



Archives Resource Guide - History

Introduction

The archives holds institutional records, collections of private papers and archives of organisations in a range of formats, visual as well as written, such as letters and papers, manuscript, parchment, photograph, audio-visual and digital media and microfilms, dating from the 18th century to present day. The collections also include rare prints and artefacts dating from 16th century to 1960s.

The Archives provides convenient access to a wealth of primary sources for enhancing knowledge of history and conducting original research. Located on the 2nd Floor of the Mile End Library, the Archives Reading Room provides a dedicated quiet study space for anyone wishing to view items held in the Archives. Email archives@qmul.ac.uk, telephone 020 7882 3873 or visit the website www.library.qmul.ac.uk/archives for more information.

Research Topics

The Archives hold many resources for studying modern history, and areas of strength are women's history and education, Victorian history, politics, colonialism, social history, and post-war Britain. The Archives can be used to research a variety of topics including:

- Tudor England
- History of art from 16th century to early twentieth century
- Debt and imprisonment in early nineteenth century Britain
- History of the emotions, mental illness, depression, emotionalism, in nineteenth and twentieth century
- Philanthropy in the Victorian period
- East London education, culture, community in nineteenth and twentieth centuries
- The Nuevo Jewish cemetery in nineteenth and twentieth centuries
- Education at Queen Mary, People's Palace Technical Schools, East London College, Queen Mary College in nineteenth and twentieth centuries
- Women in higher education, and establishment and development of Westfield College nineteenth and twentieth centuries
- Women and religion and women missionaries in nineteenth and twentieth centuries
- Gender, sexuality, and female relationships in nineteenth and twentieth centuries
- Women's writings in nineteenth and twentieth centuries
- Victorian and Edwardian domesticity and femininity
- Material culture in nineteenth and twentieth centuries
- Ireland in late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries
- British political history late nineteenth and twentieth centuries
- British colonial history, late nineteenth century including the Zulu War, Boar Wars and Mahdist War
- Anglicanism and history of the Church of England in early twentieth century
- The First World War, the front-line, the home-front, life in wartime
- Second World War, life in war-time, the home-front, Jewish exiles in Britain
- Trade unionism, industrial relations, remuneration and working conditions, mid to late 20th century
- Socialism, federalism in Britain and internationally in post-war years
- London community relations, living conditions, education, mid to late twentieth century
- Voluntary sector, activism, community engagement in Britain, mid to late twentieth century
- Voluntary sector, and activism, social justice and standards of living in developing countries, late twentieth century
- British politics late twentieth century
- John F Kennedy

Modules and Research Degrees

The archives may be useful for students or researchers studying the following modules, courses and research degrees.

Undergraduate

- The Georgians: Society and Culture in Eighteenth Century England
- Behind Closed Doors: Houses, Interiors and Domestic Life, c. 1660-c1830
- Unraveling Britain: British History since 1801
- Europe in a Global Context since 1800
- Architecture in London II 1837 - to the Present
- Disraeli, Democracy and Empire
Gladstone and Ireland
- Madness and Medicine in Modern Britain
- Winning on the Western Front: the British Army 1914 -1919
- Cabinet, Premiership and the Conduct of Central Government since 1945
- The Germans and the Jews since 1871
A Century of Extremes: Germany 1890 – 1990
- Cities of Empire –Africa
- Kingdoms, Empires, and Colonisation in African History
- Anxieties of Empire: Rumours, Rebellion and the Imperial Imagination
- Between the Citizen and the State: Voluntary Action in Modern Britain
- The Kennedy Years (I) and (II)

Postgraduate

- Culture and Identity in Renaissance Italy
- Modern Girls? Gender, Culture and Society in Britain c.1918-1979
- Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust
- Modern Jewish History and Culture
- The Germans and the Jews since 1871
- The American Presidency
- Empire, Race and Immigration
- Cities, Space and Power
- Victors to Victims

Research degrees

- African, British, European and US history
- Imperial history
- International and military history
- European Jewish History
- History of the Emotions
- Religious history
- War and memory
- British history
- Imperialism
- War and international affairs

Catalogues and Finding Aids:

Collections can be searched via the *Archives Catalogue*: <http://archives-catalogue.library.qmul.ac.uk/CalmView/default.aspx> Digital records and online exhibitions are available through the archives website <http://www.library.qmul.ac.uk/archives> For some uncatalogued collections only a summary description is available in the Archives Catalogue. Alternative finding aids such as draft box lists are available. Email the archives to request a copy: archives@qmul.ac.uk or for advice about your area of research.

A-Z of Relevant Collections

Bindoff, Stanley Thomas (1908–1980): Papers of the Professor of history 1934-1974, concerning his research and teaching on early modern England at Queen Mary College including extensive correspondence with other academics and colleagues. Also documents his involvement with the University of London, and the Governing Bodies of several educational institutions, and roles as Visiting Professor in U.S. universities in the 1960s (*Ref No: PP21*).

Delf Smith, Ellen (1883–1980): Papers of the botanist 1895-1974 and former lecturer at Westfield College. Includes documents revealing her experiences of academic life at the College and challenges she faced establishing botany and science teaching. Personal records chart her marriage to the print maker, Percy Smith (*Ref No: PP3*).

Carlton, Ann, (fl. 1965–2004): Papers relating to Carlton's role as Local Government Officer for the Labour Party 1960-1974 (*Ref No: PP30*).

Chesworth, Donald Piers (1923–1991): Papers of the politician and administrator, c1906-1991, concerning his involvement in the Labour Party, role on London County Council in North Kensington in 1960s, including gathering evidence against Peter Rachman, and interest in community relations, race relations, equality, housing, living conditions. Documents his commitment to federalism and international socialism including participation in the International Union of Socialist Youth in the 1940s and work in Tanganyika, Mauritius, and War on Want and World Political Action Trust 1960s-1970s. Records his involvement in the voluntary sector and various educational bodies such as Toynbee Hall in 1970s-1980s (*Ref No: PP2*).

East London Papers: Journal of history, social studies and the arts (*Ref No: ELP*).

Haydon, Benjamin Robert (1786–1846): Papers of the painter 1826-1846, including letters, legal papers relating to his imprisonment for debt and documents concerning the sale of his estate following his suicide (*Ref No: PP4*).

Hennessy, Peter, (b.1947): Papers concerning his work as a journalist, writer and academic on contemporary British history, c1970-2000. Documents his research, for broadcast, publication and for teaching at Queen Mary. Includes audio and video tapes of interviews with politicians and political figures, c1970-1985 and notes and transcripts of interviews, c1970-1986, and correspondence (*Ref No: PP24*).

Lyttelton, General Sir Neville Gerald (1845–1931): Papers of the Lyttelton and Grenfell families, c1840-1960. Letters and photographs documenting Neville Lyttelton's army service in India, Africa, Ireland, and service of other family members in the Zulu War, Boer War, First World War and Second World War and the impact on those at home. Letters with eminent friends and politicians, family photographs and other ephemera (*Ref No: PP5*).

Martin, John (1789–1854): Papers of the painter, 1822-1976, including letters and rare prints of his works and mezzotints (*Ref No: PP6*).

Maynard, Constance (1849–1935): Papers of mistress of Westfield College, his private writings, such as diaries and unpublished autobiography, charting almost seventy years of her life, covering her education at Girton, amongst the first generation of women to enter higher education, her role in establishing Westfield College, her emotional life including her close relationships with women, and strong religious beliefs (*Ref No: PP7*).

National Union of Tailors and Garment Workers: Administrative records of the trade union, including correspondence with organisations, manufacturers, other unions, committee minutes, c.1889–1989. Also includes publications such as the *Garment Worker* (*Ref No: NUTGW*).

Palmer, Samuel (1805–1881): Letters and catalogues of exhibitions of the painter's works (*Ref No: PP8*).

People's Palace: Papers reveal the emergence of a scheme to establish a 'palace of delights' in east London in the 1880s which lead to the opening of the People's Palace in 1886. Charts the entertainment and educational programmes and facilities provided until the 1950s, connections with the community and institutions such as the Beaumont Institute, Drapers Company and royal patronage, management and finances, and major events such as the fire of 1931 and construction of a new palace building (*Ref No: QMC/PP*).

Queen Mary University of London: Records of Queen Mary and Westfield College and the current institution, 1989–present (*Ref No: QMW*).

Queen Mary College: Includes records of former bodies East London College, and East London Technical College which developed out of the People's Palace Technical Schools, 1880s-1989. Papers chart the incorporation into the University of London, grant of a royal charter, growth of the institution and its impact on the local area and higher education (*Ref No: QMC*).

Schmitthoff, Clive Macmillan (1903–1990): Papers and photographs of the law lecturer, and papers of the Auerbach family, in English and German c1880-1990. Documents his career, from the revocation of his right to practice as an advocate in Germany on the grounds of being Jewish, his flight to UK in 1933, retraining in law at LSE, internment during the Second World War for being an 'enemy alien', war time service, and subsequent academic career as a leading expert in international and commercial trade law. Also includes the papers of Erna Auerbach, an art historian, and the Auerbach family c1880s-c1960s, a German Jewish family of lawyers, including records describing their plight for post-war restitution (*Ref No: PP20*).

Skeel, Caroline (1872–1951): Papers of the classicist, and professor of history 1850-1964, documenting her education at Girton College and subsequent career at Westfield College (*Ref No: PP11/CS*).

Skeel family, merchants and apothecaries: Family papers 1785–1928, including will, financial records of estates, businesses, and photographs and ephemera (*Ref No: PP11/FC*).

Smetham, James (1821–1889): Letters to and from the artist, 1853-1877, revealing his decline into depression and mental illness (*Ref No: PP12*).

Temple, William (1881–1944): Letters before he became archbishop of Canterbury c1901-1936, including discussions on religious beliefs and the church, (*Ref No: PP13*).

Wakefield, Edward Gibbon (1796–1862): Letters of the colonial statesman, 1825-1929.

Westfield College: Papers detail the prehistory of the college, and its establishment as a pioneering higher education college for women in Hampstead in 1882. Reveal the role of religion, a commitment which set the college apart from contemporaries. Documents the expansion of the college, incorporation into the University of London, international connections including with schools established in India and China by missionaries and former students, development of the curriculum to include sciences, introduction of male students in 1964, and merger with Queen Mary College in 1989. Also contains reminiscences of former staff and students. (*Ref No: WFD*).

Westfield College Print Collection: Rare prints of lithographs, mezzotints, copper plate engravings and sketches of artwork dating from 17th century to the 20th Century. Artists include Francesco Bartolozzi, John Constable, Eugene Delacroix, Thomas Frye, Hendrik Goltzius, Francisco Goya, William Hogarth, Theodore von Holst, Giles Hussey, Lucas van Leyden, John Linnell, Carlo Maratta, John Martin, Giovanni Battista Piranesi, Salvator Rosa. Also contains original posters from the French student revolution of 1968.