qcss.it/bsn/>.

Netherlands

De Digitale Bibliografie Nederlandse Geschiedenis

<http://www.dbng.nl/>

Spain

Indice histórico español. 1953-.

[URR K.9.100]

1 (1953)-124 (2009) at <http://revistes.ub.edu/index.php/IHE/index>

Switzerland

Bibliographie der Schweizergeschichte. (Bern, 1913-).

<https://www.nb.admin.ch/snl/en/home/documentation/publications/bibliographies/bibliography-on-swiss-history.html>

iii. Incunabula & early printed books

Incunabula Short Title Catalogue (ISTC)

<http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/istc/>

As a database of fifteenth-century printing, the ISTC contains information on nearly all recorded editions of incunabula, or books and other material printed from movable type in the fifteenth century, to the end of 1500. Indulgences and other single-sheet printing are recorded, but block books and other material produced without movable type are excluded. There are a substantial number of sixteenth-century editions in ISTC, books that have been assigned in the past to the incunable period in bibliographies and catalogues.

STC Pollard, Alfred W., and G. R. Redgrave, *A short-title catalogue of books printed in England, Scotland, & Ireland and of English books printed abroad, 1475-1640*. 2nd ed., rev. & enl. London: Bibliographical Society, 1976-91.

Available online via Early English Books Online (EEBO).

Wing, Donald Goddard, *Short-title catalogue of books printed in England, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, and British America, and of English books printed in other countries, 1641-1700*. 2nd ed., rev. and enl. 3 vols. New York: Index Committee of the Modern Language Association of America, 1972-88.

Available online via Early English Books Online (EEBO).



Early English Books Online (EEBO)

Useful for the early colonial period, this digital collection of early printed books 1473-1700 contains over 96,000 images of titles listed in Pollard & Redgrave's Short-Title Catalogue (1475 - 1640) and Wing's Short-Title Catalogue (1641-1700) and their revised edition. Includes works printed in British North America.



Eighteenth Century Collections Online (ECCO)

Useful for the early colonial period, this digital collection of 150,000 English-language titles and editions published between 1701 and 1800. ECCO includes every significant English-language and foreign-language title printed in the United Kingdom, along with thousands of important works from the Americas.



Making of the Modern World 1450-1850

Provides digital facsimile images on every page of 61,000 works of literature on social and economic history published from 1450 through 1850. Full-text searching on more than 12 million pages provides researchers unparalleled access to this vast collection of material on commerce, finance, social conditions, politics, trade and transport.



Early American Imprints, 1639-1800 (Evans Collection)

Collection of early printed American imprints (1639-1800), compiled originally in the American Bibliography by Charles Evans and enhanced by Roger Bristol's Supplement to Charles Evan's American Bibliography. The collection of 37,000+ imprints embraces every aspect of life in 17th and 18th century America (history, literary, religion, witchcraft, agriculture, foreign affairs, temperance, etc.). Genre of material is very wide-ranging. In addition to printed books, pamphlets and broadsides, the collection also covers anything from advertisements to chapbooks, diaries to gazetteers, and hymnals to wills.

Adams, Herbert Mayow, *Catalogue of books printed on the continent of Europe, 1501-1600, in Cambridge libraries*. 2 vols. London: Cambridge University Press, 1967.

[Weston RBMS Open Shelves R.Bibl.106]



Early European Books 1-4

Providing access to almost 25,000 rare and often unique books, Early European Books (EEB) is a key resource for those with a strong research interest in the period from 1450 – 1700, delivering a wide variety of primary sources from one of the most fascinating and influential periods in Western history. It provides access to European collections of historic and bibliographic importance.

All works printed in Europe before 1701, regardless of language, fall within the scope of EEB, together with all

pre-1701 works in European languages printed further afield. EEB builds upon and complements Early English Books Online (EEBO) and is largely concerned with non-Anglophone materials; however, books in English or printed in the English-speaking world that are already represented in EEBO are not omitted from EEB where they form an integral element of the predominantly non-Anglophone collections that have been made available for digital capture.

Collection 1 offers access to over 2,600 largely pre-1601 works held in Det Kongelige Bibliotek (Royal Library, Copenhagen). Selection of works is based on L. Nielsen's Dansk Bibliografi 1482–1600 and its supplement (1919–1996). All of the Royal Library's Danish and Icelandic imprints produced in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries fall within its scope.

Collection 2 contains early printed volumes from the Biblioteca Nazionale Centrale di Firenze (BNCF) (Florence, Italy), and covers specifically Nencini Aldine Collection, Marginalia, Incunabula and Sacred Representations (sacre rappresentazioni, popular verse plays depicting Biblical scenes).

Collection 3 and 4 contains works from 5 different libraries: BNCF, Koninklijke Bibliotheek (Den Haag, Netherlands), The Wellcome Library (London, UK), Det Kongelige Bibliotek (Copenhagen, Denmark), Bibliothèque nationale de France (Paris, France).

Zentrales Verzeichnis Digitalisierter Drucke (ZVDD)

<http://www.zvdd.de/>

A finding aid and catalogue to digitised books covering incunables from the 15th century to modern times. Covers those books digitised in Germany libraries. You can search by author, title, and browse by period and source library/collection. Use RSS feed to keep up to date with new additions. Brings together items digitised in other major German digital library portals such as HAB, BSB, SUB Goettingen.

Das Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachbereich erschienenen Drucke des 16. Jahrhunderts (VD 16), Bayerische Staatsbibliothek

<http://www.vd16.de/>

National bibliography of German imprints in the 16th century, is a site hosted by the Bavarian State Library. It offers archival location and bibliographic data for each imprint. In addition, the database has digitized images of the key opening pages of each source.

Das Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachraum erschienenen Drucke des 17. Jahrhunderts (VD17), Bayerische Staatsbibliothek

<http://www.vd17.de/>

National bibliography of German imprints in the 17th century, is a site hosted by the Bavarian State Library. It offers archival location and bibliographic data for each imprint. In addition, the database has digitized images of the key opening pages of each source.

Das Verzeichnis der im deutschen Sprachraum erschienenen Drucke des 18. Jahrhunderts (VD18), Bayerische Staatsbibliothek

<https://gso.gbv.de/DB=1.65/>

National bibliography of German imprints in the 18th century. Includes also digitised texts.

Munich Catalogue of Early Printed Books

Published by the Bavarian State Library and the University Library of Munich covers the periods of 1501 to 1840 for the Bavarian State Library and 1501 to 1850 for the University Library. The records represent the collections of the two oldest and biggest academic libraries of Bavaria within the boundaries as of 1800 which have grown over the centuries and are still in existence, and also include books formerly held by ecclesiastical libraries secularised at the beginning of the 19th century.

Frankfurt and Leipzig Book Fair Catalogues (1594-1860)

The digitized versions (from microfilm) of the catalogues for the Frankfurt and Leipzig book fairs, representing an almost complete run from 1594 to 1860.

Universal Short-Title Catalogue (USTC)

<http://ustc.ac.uk/>

Aims to be a collective database of all books published in Europe between the invention of printing and the end of the sixteenth century. The project is still in progress and best for finding citations to early printed material for French vernacular imprints and imprints from the Iberian Peninsula and Low Countries.

2. Dissertations

The Bodleian holds nearly all Oxford postgraduate theses in the humanities where a deposit requirement is stipulated by the University: all D.Phil. (doctoral) theses, all B.D. theses, all B.Litt./M.Litt. theses since Michaelmas Term 1953, and most B.Phil./M.Phil. theses since Michaelmas Term 1977.

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/finding-resources/theses>

Theses on specific areas (e.g. Commonwealth & US) or subjects (e.g. science, law) are held in those libraries of the Bodleian Libraries which collect in those areas.

All new humanities theses since January 1994, and an increasing number of D.Phil. theses catalogued retrospectively, can be found on SOLO.

If you need a thesis which is not held in Oxford, please check out [EThos](#), the British Library's service for downloading of theses from UK universities. From 2008 onwards, Oxford theses will be deposited in the **Oxford University Research Archive (ORA)** at http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/ora/oxford_etheses.

ProQuest Dissertations & Theses Global

With more than 1.6 million entries, the Dissertation Abstracts database is the single, authoritative source for information about doctoral dissertations and master's theses. The database represents the work of authors from over 1,000 graduate schools and universities. We add some 47,000 new dissertations and 12,000 new theses to the database each year. The database includes bibliographic citations for materials ranging from the first U.S. dissertation, accepted in 1861, to those accepted as recently as last semester. Citations for dissertations published from 1980 forward also include 350-word abstracts written by the author. Citations for master's theses from 1988 forward include 150-word abstracts. The full text of more than one million of these titles is available in paper and microform formats.

ProQuest Dissertations & Theses UK and Ireland

A comprehensive listing of theses with abstracts accepted for higher degrees by universities in Great Britain and Ireland since 1716.

Theses completed & in progress (Institute of Historical Research). 1967-.

1995- at <http://www.history.ac.uk/history-online/theses>

The Institute of Historical Research (London) publishes lists of history theses completed since 1995 and in progress. Note that the IHR has only included theses that students or their representatives have given us express permission to include. This means that some theses listed in previous years are no longer listed.

3. Primary sources

Listed below are some major collections of printed sources. However, there is much material also available as single monographs. These can be found using e.g. subject searches in SOLO:

Leicestershire (England) -- History -- Sources
 Venice (Italy) -- Commerce -- History
 Peasants' War, 1524-1525 -- Sources
 Elizabeth I, Queen of England, 1533-1603 -- Influence
 Habsburg, House of -- Foreign relations -- Spain -- History -- Sources

i. Europe: selected primary sources online



Early European Books 1-4

Providing access to almost 25,000 rare and often unique books, Early European Books (EEB) is a key resource for those with a strong research interest in the period from 1450 – 1700, delivering a wide variety of primary sources from one of the most fascinating and influential periods in Western history. It provides access to European collections of historic and bibliographic importance.

All works printed in Europe before 1701, regardless of language, fall within the scope of EEB, together with all pre-1701 works in European languages printed further afield. EEB builds upon and complements Early English Books Online (EEBO) and is largely concerned with non-Anglophone materials.

Collection 1 offers access to over 2,600 largely pre-1601 works held in Det Kongelige Bibliotek (Royal Library, Copenhagen). Selection of works is based on L. Nielsen's Dansk Bibliografi 1482–1600 and its supplement (1919–1996). All of the Royal Library's Danish and Icelandic imprints produced in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries fall within its scope.

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Digital Library of Classic Protestant Texts

Uniquely exhaustive resource for historians, theologians, political scientists, and sociologists studying the religious and social upheavals of the 16th and 17th centuries. Gives researchers access to an extensive range of seminal works from the Reformation and post-Reformation eras. With new content uploads occurring on a weekly basis, the database offers a constantly growing treasury of theological writings, biblical commentaries, confessional documents, and polemical treatises written by more than 300 Protestant authors.



Digital Library of the Catholic Reformation

Like their Protestant counterparts, Catholic authors of the 16th and 17th centuries took advantage of print technology to create a vast treasury of published documents--a legacy that to this day has been but selectively sampled and appreciated. With new content uploads occurring on a regular basis, the database offers a constantly growing collection of documents, including papal and synodal decrees, catechisms and inquisitorial manuals, biblical commentaries, theological treatises and systems, liturgical writings, saints' lives, and devotional works.

Electronic Enlightenment (EE)

Electronic Enlightenment has as its foundation major printed editions of correspondence centred on the "long 18th century". From the correspondence itself, the supporting critical apparatus and additional research, the project has developed a set of information categories that creates an intricate network of connections between the documents and enriches Electronic Enlightenment as a digital academic resource.

The Grand Tour

Provides full-text access to a selection of travel accounts of the English abroad, c1550-1850. Scanned materials include mss, printed works and visual materials, esp. letters, diaries and journals, account books, printed guidebooks, published travel writing, paintings and sketches, architectural drawings and maps.

ii. English history

W.B. Stephens, *Sources for English local history*. Rev. and expanded ed. (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1981) [DH R.Top.517 & HFL]



E.L.C. Mullins, *Texts and calendars: an analytical guide to serial publications*. Repr. with corrections (London: Royal Historical Society, 1978). [URR K.10.1]

Scottish texts and calendars : an analytical guide to serial publications (London: Royal Historical Society, 1987) [URR K.6.2/iv.,23]

Local Record Office guides [Weston Gallery Open Shelves R.13]

English history: selected printed primary sources

English Historical Documents (EHD). Vols. 5 (1485-1558), 6 (1660-1714), 7 (1714-1783). (London: Routledge, 1996).

This series aims to compile a wide selection of fundamental sources of English history.



Medieval and Early Modern Sources Online (MEMSO)

MEMSO provides a large and growing resource of essential medieval and early modern sources online. It is an excellent way to access a large library of books essential to the study of medieval and early modern England, Scotland and Ireland. Includes selections of annals and chronicles, calendars and registers, saints' lives, Rolls' Series and HMC reports and Statutes of the Realm.



State Papers Online I-IV: The Tudors, Stuarts & Commonwealth 1509-1714 (Foreign & Domestic)

State Papers Online contains the Tudor and Stuart governments "domestic" and "foreign" papers – the equivalent of today's documents from the Home and Foreign Offices and the Royal Archives. These everyday working papers of the British royal government reveal Tudor and Stuart society and government, religion and politics in all its drama allowing scholars to trace the remarkable – and frequently violent – transformations of the 16th & 17th centuries.

This major resource re-unites the Domestic, Foreign, Borders, Scotland, and Ireland State Papers of Britain with the Registers of the Privy Council and other State Papers now housed in the Cotton, Harley and Lansdowne collections in the British Library.

The papers are digitised images and are accompanied by the Calendars. The Calendars State Papers are fully searchable, and each Calendar entry has been linked directly to its related State Paper. Among the Calendars included are the HMC Calendars and the Haynes/Murkin transcriptions of the Cecil Papers in Hatfield House.

SPO is relevant to those studying Early Modern British and European history: diplomatic, political, social, cultural, local, legal, religious, kingship and queenship, exploration, travel and trade and early empire; Early Modern literature; Renaissance and Reformation Studies; Tudor & Stuart history.

The documents are accompanied by a range of research resources such as an online palaeography courses; online Latin courses; biographical dictionary; other sites of related primary sources; online printed book texts; catalogues and bibliographies; maps and place name sites and key portrait collections.



Calendar of State Papers (Domestic series) [URR K.5 + online]

The state papers domestic are the accumulated papers of the secretaries of state from c.1509 to c.1782, at which date the business of the two secretaries was divided between the home and foreign departments.

Records in foreign archives referring to England, e.g.

Calendar of State Papers (Foreign series) [URR K.5.46]

Calendar of State Papers (Spain) [URR K.5.61]

Calendar of State Papers (Venice) [URR K.5.61]

Calendar of State Papers (Milan) [URR K.5.62]

Calendar of Treasury Books and Papers 1557-1745 [URR K.5.53-54]

The "papers" are the original correspondence of the Treasury Board between 1557 and 1745, together with occasional minutes, reports, etc.

Calendar of Patent Rolls 1216-1575

[URR K.5.463]

From the thirteenth century, down to the present day, these documents have recorded the issue of royal letters open or 'patent', whereby the sovereign has conferred a privilege or communicated his or her will. Their contents provide key information about government action, intention and patronage, and they embrace a wide and varying range of business.

Thomason Tracts [microfilm]. 256 reels.

[online in EEBO]

One of the most important sources relating to the turbulent period of the English Civil War in the mid-seventeenth century, the Thomas Tracts is a vast collection of pamphlets, books, and newspapers, printed mainly in London between 1640 and 1661. The collection consists of over 22,000 printed items.


A collection of the state papers of John Thurloe, Esq./ ed. T. Birch (*Thurloe State Papers*). 7 vols. 1742.

[online in ECCO]

The papers of John Thurloe (1616-68), onetime Secretary of State during the Protectorate, are a major source for the history of the Protectorate.

List & Index Society (Series)

[DH LISoc]

Aims to provide photographic copies of unprinted lists and indexes kept in the Public Record Office, London, and of other unprinted guides and aids to the use of public archives in the British Isles. Publications include lists, texts, editions and tabulations of historical manuscripts. Also continues publication of some of the key series of government documents, notably the *Calendar of Patent Rolls*. It is currently publishing transcripts of the medieval customs accounts and calendars of such little known but key series as HO 47, Judges' Reports on Criminals 1783 to 1830. Recent publications include medieval royal witness lists and itineraries, and gazetteers of early Tudor taxation and medieval markets and fairs. Index of publications available online at <http://www.listandindexsociety.org.uk/allpubs.html>. Some 240+ titles catalogued separately in SOLO. Includes e.g. *Samples of exchequer equity pleadings and suits: 1685-86, 1734-35, 1784-85 and 1818-19* / by Jessica Cooke and Henry Horowitz. List & Index Society (Series); 278 (Kew: List and Index Society, 2000).

Proceedings of the Old Bailey, London, 1674-1913<http://www.oldbaileyonline.org/>

The Proceedings contain accounts of trials which took place at the Old Bailey. The crimes tried were mostly felonies (predominantly theft), but also include some of the most serious misdemeanours. The first published collection of trials at the Old Bailey dates from 1674, and from 1678 accounts of the trials at each session (meeting of the Court) at the Old Bailey were regularly published. Inexpensive, and targeted initially at a popular rather than a legal audience, the Proceedings were produced shortly after the conclusion of each sessions and were a commercial success.

John Foxe's Book of Martyrs, or, Actes and Monuments of Matters Most Speciall and Memorable
<http://www.johnfoxe.org/>

Transcriptions of all four editions of Foxe's text that were published during his lifetime. These books cover the reign of Mary (1553-1558) and constitute the climax of Foxe's historical and teleological argument. They also form one of the principal sources for the history of the reign. Much of the information which they contain can be verified, or modified, from other sources; but in some cases Foxe's narrative is unique. Oral sources are sometimes identified, sometimes not; all are equally unverifiable. Foxe was very close to the events that he was describing, had excellent contacts among the English protestants, and a clearly defined agenda.

Empire Online 1492-1969

Bringing together approximately 60,000 images of original manuscript and printed documents from libraries and archives around the world, Empire On-Line is a new kind of electronic publishing project, one which will enable undergraduates, postgraduates, academics and researchers to explore colonial history, politics, culture and society. Published in five thematic sections over the next four years, Empire On-Line is fully searchable and offers thematic essays by leading scholars, embedded with hypertext links which relate directly to the documentary evidence provided. Later sections will concentrate on Empire Writing and the Literature of Empire (Section II); The Visible Empire (Section III); Religion & Empire (Section IV); and Race, Class & Colonialism (Section V).

British and Irish Women's Letters and Diaries 1500-1950

Includes the immediate experiences of 430 women, as revealed in approximately 80,000 pages of diaries and letters. Particular care has been taken to index this material so that it can be searched more thoroughly than ever before. When complete, the collection will include more than 100,000 pages of primary materials spanning more than 300 years.

Calendars or texts produced by record societies British and foreign, e.g.*Camden Society Publications*[URR K.6.1 + selections via [OU eJournals](#)]

The Camden Society was established in 1838 for the purpose of publishing historical and antiquarian information. The publications are a miscellaneous collection of British historical and antiquarian information. Some items go back as far as 1400. Includes e.g. "Household Accounts and Disbursement Books of Robert Dudley, Earl of Leicester, 1558-1561, 1584-1586"

List of titles is also available online at <http://royalhistosoc.org/publications/camden-series>.

Selden Society Publications

[URR K.6.5 + online in HeinOnline]

The Selden Society is the only learned society and publisher devoted entirely to English legal history. Most of the annual volumes consist of original source materials, never before in print: early law reports, courts' records, judges' notebooks, legal treatises, precedent and practice books, and compilations of documents brought together by the Society's editors for the first time. Each volume has the full original text coupled with a modern translation, made as accessible as possible for the modern reader.

List of titles is also available online at http://www.law.harvard.edu/programs/selden_society/pub.html.

Harleian Society Publications

[DH R.2.256-258]

The Harleian Society's (est. 1869) objectives are "the transcribing, printing and publishing of heraldic visitations of counties, parish registers or any manuscripts relating to genealogy, family history and heraldry." The majority of the volumes are the herald's visitations. From the early 16th century to the late 17th century, heralds of the College of Arms literally visited each county, recording pedigrees of families with the right to bear arms.

List of titles and their indices is also available online at <http://fmq.ac/Harleian/Volumes.htm>.

Catholic Record Society Publications

[URR K.6.3]

The Society has published a wide range of material illustrating the history and culture of the British Catholics. It has printed articles on recusancy, family history, the education of priests and layfolk, and the liturgy and spirituality of the English Catholics. The records of old Catholic missions and parishes throughout the land as well as the histories of seminaries, colleges, and convents have also been printed. The Society has published the personal letters, diaries and other papers of priests and layfolk, in addition to important pieces on English literature, music, architecture and other aspects of their cultural life.

See <http://catholicrecordsociety.co.uk/publications/>

Victoria History of the Counties of England (VCH) (interfiled with county histories)

[DH R.Top]

Founded in 1899 and originally dedicated to Queen Victoria, the VCH is an encyclopaedic record of England's places and people from earliest times to the present day. It is a key resource for English local history.

Selectively available online in British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>.

Parliament (see also separate guide for [Official Papers](#))

Statutes of the Realm; Printed by command of His Majesty King George the Third. London: MDCCCX.-MDCCCXXVIII. [URR K.5.323 + online in ECCO or MEMSO]

Contains the legislation of the English crown between 1235 and 1713 in various Parliaments.

Statues at Large...

[var. eds. online in ECCO]

*Journals of the House of Commons (1771-1839)*

[DH R.4.4]

Official minute book of the House of Commons. Includes indices. Selection available on British History Online

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>

*Journals of the House of Lords (upto 1800)*

[DH R.4.3]

Official minute book of the House of Lords. Includes indices. Selection available on British History Online

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>

*U.K. Parliamentary Papers (ProQuest)*

Includes over 200,000 House of Commons sessional papers from 1715 to the present, Debates (Hansard) and supplementary material back to 1688. Both Houses of Parliament, the Commons and the Lords, produce parliamentary papers. Although UKPP is a collection of Commons papers, some from the Lords are also included. This is because the Lords often presented papers to the Commons, such as reports prepared by Lords

Select Committees. These reports were then included in the House of Commons Papers, and therefore appear in HCPP. *Subject Catalogue of the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers 1801-1900* [Off. Papers: O.Ref/Parl.29]

Cobbett's parliamentary history of England: From the Norman Conquest, in 1066 to the year 1803. (London, 1806-[1820]).

[online in *Making of the Modern World* and [Digital.Bodleian](#)]

An unofficial record of Parliamentary proceedings between 1066 and 1803, which later became officially known as Hansard.

History of Parliament (1386-1832)

[URR K.10.49]

Contains all of the text and illustrations from the 23 printed volumes of "The History of Parliament", covering the majority of parliaments between 1386 and 1820. See also <https://www.historyofparliamentonline.org>.

iii. Scotland



Medieval and Early Modern Sources Online (MEMSO)

MEMSO provides a large and growing resource of essential medieval and early modern sources online. It is an excellent way to access a large library of books essential to the study of medieval and early modern England, Scotland and Ireland. Includes selections of annals and chronicles, calendars and registers, saints' lives, Rolls' Series and HMC reports and Statutes of the Realm. It's particularly strong for Scottish history.

Calendar of Border Papers (1560 – 1603)

Calendar of Home Office Papers of the Reign of George III (1760 – 1775)

Calendar of State Papers relating to Scotland and Mary Queen of Scots (1547 - 1597)

Calendar of Treasury Papers (1696 - 1728) & Books (1729-1745),

Pitcairn's Criminal Trials in Scotland (1488 - 1624)

Register of the Privy Council of Scotland

Register of the Privy Seal of Scotland (1488 - 1574)

Scottish historical documents; [compiled by] Gordon Donaldson. Various editions.

Scottish History Society Publications

[URR K.6.2 & <http://digital.nls.uk/scottish-history-society-publications/>]

The Scottish History Society is the leading publisher of manuscript sources relating to the history of Scotland. Founded in 1886, the Society has published over 170 volumes; taken together, these form a collection of great richness and variety illustrating the history of the nation as recorded by contemporaries, covering all periods from the twelfth to the twentieth centuries and a very wide range of topics - social, economic, legal, political, constitutional, diplomatic, military and religious history.

e.g.

Scottish texts and calendars: an analytical guide to serial publications; David and Wendy B. Stevenson. (London; Edinburgh: Royal Historical Society; Scottish History Society, 1987).

Rotuli Scaccarii Regum Scotorum = The Exchequer Rolls of Scotland. 1264-1600. Edited by John Stuart and George Burnett et al. 23 vols. (Edinburgh, H.M. General Register House, 1878-1908). [URR K.5.71]

Registrum Secreti Sigilli Regum Scotorum = The Register of the Privy Seal of Scotland. Edited by M. Livingstone et al. 1488-1584. 8 vols. (Edinburgh, H.M. General Register House/Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1908-1982). [URR K.5.70]

Acta Dominorum Concilii = Acts of the Lords of Council in civil causes. Edited by George Neilson et al. 1478-1503. 3 vols. (Edinburgh, H.M. General Register House/Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 1839-1993). [URR K.5.67]

Acts of the lords of council in public affairs, 1501-1554: selections from the *Acta dominorum concilii* introductory to the Register of the Privy Council of Scotland. Edited by Robert Kerr Hannay. (Edinburgh: H. M. General Register House, 1932). [URR K.5.67]

The Acts of the Parliaments of Scotland, 1124-1707. (Edinburgh, 1814-75).

11 vols & index.

[URR K.5.354]

iv. Ireland



Medieval and Early Modern Sources Online (MEMSO)

MEMSO provides a large and growing resource of essential medieval and early modern sources online. It is an excellent way to access a large library of books essential to the study of medieval and early modern England, Scotland and Ireland. Includes selections of annals and chronicles, calendars and registers, saints' lives, Rolls' Series and HMC reports and Statutes of the Realm. It's particularly strong for Scottish history.

Some key sources:

- Calendar of the State Papers relating to Ireland. 1509-1669.
- Calendar of Patent and Close Rolls of Chancery in Ireland (1514-1633)
- Calendar of the Manuscripts of the Marquis of Ormonde (1572 - 1685)

The journals of the House of Commons of the Kingdom of Ireland. 28 vols. (Dublin, 1753-91)
[selection in Making of the Modern World]

v. Germany & Austria

Note: The Bodleian's collections in **German studies** are supplemented by those held in the Taylor Institution Library.

Dahlmann, F.C. (Friedrich Christoph): *Quellenkunde der deutschen Geschichte*: Bibliographie der Quellen und der Literatur zur deutschen Geschichte. 10th ed. (Stuttgart: A. Hiersemann, 1965-). [URR K.9.6]

Selected printed primary sources

Deutsche Reichstagsakten / herausgegeben durch die Historische Commission bei der Königlichen Akademie der Wissenschaften.

Quellensammlung zur deutschen Geschichte.

Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Quellen zur Geschichte der deutschen Königswahl und des Kurfürstenkollegs*; herausgegeben von Mario Krammer. 2. Aufl. 2 vols. (Leipzig: B.G. Teubner, 1925-1932).

Publicationen aus den königlichen preussischen Staatsarchiven [URR K.9.2]

Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Briefwechsel Friedrichs des Grossen mit Grumbkow und Maupertuis (1731-1759)* / Hrsg. von Reinhold Koser. Veranlasst und unterstützt durch die K. Archiv-verwaltung. (Leipzig, 1898).

Fontes rerum Austriacarum [URR K.9.5]

Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Briefe und Akten zur Geschichte Wallensteins, 1630-1634*/ herausg. von H. Hallwich. 4 vols. (Wien, 1912).

Deutsche Reichstagsakten

- Jüngere Reihe. Deutsche Reichstagsakten unter Kaiser Karl V.
- Mittlere Reihe. Deutsche Reichstagsakten unter Maximilian I.
- Reichsversammlungen 1556 -1662.



Flugschriften des frühen 16. Jahrhunderts. [microfiches] ed. H-J. Köhler et al. (Zug: IDC, 1978-87)

Contains 5,000 pamphlets in German and Latin, printed 1501-1530 within the Holy Roman Empire and in libraries, museums and archives of West Germany and West Berlin. Annual registers at BOD 25821 e. 63 and at BOD 25821 e. 64; Bibliographie der Flugschriften des 16. Jahrhunderts, Part i, Hans-Joachim Köhler (Tübingen, 1991-) accompanies this series. See also <http://www.bsb-muenchen.de/mikro/litup396.htm> for guidance on using this set.



Flugschriften des späteren 16. Jahrhunderts, 1531-1600. [microfiches] Series I and II, ed. H.-J. Köhler et al. (Leiden: IDC, 1990-)

Continues the previous collection and contains 3,666 pamphlets. Particularly good for events such as anti-papist movement, persecution of Jews and Witches and religious and political upheaval following the Reformation. Each year's instalment consists of microfiches in binder with a guide and annual register.



Luthers Werke

Luthers' Works (Fortress Edition)

Martin Luther (1483-1546) is one of the central figures in German and European history; a theologian, whose work changed the course of world history. Apart from his influence on faith and theology, and the cultural and political changes taking place in the western world during the 16th century, his contribution to the development of a unified German language is particularly outstanding.

Luthers Werke on the World Wide Web reproduces the Weimar Edition in electronic form. The Weimar Edition, which is regarded as a monumental work in the field of theology and the German language, was first published in 1883 and includes 127 volumes.

Paas, John Roger, *The German Political Broadsheet, 1600-1700*. 12 vols. (Wiesbaden, 1985). [URR K.9.1]

The most complete record of German 17th century broadsheets which are important sources covering a tumultuous period in German and Central European history. In particular the first half of the century saw the Thirty Years' War 1618-1648, one of Europe's most violent religious wars. While the majority of the broadsheets are located in German libraries, museums and archives, the ambition to publish as complete a record of German broadsheets as possible has sent Paas on research trips to over 180 libraries, archives and private collections across Europe and the US. Over 3,000 broadsheets are reproduced in full-page size and all known copies are cited. The entire set publishes the broadsheets chronologically. Each volume introduces the period with a helpful scholarly overview of the years and period in question. The repositories are carefully listed and each plate has a brief description and shelfmarks.

vi. France, Belgium & Low Countries

Bibliographie de l'histoire de France: catalogue méthodique et chronologique des sources et des ouvrages relatifs à l'histoire de France depuis les origines jusqu'en 1789; par G. Monod et al. (Paris: Hachette et cie, 1888).

Useful guide to collections of primary sources listed according to general as well as regional categories, types of documents as well as subject and period. Valuable for lists of regional learned society series which often published the edited documents vital for local and regional history.

Les sources de l'histoire de France: notices bibliographiques et analytiques des inventaires et des recueils de documents relatifs à l'histoire de France; par Alfred Franklin. (Paris: Firmin-Didot et cie, 1877). [URR Ref.URR.30]

Selected primary sources

Collection de documents inédits sur l'histoire de France. (1832-) [URR K.8.11]

Over 300 volumes containing chronicles, cartularies, correspondance, reports, instructions, and revolutionary, philological, philosophical, juridical, and archaeological documents. Includes e.g. *Lettres de Catherine de Médicis* / publiées par m. le Cte Hector de La Ferrière. 11 vols. (Paris, 1880-1943).

Les sources de l'histoire de France: XVIe siècle (1494-1610); par Henri Hauser. 4 vols. (Paris: A. Picard, 1906-1915). [URR K.7.185]

Bibliothèque des écoles françaises d'Athènes et de Rome

Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Malte, frontière de chrétienté, 1530-1670* / par Anne Brogini. (Rome, 2006).

Société de l'histoire de France (Series) [URR: K.8.14]

Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Mémoires, 1760-1820*, de Jean-Balthazar de Bonardi du Ménil, gentilhomme normand / édités par Claude Hohl. (Paris: Champion, 2001)

Anti-Calvin

Comprises the writings of French Catholics against the doctrines of John Calvin (1509-1564) and other protestant leaders. France was a major centre in the clash between Catholics and Protestants during the sixteenth century. Much of the Protestant literature was in French in the hopes of converting the French people. In response, the Catholic Church preserved its position in France with these documents. This archive includes both sixteenth-century attacks on Calvinism and Protestantism as well as defences of the Catholic doctrine.

Huguenots

This collection offers a comprehensive survey of the original writings of the French Huguenot authors, from the first stirrings of radical dissent in the 1530s through to the end of the century. The selection privileges first and foremost original writings of authors writing within France and for an exclusively French audience. Thus whereas Calvin's Genevan writings are not included, the tracts penned by Theodore de Bèze as part of the polemic exchange during the Colloquy of Poissy (1561) do appear here.

All told the writings collected here reveal an intellectually vibrant movement, meeting unprecedented challenges and later hardship with that mixture of confidence, aggression, and resolution in the face of adversity that characterises Calvinist churches of this era throughout Europe.

Recueil des instructions données aux ambassadeurs et ministres de France depuis les traités de Westphalie jusqu'à la révolution française; publiés sous les auspices de la Commission des archives diplomatiques au Ministère des affaires étrangères. 30 vols. (Paris: F. Alcan, 1884-19--). [URR K.8.17]

Frantext.

A corpus of French texts from the 16th to the 20th century. It includes over 3,500 works, eighty per cent of which are literary.

Academie royale des sciences, des lettres et des beaux-arts de Belgique, Brussels. Commission royale d'histoire. [URR: K.8.1]

Mostly catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Recueil des instructions générales aux nonces de Flandre (1596-1635)* / publié par Alfred Cauchie et René Maere (1904).

Rijks geschiedkundige publicatiën. Grote serie & Kleine serie

Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. Alting, Egbert, 1518-1596: *Diarium, 1553-1594*. ('s-Gravenhage: M. Nijhoff, 1964).

Erasmus, Desiderius, *Collected Works of Erasmus* (Toronto, 1974-) [LRR Th.Text.E.510]

Multi-volume series containing his correspondence and principle writings. His interests covered history, education, theology, classics, political theory, literature and the history of ideas. An important source for the intellectual history of the Renaissance and Reformation.

vii. Italy & Spain***Documenti per servire alla storia di Sicilia.***

Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Maria Luisa Gangemi: Il tabulario del monastero San Benedetto di Catania (1299-1633)*. (Palermo: Società siciliana per la storia patria, 1999)

Chambers, D. & Pullan, B. (eds.), *Venice: a documentary history 1450-1630* (Toronto, 2001)

Machiavelli, Niccolò, *The Chief Works and Others. 3 vols. (Durham, 1965)*

Colección de documentos inéditos para la historia de España; [ed.] por M. Fernandez Navarrete [and others]. 1-112 vols. (Madrid, 1842-95)

Later title: *Archivo documental español*. Real Academia de la Historia (Spain). 1, 1950- Accompanied by: *Catálogo de la Colección de documentos inéditos para la historia de España* / por Julián Paz et al. 2 vols. (Madrid, 1930-31).

Includes e.g. *Correspondencia de Felipe II con sus embajadores en la corte de Inglaterra 1558 á 1584*. 5 vols. (Madrid, 1886-1888).

Fuentes históricas aragonesas

Catalogued separately. Includes e.g. *Estatutos y actos municipales de Jaca y sus montañas, 1417-1698* / Manuel Gómez de Valenzuela. (Zaragoza: Institución "Fernando el Católico", 2000).

Fernández Alvarez, M (ed), *Corpus documental de Carlos V. 5 vols. (1973-1981)*

4. Newspapers

Most of Bodleian's newspapers are catalogued on SOLO. For early English newspapers, it is important to check Milford & Sutherland (s.b.) for holdings and shelfmarks. Also, the British Library's newspaper catalogue is very useful and can be searched, for instance, by location or period, at <http://explore.bl.uk>. A guide to finding and using online newspapers is at <https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/newspapers>

A Catalogue of English newspapers and periodicals in the Bodleian Library, 1622-1800 / by R. T. Milford and D. M. Sutherland. (Oxford, OUP, 1936) [LRR B1.1202]

An annotated catalogue with details of newspapers which are not catalogued in SOLO.

★ 17th-18th Century Burney Collection Newspapers

This database provides access to over 1,270 newsbooks, newspapers, pamphlets and a variety of other news materials published in England, Ireland and Scotland, plus papers from British colonies in Asia and the Americas. The collection is particularly rich in 18th century London newspapers. All the major titles are included, such as the Daily Courant from 1702 to 1735, the first daily newspaper published in London, and the London Gazette from 1665. Periodicals, such as Tatler (1709-1711) and Spectator (1711-1712), are also included.

Also represented are English provincial titles from 1712, Irish newspapers (the earliest being the Dublin Intelligence of 1691), Scottish ones from 1708 onwards, and many 18th century American ones too, including the New England Courant (1721-1723).

★ 17th and 18th Century Nichols Newspaper Collection

Features the newspapers, periodicals, pamphlets and broadsheets that form the Nichols newspaper collection held at the Bodleian Library. All 296 volumes of bound material, covering the period 1672-1737 have been digitized. This collection charts the history of the development of the press in England and provides invaluable insight into 17th and 18th century England.

★ Eighteenth Century Journals

This is a digital collection of 18th century journals published between 1693 and 1799, including many rare or ephemeral titles drawn from the Hope Collection at the Bodleian Library and the Harry Ransom Humanities Research Centre, University of Texas at Austin. The journals are invaluable to the study of all aspects of the eighteenth century, including crime, sport, advertising, the theatre; fashion; politics, revolution; agriculture; social issues and society life. There are also polemics, poetry, letters to the press, reviews of drama and novels, contemporary adverts and essays on almost every conceivable topic.

Early English Newspapers I and II [microfilm] [selections in *British Periodicals*]

A comprehensive microfilm collection of 17th and 18th-century English newspapers, which give researcher critical insights into cultural trends, political currents, social problems and historic events. Among the titles found in this essential collection are British Journal; Daily Courant; General Advertiser; Lloyd's Evening Post and British Chronicle; London Gazette; Morning Chronicle and London Advertiser and more than 1,300 others. Selectively also available online as *British Periodicals* (s.b.).

Accompanied by: *Early English newspapers: bibliography and guide to the microfilm collection* / compiled by Susan M. Cox and Janice L. Budeit. [LRR B1.1202B]

British Periodicals, 1680s-1930s

British Periodicals traces the development and growth of the periodical press in Britain from its origins in the seventeenth century through to the Victorian 'age of periodicals' and beyond. On completion this unique digital archive will consist of almost 500 periodical runs published from the 1680s to the 1930s, comprising six million keyword-searchable pages and forming an unrivalled record of more than two centuries of British history and culture.

Provides access to the full-text of nearly 460 British popular and literary periodicals published from the 17th century to the early 20th century. Includes amongst others the Anti-Slavery Reporter, London Review, Royal Magazine or Gentleman's Monthly Companion, some religious titles such as The Wesleyan-Methodist Magazine. Topics covered include literature, philosophy, history, science, music, architecture, drama, the fine arts and the social sciences.

5. Reference works



Cambridge Histories Online

CHO is a digital collection of 250+ titles published since 1960 as part of the Cambridge Histories series. The collection presents an authoritative reference compendium for histories of many countries (e.g. Britain, Europe, US, Middle East, Far East, Latin America) and over 15 academic subjects (e.g. Classics, History, History of Science, Literature, Music, Philosophy, Religion).

The Cambridge history of the book in Britain. 6+ vols. (Cambridge, 1999-) [Weston RBMSS Open Shelves R.Pal.14. 65 + in *Cambridge Histories Online*]

The Cambridge history of libraries in Britain and Ireland. 3 vols. (Cambridge, 2006) [Weston RBMSS Open Shelves R. 5.583 + in *Cambridge Histories Online*]

The history of the University of Oxford. 8 vols. (Oxford, 1984-) [DH R.Top.625]

A history of the University of Cambridge. 4 vols. (Cambridge, 1988-2004) [DH R.Top.536]

Oxford Reference

A collection of 100+ dictionaries, language and subject reference works. Includes e.g. *A Dictionary of Popes*, *The Oxford Dictionary of Saints*, *The Oxford Companion to British History*, etc.

Dictionnaires des XVIe et XVIIe siècles

A database of ten historical French dictionaries of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. It allows you to search these dictionaries all at the same time. They include:

- Dictionnaire françois-latin de Robert Estienne, Paris, 1549
- Thresor de la langue françoise, tant ancienne que moderne de Jean Nicot, Paris, 1606
- A Dictionarie of the french and english tongues de Randle Cotgrave, London, 1611
- Les Origines de la langue françoise de Gilles Ménage, Paris, 1650
- Dictionnaire françois de Pierre Richelet, Genève, 1680
- Essai d'un dictionnaire universel d'Antoine Furetière, Amsterdam, 1687
- Dictionnaire universel d'Antoine Furetière, La Haye et Rotterdam, 1690
- Dictionnaire étymologique ou Origines de la langue françoise de Gilles Ménage, Paris, 1694
- Le Dictionnaire de l'Académie françoise dédié au Roy, Paris, 1694
- Le Dictionnaire des Arts et des Sciences de Thomas Corneille, Paris, 1694

i. Biographical dictionaries

World Biographical Archive / World Biographical Information System

World Biographical Information System, the online version of the World Biographical Archive, is one of the most comprehensive biographical databases available, providing short biographical information on 4 million people with a historical coverage from the 4th century BC to the present. It contains 3.85 million digital facsimile articles from more than 3,700 reference works, including biographical information on 2.3 million people worldwide.

Repertorium Academicum Germanicum: The Graduate Scholars of the Holy Roman Empire, 1250 – 1550

<http://www.rag-online.org>

The task of the Repertorium Academicum Germanicum (RAG) is to collect biographical and social data on the theologians, jurists, physicians, and masters of arts who studied at a university between 1250 and 1550. The information is entered into a prosopographic database that will eventually cover the entire territory of the Holy Roman Empire. Nongraduate nobles who attended universities are also taken into account. The vast collection of data in the RAG, which will ultimately constitute a "who is who" of the scholars of the Empire, offers diverse new interdisciplinary perspectives. It will facilitate qualitative and quantitative statements on the intellectual elite of the Empire, their European networks, and institutional and territorial comparisons. The scholars' role in premodern society will thereby be describable on a firm empirical basis and explicable within the framework of modern educational research, with special reference to social, cultural, and scientific history. The RAG is expected to contain information on up to 60,000 scholars.

a. National Biographies**France**

Dictionnaire de biographie française. 19 vols. (Paris, 1929-) [LRR B3.521]

Unlike the DNB the *Dictionnaire de biographie française* is incomplete and only goes up to letter L.

Germany

Allgemeine deutsche Biographie [LRR B3.601]

Neue deutsche Biographie [LRR B3.603]

Also available online at <http://www.deutsche-biographie.de/>.

Biographie-Portal

<http://www.biographie-portal.eu>

More than 100,000 scholarly biographies of persons from all social backgrounds and nearly all periods of German, Austrian, and Swiss history can be searched.

Great Britain

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. New ed. (2004)

An illustrated collection of 50,000 specially written biographies of the men and women who shaped all aspects of Britain's past, from the fourth century BC to the year 2000. Remarkable people in any walk of life who were connected with the British Isles - excluding living people. It includes not just the great and good, but people who have left a mark for any reason, good, bad, or bizarre.

Ireland

Dictionary of Irish Biography

An important reference work, it offers biographical information about Irish men and women who made a significant contribution in Ireland and abroad. It also includes information about the lives of people born outside Ireland, but who made a significant contribution in that country. You have a choice of full-text searching, advanced searching, browsing or trying the lucky dip ("Read a random life").

Italy

Dizionario biografico degli italiani [LRR B3.713]

Also available online at <http://www.treccani.it/Portale/ricerche/searchBiografie.html>

The DBI currently runs from A to R and publishes two volumes each year, with ca. 300 entries in each volume.

Netherlands

Het Biografisch Portaal van Nederland <http://www.biografischportaal.nl/>

Biography database of various leaders and other prominent figures from Dutch history, from the earliest times up to the present day.

Switzerland

Historisches Lexikon der Schweiz. (Basel, 2002-). <http://www.hls-dhs-dss.ch/>

ii. Directories & dictionaries (by topic)**a. Alumni**

Venn, John: *Alumni cantabrigienses*: a biographical list of all known students, graduates and holders of office at the University of Cambridge, from the earliest times to 1900 / Compiled by John Venn and J.A. Venn. 10 vols. [DH LF124 VEN 1922]

Foster, Joseph: *Alumni Oxonienses*: the members of the University of Oxford, 1500-1714 [& 1715-1886] [DH LF524 FOS 1887]

b. Church

Fasti ecclesiae Anglicanae, 1541-1857. [Higher Clergy of the Church of England]

Also available online at British History Online <http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>.

[Weston Gall. Open Shelves R.12.149g]

Fasti ecclesiae Scoticae medii aevi ad annum 1638. Available online in MEMSO.

[Weston Gall. Open Shelves R.12.165]

Fasti ecclesiae Hibernicae: the succession of the prelates and members of the Cathedral bodies of Ireland. [Weston Gall. Open Shelves R.12.170]

Clergy of the Church of England project <http://www.theclergydatabase.org.uk/>

The Clergy of the Church of England Database (CCEd) is a collaborative project, funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council and bringing together scholars from King's College London, the University of Kent at Canterbury and the University of Reading. Its objective is to create a relational database documenting the careers of all Church of England clergymen between 1540 and 1835.

Biographisch-Bibliographisches Kirchenlexikon (BBKL)

A well-known printed reference work, the Biographisch-Bibliographisches Kirchenlexikon (BBKL) is a German biographical encyclopedia related to the history of the Church, founded 1975 by Friedrich Wilhelm Bautz. It contains more than 20,000 biographical articles with bibliographies of the person's work and selected secondary readings.

c. Law

Register of admissions to the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple, from the fifteenth century to the year 1944 / Compiled by H. A. C. Sturgess. (London, 1949).

The register of admissions to Gray's inn, 1521-1889, together with the register of marriages in Gray's inn chapel, 1695-1754 / by J. Foster. (London, 1889)

The records of the Honorable society of Lincoln's inn; admissions from 1420 (to 1893) and chapel registers. (London, 1896)

d. Army & Navy

English army lists and commission registers, 1661-1714

The commissioned sea officers of the Royal Navy, 1660-1815

6. Manuscripts, archives & Special Collections

i. Finding aids & catalogues

Bodleian Library: Dept. of Special Collections & Western MSS

<http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/weston/finding-resources/catalogues>

Finding Aids - Early Modern & Modern Manuscripts at the Bodleian Library

<https://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/modern-sc>

Bodleian Library: Quarto catalogues [Weston RBMSS Open Shelves R.Ref.721-26]

<http://libguides.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/modern-sc/quarto>

A summary catalogue of western manuscripts in the Bodleian Library at Oxford which have not hitherto been catalogued in the Quarto series. 7 vols. (Oxford, 1895-1953)

[Weston RBMSS Open Shelves Z6621.O96 BOD 1895]

British Library: Manuscript catalogue (Western mss)

<http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/manuscripts/>

British Library: Catalogue of illuminated manuscripts

<http://www.bl.uk/catalogues/illuminatedmanuscripts/>

Janus: Cambridge University manuscript online catalogue <http://janus.lib.cam.ac.uk/>

Catalogues of manuscripts [Weston RBMSS Open Shelves R.Cat.]

e.g. British Library, Bibliothèque Nationale, Folger Shakespeare Library, etc.

**The National Archives (UK) (TNA)**<http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

which includes the National Register of Archives and Access to Archives (A2A).

**National Register of Archives (integrated into TNA Discovery)**

A register of manuscript collections for British and British colonial history held in UK and overseas archives. The indexes to the register consist of the personal name, family and corporate bodies' indexes and provide details of the archive. Integrated into TNA Discovery. Search by Record Creator.

Access to Archives (A2A)<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/>

Contains catalogues of archives held across England and dating from the 900s to the present day. Integrated into TNA Discovery.

ARCHON<http://discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/find-an-archive>

Directory includes contact details for record repositories in the United Kingdom and also for institutions elsewhere in the world which have substantial collections of manuscripts noted under the indexes to the National Register of Archives. Integrated into TNA Discovery.

**Archives Hub**<http://www.archiveshub.ac.uk/>

A gateway to discover manuscript collections held in over 220 institutions, incl. HE universities, in the UK.

ArchiveGrid

ArchiveGrid is an important destination for searching through historical documents, personal papers, and family histories held in archives around the world. Thousands of libraries, museums, and archives have contributed nearly a million collection descriptions to ArchiveGrid. Researchers searching ArchiveGrid can learn about the many items in each of these collections, contact archives to arrange a visit to examine materials, and order copies.

Royal Commission on Historical Manuscripts: *Guide to Reports*

[URR K.3.550]

Includes Index of Places and Index of Persons.

In its earlier days its work consisted in surveying and publishing reports on collections mainly in private hands - those of individuals, families, estates, corporations and other bodies. These reports, published as parliamentary papers, were supplemented from 1885 by a series of octavo calendars, such as those of the Cecil papers at Hatfield House or the records of the House of Lords. These reports and calendars are, despite their fairly obvious limitations and deficiencies, still in regular and frequent use by historians, and particularly by political historians of the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries.

ii. Archives in Oxford**Bodleian Library: Early modern papers**http://www.bodleian.ox.ac.uk/weston/finding-resources/guides/early_modern_papers**State papers 1560-1700**

The Bodleian Library is a major centre for the study of 17th century history as it holds several major collections of state papers, mainly acquired before 1750. Together they form a remarkably rich source for the study of the Civil War, Interregnum and Restoration periods in British and Irish history. The papers of **John Thurloe** (d. 1668), Secretary of State to both Oliver and Richard Cromwell, are to be found among the [Rawlinson](#) manuscripts, where there are also to be found late 17th century Navy Board and Admiralty papers of **Samuel Pepys** (1633-1703). The [Tanner](#) manuscripts include the papers of **William Lenthall**, Speaker of the House of Commons 1640-55, 1659-60, and also those of **William Sancroft**, Archbishop of Canterbury 1678-90. The [Carte](#) papers contain the archive of James **Butler**, 1st Duke of Ormond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland three times between 1644 and 1685, as well as papers of **William FitzWilliam**, Governor of Ireland 1571-5, 1588-94. The [Clarendon](#) manuscripts comprise the papers of **Edward Hyde** (1609-74), 1st Earl of Clarendon, Chancellor to Charles II. These collections have been supplemented by the papers of [Sir John Bankes](#) (1589-1644), attorney-general to Charles I.

Political papers 1700-1820

The Library's 18th and early 19th century historical papers, while not as extensive as those for the 17th century, are of great interest in a number of fields. The papers of the [North family](#) include those of Francis North, 1st Earl of Guilford (1704-90), containing much on the politics of the Court and the borough. The collection also includes about 60 volumes of official and financial papers of his son Frederick, Lord North (1732-92), the Prime Minister. The **Harcourt family papers** include the correspondence of Simon, 1st Earl Harcourt (1714-77), courtier and politician, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland 1772-7; and George Simon Harcourt, 2nd Earl Harcourt (1736-1809), including many letters from the royal family, and political and cultural figures.

The papers of the [Tucker family](#) of Dorset represent a different strand of 18th-century politics. The papers include much on local politics, the Portland stone business, and other mercantile interests of the family.

Estate papers 1500-1800

Many of the families mentioned above owned extensive estates, with records of ownership stretching back into the Middle Ages. The [North](#), [Harcourt](#) and [Dashwood](#) family papers have particularly complete collections of estate records.

War and peace, 1640-1815

Britain's relationship with other European states is represented in extensive holdings of diplomatic papers. There is much among the state papers of the 17th century mentioned above. Later accessions include numerous small groups of papers relating to the diplomacy that ended the War of the Spanish Succession, adding to a large collection of papers of **John Robinson** (1650-1723), and plenipotentiary for the peace negotiations at Utrecht to be found among the [Rawlinson](#) manuscripts. The papers of the Earls of Clarendon of the 2nd creation include those of **Thomas Villiers** (1709-86), 1st Earl of Clarendon, envoy to Saxony-Poland, Austria and Prussia, 1738-46. Another larger diplomatic collection is that of [William Henry van Nassau van Zuylestein](#), 4th Earl of Rochford (1717-81), envoy to Turin 1749-55. The papers of [James Bland Burges](#) (1752-1824) include his correspondence with envoys all over Europe and in the United States as under-secretary at the Foreign Office during the revolutionary upheavals in France, 1789-95.

The state paper collections contain a great deal about military operations during the Civil Wars in Britain and Ireland 1638-53. The [Carte](#) manuscripts include detailed accounts of the war that followed the Irish Rebellion of 1641 in the correspondence of **James Butler**, later 1st Duke of Ormond, who at that time was commander of the royal army in Ireland.

Britain's military contribution to the Napoleonic Wars is encompassed by some notable collections relating to the Peninsular War. The [Napier family](#) papers include correspondence of **Sir William Napier** (1785-1870) relating to his controversial *History of the War in the Peninsula* (1828-40), including letters and memoranda from army officers, and information supplied by among others the Duke of Wellington. The [North family](#) collection includes papers of **General (Charles) William Doyle** (1770-1842) who acted as a liaison officer to various Spanish Juntas 1808-11.

7. Electronic resources & websites

Access via [SOLO](#)

Use SSO for off-campus access.

i. Electronic journals

Key generalist journals

English Historical Review
French History
German History
Historical Journal

Irish Studies Review
Journal of British Studies
Past & Present
The Scottish Historical Review

Key early modern history journals:

Eighteenth-Century Studies
The Journal of Medieval and Early Modern Studies
Renaissance Quarterly

The Seventeenth Century
Sixteenth Century Journal

ii. Digital Libraries on the web & portals



British History Online

<http://www.british-history.ac.uk/>

A digital library containing some of the core printed primary and secondary sources for the medieval and modern history of the British Isles. Created by the Institute of Historical Research and the History of Parliament Trust. Includes e.g. Journals of the House of Commons (1547-1699) and Journals of the House of Lords (1509-1717), *Fasti Ecclesiae Anglicanae* 1541-1857, Office-holders in Britain and much relating to local and London history. Increasingly content from the Victoria County History project is added to.



Europeana

<https://www.europeana.eu/portal/en>

A growing digital library capturing European cultural materials held in European libraries, archives and museums. Includes images of paintings, drawings, maps, photos and pictures of museum objects; texts of books, newspapers, letters, diaries and archival papers

Gallica: la bibliothèque numérique de la Bibliothèque nationale de France

<http://gallica.bnf.fr/>

A growing digital library which gives access to a vast collection of digitised texts and images covering the periods from the Middle Ages to the Nineteenth Century. Subjects covered include philosophy, law, economics and politics as well as history and literature. The website provides chronologies of the periods alongside thematic pages with links to related works. The website and most of the texts are in French, but there is also a selection of texts in other languages.

Digitale Bibliothek - Bayerische StaatsBibliothek <http://www.digitale-sammlungen.de/>

Online library of digitised manuscripts, printed sources, books, broadsides and maps. Also includes some local historical sources for the early modern period and Zedler's *Grosses vollständiges Universal-Lexicon der Wissenschaften und Künste* (1732 - 1754).

Avalon Project: Documents in Law, History and Diplomacy <http://avalon.law.yale.edu/>

The Avalon Project aims to provide access to digital documents relevant to the fields of Law, History, Economics, Politics, Diplomacy and Government from the 17th century to the 21st century.

HFL Diigo

https://www.diigo.com/profile/hfloxford/early_modern_history

Over 1,000 history websites are bookmarked and tagged in HFL's Delicious which is regularly being added to. Websites largely focus on free resources, finding tools and digital primary sources for British and Western European history.

8. Other useful libraries in Oxford

Other libraries holding history collections in Oxford are:

- Borrowable books and duplicates of many calendars and other texts (BOD & HFL)
- Special Collections, archival & rare books (Weston Library)
- Post-1945 social & political history, international relations (Social Science Library)
- Archaeology and Ancient History (Sackler Library)
- History of Art (Sackler Library)
- Modern European Languages; Slavonic, Central and Eastern European History (Taylor Institution Library & Social Science Library)
- History of Science (Bodleian Library)
- History of Medicine (Wellcome Unit Library)
- History of Law (Bodleian Law Library)
- History of the United States of America (Vere Harmsworth Library)
- History of Sub-Saharan Africa, the Commonwealth, and other former British colonial territories (except India) (Weston Library)
- History of the Sub-Continent of India (Weston Library)
- History of the Oriental World (Oriental Institute Library)
- History of China (Bodleian K B Chen China Centre Library)
- History of Japan (Bodleian Japanese Library)

College libraries for borrowable books (own college only) and early printed books, manuscripts and archives (open to readers by appointment).

- Economic and Social History (Nuffield College Library)
- History of Russia, international relations (St Antony's College Library)
- Military and other Modern History (Codrington Library, All Souls College)