

Introduction: Use of electronic information resources

This guide highlights some of the most important general reference resources available both in hardcopy in the University Library and via our electronic subscriptions.

Access from outside the University Network (the .cam domain) will require use of a Raven password. These are available to current staff and students of Cambridge University.

General

CUL classmark/URL

Arts & humanities citation index. 1975-. Half-yearly.

Philadelphia: Institute for Scientific Information.

Available online as **Web of Science** via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

A multidisciplinary index to the journal literature of art, architecture, language and literature. More than 1,300 journals are indexed, including reviews. Non-journal literature, such as conference literature or books, is not included.

Historical abstracts. 1955-. 8 times p.a.

P500.b.207

1967- also available online as **Historical abstracts on the web**. Monthly via
via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

A bibliographical resource indexing and abstracting over 2,000 historical journals published worldwide and citing some 3,000 new books reviewed in key English language review journals. Includes dissertations from Dissertation abstracts international. Articles from journals are selectively indexed.

International bibliography of historical sciences. 1926-1998.

R504.5

A selective indexing resource providing references to scholarly books and journal articles which relate to all aspects of history. International coverage but excludes translations, revised editions, includes works on local history if they contribute to wider historical issues. Entries have full bibliographical details but no annotations. With author and name index, place name index.

Historical research. 1932- Annual.

R504.12

1995- also available online as

Theses completed and in progress.

<http://ihr.sas.ac.uk/ihr/Resources/Theses/>

An annual list of theses of historical study accepted by universities in the UK. Arranged under broad chronological and topographical headings. Entries give title, author, name of supervisor, university and degree awarded. With indices for university, author and subject. For 1920-1929, see the journal History and for 1930-32 see the Bulletin of the Institute of Historical Research.

Topical aspects

Economic history review. 1927-. Quarterly.

P220.b.16

Each year the ECHR publishes a critical Review of periodical literature and an Annual list of publications. The first appears in issue 1 and the second in issue 4. The first covers items published two years previously; the second material published the year before.

EconLit. 1969-

Available online via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

A comprehensive indexing and abstracting reference source in economic issues, including economic and financial history. Coverage of some 400 journals as well as articles in collective works, proceedings, books, book reviews, dissertations. Includes mostly articles in English.

Isis: an international review devoted to the history of science. 1913-
Quarterly. P340:2.b.11
R340:5.39-

Isis cumulative bibliography. 1913-1985.
1975- Also available online as **History of science and technology** via eresources@cambridge
<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

ISIS contains an annual bibliography which supplements the cumulative bibliography. The cumulative bibliography aims to produce a complete index and cumulative table of contents to Isis. Provides references of publications (books, articles, book reviews, documents, biographies) relating to the history of science. Excludes text and writings of contemporary scientists. Arranged by personalities, institutions, subjects, civilisations and periods. With author index. Though not comprehensive, it is the largest bibliographical resources in this field.

Religion index. 1949-. Annual.
Religion index one: Periodicals. R101:5.1
Religion index two: Multi-author works, Festschriften. R101:5.2

[Chicago]: American Theological Library Association, 1985-
Also available online as **ATLA religion database** via
eresources@cambridge
<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

A bibliographical resource indexing scholarly articles on religion and theology. It covers such topics as Biblical studies, world religions, Church history, and religious perspectives on social issues. It consists of more than one million records covering the research literature of religion in more than 30 languages, and includes more than 200,000 articles from 650 journals, more than 300,000 essays from 14,000 multi-author works, and more than 300,000 book reviews. Includes subject index, author index, title index and scripture index.

Philosopher's index: an international index to philosophical periodicals. R196:5.18
Quarterly.

Bowling Green, Ohio, Bowling Green State University, [1969-].
With a retrospective index to publications from 1940.
1940- also available online via eresources@cambridge
<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

The most important bibliographical and abstracting resource in this field indexing scholarly articles on philosophy and related interdisciplinary fields, such as history, theology, law and languages. Includes articles in c. 300 major journals in English, French, German and Italian, and dissertations. With subject index.

BHA: bibliography of the history of art. 1991-. Quarterly. R400:5.1
Continues Répertoire d'art et d'archéologie. 1910-1989. P400.b.9
and RILA: répertoire international de la littérature de l'art. 1975-1989. R400:5.1

1973- also available online as **Bibliography of the history of art (BHA)** via eresources@cambridge
<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

A comprehensive and up-to-date art history bibliography covering European and American art from late antiquity to the present. Indexes and abstracts art-related books, conference proceedings and dissertations, exhibition and dealer's catalogs and articles from more than 2,500 periodicals.

Regional aspects: Great Britain & Ireland

Bibliography of British history. R542.50 & R542.53
Oxford: Clarendon Press, 1951-1996.

An important series of bibliographical guides covering British history up to 1989. Each volume includes sections aiming to cover all aspects of the period: politics, economics, social & intellectual history, general resources, archives.

Douglas, David C. (ed.)
English historical documents. 11 vols (vols. 1-2, 2nd ed.). R542.32 & 540:13.c.95.32-
London: Eyre Methuen; New York: Oxford University Press, 1979-.

Aims to 'make generally accessible a wide selection of the fundamental sources of English history' (*General preface*, v.12, pt.1). Includes lengthy general introductions and selective bibliographies for each volume and section. All documents are translated into English as necessary. Covers wide range of topical issues for each period.

The National Archives [formerly Public Record Office (PRO)] calendars and indexes. OP.1.051
 The Library has a subscription to The National Archives Documents Online accessible via eresources@cambridge <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>. This provides access to the National Archives collection of digitised public records, both academic and family history sources. Users must sign in using their Raven account in order to download documents free of charge.

Calendars and indexes to the most important older PRO official documents. Such series as the Rolls of Parliament and State Papers Domestic are covered. Some of these series will soon be available online as 'State papers online, 1509-1714'. Watch out for an announcement on the library's home page. Others are available via British History Online.

Great Britain. Public Record Office
Rerum Britannicarum Medii Ævi scriptores: or, Chronicles and memorials of Great Britain and Ireland during the Middle Ages (Rolls series). R542.30
 99 vols in 257.
 London: H.M.S.O; Nendeln: Kraus, 1858-1996.

Contains the primary sources of the history of Great Britain from the invasion of the Romans to the reign of Henry VIII. Aims to give the most correct text from a collation of the extant manuscripts, to introduce the text by describing their age and peculiarities and to give a brief biographical summary of the author.

Doubleday, H. A. (ed.) et al. R540.15,
The Victoria history of the counties of England (VCH). A480 &
 London: University of London, Institute of Historical Research, 1900-. S540:01.b.90.1-

An important source, organised by county, covering the history of the counties of England in general and lengthy articles on the political, economic, ecclesiastical, social and intellectual history of the individual county, borough or parish. Includes discussion on topography and natural features and the antiquities and articles.

Given-Wilson Chris (ed.) *The Parliament Rolls of Medieval England, 1275-1505* OP2.01 (8-23)
 16 vols.

Also available online as *The Parliament Rolls of Medieval England* via eresources@cambridge <http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

The rolls of Parliament were the official records of the meetings of the English Parliament from Edward I (1272-1307) until Henry VII (1485-1509). They were superseded by the Journals of the House of Lords (OP. 2) and somewhat later (in 1549) by the Journals of the House of Commons (OP.2.02)

Parliamentary history of England. [Hansard]. 1066-. OP.2.07
 Official record of the Proceedings of the Westminster Parliament.

Annual bibliography of British and Irish history. 1975-. R542.56
 1975-2001 also available online as **Royal Historical Society bibliography.** <http://www.rhs.ac.uk/bibl/>

A comprehensive and authoritative survey of books and articles covering various aspects of British and Irish history. Includes references to the Empire and the Commonwealth. With indices for author, personal name, place and subject.

Writings on British history. 1901-1974. Annual. R542.40
 Also available online as **Royal Historical Society bibliography.** <http://www.rhs.ac.uk/bibl/>

A bibliographical resources providing references to books and articles on the history of Great Britain from c450AD to 1939. Includes over 5000 entries, without annotations, but including references to reviews,

Regional aspects: other countries

Regional history: Europe	R560.A-Z
Asia	R620.A-Z
Africa	R640.A-Z
America	R660.A-Z

Coates, Peter (ed.)
Research material for American history on microform in the Cambridge University Library and other Cambridge libraries: a guide. A690.43
 [Cambridge]: [s.n.], 1988.

Provides a descriptive listing of microform collections held in Cambridge relating to American history. Topics of collections are diverse, but include many US official documents, diaries and personal papers of some US politicians/statesmen, and documents relating to US foreign relations, the government, historical events but also literature.

America: history and life. 1964-. 5 times p.a. P660.b.31
 An indexing and abstracting source covering the world's periodical literature relating to the history of the United States and Canada which are included in *Historical Abstracts* (s.a.).

Index Islamicus. 1665-. Quarterly. R620.300
 1906 also available online via eresources@cambridge
<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

An indexing source covering the whole field of Islamic studies though excluding the pure sciences and technology and indexing articles from journals, Festschriften, collective works and conference proceedings. Geographical coverage also includes entries relating to non-Islamic countries. Only references in Western languages (incl. Russian) are included. With author index.

Historical periods

Medieval history

Cambridge medieval history. 9 vols. R532.2-
 Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1926-1936 + vol. 4, new ed. (1966-1967).

A standard reference work providing scholarly and often lengthy articles on all aspects of medieval history. Covers topics such as politics & public administration, economics, the church, the arts, society and intellectual history. Now out of print and gradually being replaced by the *New Cambridge medieval history* (s.b.).

New Cambridge medieval history. Vols. 2, -7 R532.1 &
 Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1995-. 532:2.c.95.197-

A replacement edition of the Cambridge medieval history (s.a.). Still in progress.

International medieval bibliography. 1967-. R532.18
 1972- also available online at <http://www.brepolis.net/>

A major indexing source of journals articles and Festschriften on all aspects of medieval history. Includes articles on archaeology, historiography, genealogy, heraldry, local history and those discussing primary sources, e.g. manuscripts. Focuses on European medieval history but include articles on Africa, the Near East and the Orient if directly relevant. With author and subject indexes.

Monumenta Germaniae historica (MGH). R560.G101-
 Hannoverae: Hahn, 1826-.
 Selections also available on CD-ROM accessible in the Digital Resources Area

The most important resource of critically edited primary sources of medieval Europe. Sources are grouped by type of document and subject area: Scriptorum, Leges, Diplomata, Epistolae, Antiquitates. Includes chronicles, capitularies.

Modern history

New Cambridge modern history. 14 vols. R533.3 &
 Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 1957-1979 + vol. 2, 2nd ed. (1990), 533:1.c.95.25-
 vol. 12, 2nd ed. (1968).

A standard reference work providing scholarly and often lengthy articles on all aspects of modern history. Arranged chronologically the series covers the period 1483 to 1945. Accompanied by a volume with historical maps.

British parliamentary papers. 1801-

[Official Publications]

Index available on CD-ROM as ***Index to House of Commons Parliamentary Papers*** via the Library Electronic Resources Service

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>.

The full text of the *House of Commons Parliamentary Papers*, 1801-1900 is available via the Library Electronic Resources Service

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>.

The *House of Commons Parliamentary Papers Index* contains the first cumulative index of all House of Commons Parliamentary Papers (i.e. Bills, Papers and Command Papers) published from 1801 to the current decade. It draws together material from Chadwyck Healey's Subject Catalogue of the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers 1801-1900, the House of Commons decennial indexes covering the period 1900-1979 and data from the Parliamentary Online Information Service (POLIS) database from 1979 onwards.

British Official Publications Collaborative Reader Information Service (BOPCRIS).

<http://www.bopcris.ac.uk/>

Available online at <http://www.bopcris.ac.uk/>

BOPCRIS focuses on around 23,000 key official documents - primarily Parliamentary - published 1688-1995; abstracts are provided. These documents were originally selected for inclusion in the internationally known hard-copy "Ford lists and Breviates". These lists are available at OPR.2.70-. The full text of the *Eighteenth Century Parliamentary Publications* 1688-1834, is available via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>.

Newspapers & news

The University Library has an excellent collection of contemporary 'quality' newspapers on microfilm. Such titles as *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times* and *The Los Angeles Times* are held along with the major European and British titles. Indexes for most stand in the West Room. For details ask in the Microfilm Reading Room.

The following newspapers and newspaper indices are available electronically in the University Library:

LexisNexis Professional.

Available online via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

Provides full-text access to a comprehensive range of UK news and international legal, industry and company data. Includes a fully searchable selection of national and major regional newspapers and a range of specialist and general weekly publications, including the *Spectator*, *New Scientist* and *New Statesman*.

Available on CD-ROM:

The Daily Telegraph. 1991-

The Economist. 1987-

The Financial Times. 1989-

The Guardian. 1990-

The Observer. 1994-

The Sunday Times. 1990-

The Times. 1990-

The Times full text 1785-to 1985.

The Times Digital Archive provides full text of the Time between 1785 to 1985 and is available via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

BBC Monitoring Global Newline.

Available online at <http://www.bodley.ox.ac.uk/globalnews/>

BBC monitoring covers reports from radio, television, news agencies, press and new media in over 150 countries and over 100 languages, providing a distinctive foreign news and information service from open sources.

Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS) reports.

Reports for the former Soviet Union 1974-1988 (microfiche)
1988-1996 (hard-copy)

Microfiche OP.144
OP.26500.947.01

Superseded by **World News Connection** <http://wnc.dialog.com/>, available online. Updated continuously.

Provides information from non-U.S. political speeches, television programmes, radio broadcasts, newspaper articles, periodicals and books - all translated into English. The information in *World News Connection*, which is run by the National Technical Information Service, is provided by the Foreign Broadcast Information Service (FBIS), a U.S. government agency that monitors news items from around the world.

Biography**Biography index.** 1946-. Quarterly.

R450.25

Based on more than 2600 periodicals scanned in the Wilson indexes as well as works of individual and collective (auto)biographies and obituaries. With an index of professions and occupations.

Lobies, Jean-Pierre (ed.)

IBN: index bio-bibliographicus notorum hominum.

Parts C: Corpus alphabeticum. Vols 1-120 (A-Jacquot).

Osnabrück: Biblio, 1974-.

R450.31

A complex and comprehensive biographical index providing references to biographical sources. Very useful for tracing lesser known personalities as those of 'second or third rank' are included. Accompanying volumes list bibliographical details of over 2,000 sources used. Halfway through the alphabet since start of publication and still in progress.

World biographical archive.

Indexes for selected countries available in Microform Reading Room or on the Internet.

Microfiche in the Reading Room

http://www.biblio.tu-bs.de/wbi_en/

The index contains over 3 million short biographical entries for individuals who lived in North and South America, Western and Central Europe, Africa, Australia, Asia, New Zealand, and Oceania. The microfiche indexes, updated regularly, are arranged by country. The period covered varies from country to country but generally speaking will go up to the mid-20th century. Entries include details such as the name, variations of the name, pseudonyms, the years of birth and death or years mentioned, occupation, source quoted (archive, fiche-no and page) and bibliographic information about the sources used. The online index covers only a selection of countries.

Oxford Dictionary of national biography (DNB) 61 Vols

Oxford University Press 2004

Also available online via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

R454.1

A standard general biographical reference work profiling nearly 55,000 men and women influential in the history of Great Britain.

Who was who. 1897-1995.

Also available online via eresources@cambridge

<http://www.lib.cam.ac.uk/electronicresources/>

R454.2

A companion to *Who's who* containing the biographies of those who died in the decade. 'The entries are for the most part as they last appeared in *Who's who*, with the dates of death added and in some cases further additional information to bring them up to date' (*Preface*). With a cumulated index for 1897-1990.

Other national biographical dictionaries: U.S.A.

R456

Other countries

R457.A-Z

Subject Gateways and other web resources

Humbul Humanities Hub<http://www.humbul.ac.uk/>

Part of the nationally-funded Resource Discovery Network (RDN), it aims to provide an Internet portal to the study of the humanities. Includes online tutorials.

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. It was created by the Institute of Historical Research and the History of Parliament Trust.

History Data Services<http://hds.essex.ac.uk/>

Collection of over 500 data collections covering period from late 10th to 20th centuries. Particularly strong in 19th and 20th century economic and social history. Examples include statistics, manuscript census records, state finance data, demographic data, mortality data, community histories, electoral history and economic indicators.