

1



Institute of Historical Research Library

- Over 200,000 primary sources, guides, reference works and periodicals.
- From early medieval to contemporary.
- · Print, electronic, microform collections
- Collections strengths: Britain, Western Europe, Colonial history, the Americas, local and regional history
- We work collaboratively with other libraries around Bloomsbury, especially Senate House Library, the other libraries within the School of Advanced Study, and the School of Slavonic and East European Studies (SSEES) and the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS)

history.ac.uk



Colonial Collections Overview

- The Colonial collection is one of the library's largest covering colonial histories in North America, Africa, Asia and Australasia.
- It mainly comprises of published primary sources.
- The collection currently has a bias towards titles about the British Empire but also includes works on other European empires (e.g. French territories in West and North Africa or the Portuguese in India).
- Works on colonial Mexico and South America are in the library's Latin American Collection.



history.ac.uk

3



Subdivisions within the Collection

- Bibliography and General Works
 - Bibliographies and archive guides, historiography, exploration, general works on empire, especially the British Empire.
- - Mainland colonial North America especially the 13 British colonies and Canada, and the Caribbean
- Africa
 - Covers the history of continent during the period of European settler-colonialism from the $15^{\rm th}$ to the 20th century.
- Asia
 - Concentrates on the period from the 16th century to the 20th, especially the British invasion and occupation of South Asia.
- - Mainly consists of sub-collections on Australian history since the 18th century and New Zealand, with some works on Papua New Guinea and some Pacific islands.
- Other Areas
- Arctic and Antarctic exploration; other islands (e.g. St Helena).

history.ac.uk



Recent Acquisitions

In line with our collection remit recent acquisitions include:

- Published letters and diaries.
- · Memoirs and autobiographies.
- Works on historiography, memory and commemoration as well as how historical subjects are presented in popular culture.



history.ac.uk

5



Hong Kong and Singapore

• Hong Kong

Shelved at CLC.434 specifically has a handful of titles, including general anthologies of sources, a civil service list for 1927 and a collection of sources on the history of public health.

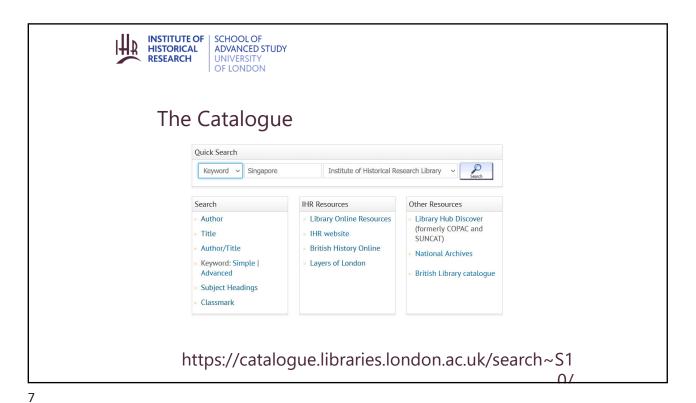
Singapore

Shelved at CLC.54 again includes a small handful of titles including a secondary work on Chinese migration during the $19^{\rm th}$ century.

Other Works

Works which discuss Hong Kong and Singapore can be found in other sections of the Colonial collection (e.g. general works on exploration and travel).

history.ac.uk



INSTITUTE OF SCHOOL OF HISTORICAL **ADVANCED STUDY** RESEARCH UNIVERSITY OF LONDON Foundation Bibliographies Auerbach, Sascha. Race, law, and "the Chinese puzzle" in Imperial Britain (2009) Barr, Michael D. Singapore: a modern history (2020) Benton, Gregor & Gomez, Edmund. The Chinese in Britain, 1800-Present (2008) Bibliography of British and Irish History Munn, Christopher. Anglo-China: Chinese people and British rule in Hong Kong 1841-1880 (2006) Parker, David. The Chinese in Britain: annotated bibliography and research resource (1994) Tsang, Steve. A modern history of Hong Kong 1841–1997 (2019) history.ac.uk



Government Papers: Printed Resources

Hansard

- The library has an extensive printed run of British parliamentary debates including Cobbett's Parliamentary Debates (1803-1812) and Hansard (1812-1908; Commons 1909-1987/8; Lords 1909-1994/5)
- Each year is indexed

Lords and Commons Journal

• The library has a printed run (Commons 1509-1920; Lords 1547-1931)



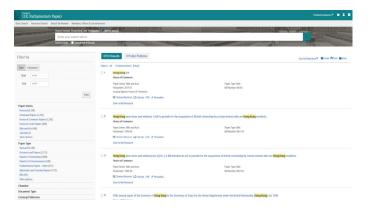
Hansard: Commons 1924

history.ac.uk

9



Government Papers: Online Resources



history.ac.uk



Newspapers

Newspaper resources available within the library include:

- 19th Century British Library Newspapers
- 19th Century London Periodicals (including *Punch*)
- The Times Digital Archive 1785-2019

Useful in showing how Hong Kong and Singapore were viewed in a variety of English language publications and how attitudes were often hardening towards Chinese communities in Britain, Australia, South Africa and Canada in the late $19^{\rm th}$ and early $20^{\rm th}$ century.

history.ac.uk

11



Letters, Diaries, Memoirs and Speeches

Main Focus Sources

- Sophia Raffles. Memoir of the life and public services of Sir Thomas Stamford Raffles (1835)
- Chris Patten. *The Hong Kong Diaries* (to be published June 2022)

Implicit Sources

- Winston Churchill. 'Chinese Seamen' [Speech, 12th June 1908] in *The Complete Speeches*, vol. 1 1897–1908
- Alistair Campbell. Diaries, vol. 2.



history.ac.uk



Works on Social Commentary/Criticism



From East London (1903) by Walter Besant

- Works of social commentary can be useful. In this instance works by, for example, Henry Mayhew and Walter Besant offer observations of London's migrant communities in 19th and early 20th century London.
- In some instances they can also be used to chart the rising tide of Sinophobia in Britain during the early 20th century.

history.ac.uk

13



Directories and Topographical Guides



Detail of residents of Limehouse Causeway 1934 from *The Official London Directory for 1934*



From *The face of London* (1951) by Harold Clunn

history.ac.uk



Other IHR Collections



From The Milner Papers (1931–33)

Other IHR Library Collections

- Other sections of the colonial collection including:
 - South Africa
 - Australia
 - New Zealand
- Portugal used with the handful of works the library has on Macao
- United States
- International Relations

history.ac.uk

15



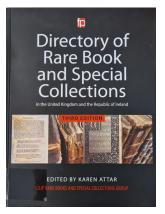
Limitations

- Lack of material (either source or historiographic) in Chinese, Malay, Cantonese, etc.
- More fundamentally current lack of voices from the Chinese/Singapore individuals and communities.
- Biased towards views of social elites
- Only presents published views (to the archives!!)

history.ac.uk



Other Libraries, Archives and Resources



- Check specific guides like the Directory of Rare Book and Special Collections in the UK and the Republic of Ireland.
- Check bibliographies in your foundation texts to see which archive collections were consulted.
- Many libraries produce LibGuides listing online and physical titles on a myriad of subjects – see if there is one for your research interests.
- Check resources such as Jisc Library Hub (https://discover.libraryhub.jisc.ac.uk/)
- See if there is an historical society related to your research interests they may be worth contacting.
- In some instances primary source material may be freely accessible online.
 history.ac.uk

17



Research Portals



Open and Free Access Materials for Research

 $\frac{www.history.ac.uk/library/collections/online-}{resources/open-access-resources}$



Teaching British Histories of Race, Migration and Empire

www.history.ac.uk/library/collections/teaching-british-histories-race-migration-and-empire

history.ac.uk



Summary

- Gather a collection of foundation bibliographies
- Check sources with a wide-ranging remit such as government papers and newspapers.
- When searching either in physical indexes or online resources be prepared to use search terms no longer used in contemporary language.
- Use multiple libraries and archives and, if applicable, contact relevant historical societies.
- · Learn languages.

history.ac.uk

19



Membership and Contacts

- Membership is free to everyone to join to fill out an online form (https://www.history.ac.uk/library/library-membership/join) and opt to either collect your card from the IHR reception or have it sent to you in the post.
- You can contact us in person, via email or telephone as well as on social media:
 - ihr.library@sas.ac.uk
 - 020 7862 8760
 - @IHR_Library

history.ac.uk