

JISC

The JISC Digitisation Programme: Overview of Projects

e-Resources

Five centuries of unique resources for learning, teaching & research



Why Digitise?

The JISC digitisation programme is founded upon the need to build significant online resources from some of the UK's greatest collections.

Professor David Eastwood, CEO of HEFCE

Introduction

JISC is changing the world of authoritative digital content through its investment in digitising material from some of the UK's greatest collections. Spanning centuries, disciplines and sources, the JISC Digitisation Programme is leading the way in



demonstrating the enormous power and potential of online resources to make the hidden visible, preserve the fragile and open up access to knowledge to wider audiences.

Unlocking hard-to-access material

Resources that were previously difficult or impossible to access are at the heart of JISC's digitisation drive, from Cabinet Papers to printed ephemera that required trips to physical archives, to cartoons that were hidden in boxes for years. Bringing resources right onto desktops opens up archives to everyone, providing round-the-clock access to students and teachers wherever they may be in the country, and whatever hours of study they keep. In an age that has seen massive changes in learning patterns and student profiles, digitisation is democratising access to knowledge.

Preserving fragile resources

Photographs taken by the Scott Antarctic Expedition, 19th century pamphlets, or Pre-Raphaelite sketches



“ Without this JISC-funded project we risked losing some of the most fragile of items forever and certainly wouldn't be able to give so many people access to otherwise hidden collections that can further the study of polar environments. ”

Heather Lane, Scott Polar Research Institute



are delicate resources. Unique material such as these can run a very real risk of extinction unless carefully preserved and maintained. Through digitisation, the original resources are preserved and protected while access to the digital surrogates is opened up to the widest possible audience. In many cases, the digital items can also be reused in ways that was impossible with the originals.

Creating a critical mass of digital content

JISC's commitment to mass digitisation is creating a set of rich online resources spanning many millions of pages, images, sound recordings and film

footage. Not only is each individual collection a coherent corpus of material – over ten billion words in the case of the British Library's newspapers; some 3,000 hours of film from ITN and Reuters via NewsFilm Online – but, as a whole, the resources represent a diversity of vivid perspectives on the history, culture and landscape of the UK and beyond.

Bringing together scattered resources

Digitisation allows dispersed resources to be accessed in one place for the first time. The First World War Poetry Digital



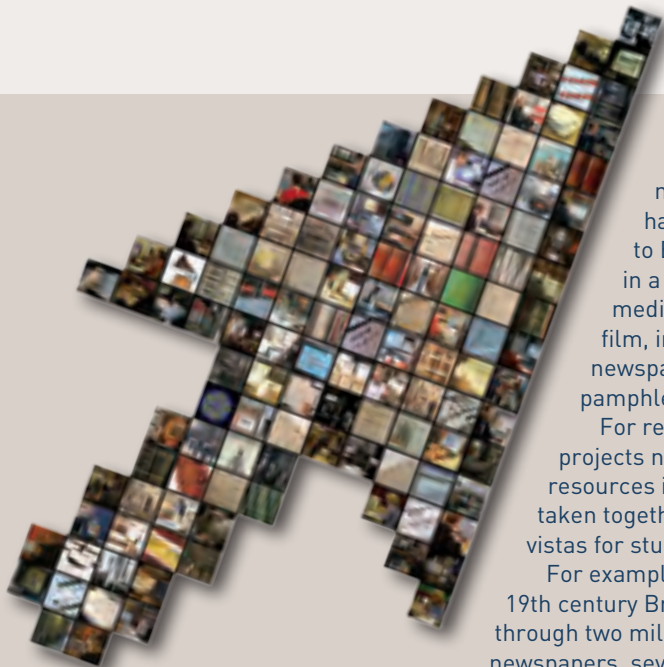
Archive brings together collections of manuscripts that were previously scattered all over the world. There are seven annotated versions of Wilfred Owen's Anthem for Doomed Youth and, after his death, editors attempted to create a 'final version'. Now researchers can look at these different versions, compare them and see for themselves how Owen came to create his work.

Opening up new areas for research

When previously difficult-to-access resources are made available to the academic community, a huge potential for new research opens up. Researchers can make new connections between areas of study and explore fresh avenues. Through digitising an invaluable database of performing arts resources, the East London Theatre Archive puts the spotlight on the comparatively under-researched history of theatre in the east end; bringing population data together online for the first time enables new lines of historical enquiry.

Introduction

JISC is rapidly transforming the education and research landscape in the UK by realising the enormous potential of online resources.



“The JISC Digitisation Programme was launched in 2004, with funding of £10m divided between six projects. This was followed by a second phase, worth £12m, for 16 projects running from 2007 to 2009.

The collections capture a wide variety of aspects of UK life, from cabinet

papers to first world war poetry, radio news to East End music hall, political cartoons to British borders, and in a diverse range of media, including sound, film, images, journals, newspapers, maps, theses, pamphlets and cartoons. For researchers, these projects not only provide valuable resources in themselves but, taken together, open up whole new vistas for study.

For example, an historian of 19th century Britain can now search through two million pages of historic newspapers, seven significant pamphlet collections (totalling one million pages), while being able to reference a wealth of contextual social data through the Vision of Britain and Histpop websites.

A postgraduate studying key events in 20th-century British politics can analyse the relevant cabinet papers, see how the politicians involved were portrayed

in the political cartoons of the time, and download video clips of news items covering important events.

For those involved in learning and teaching, these collections provide high-quality, rights-cleared material to download and adapt in lecture hall, seminar room, library or hall of residence. Again, placing the collections together allows new avenues to be opened up. Students exploring the visual arts can study the drawings, sketches and paintings from the Pre-Raphaelite Resource Site and then listen to artists’ own opinions on their work and lives via interviews in the Archival Sound Recordings.

Through these pioneering digitisation projects JISC is rapidly transforming the education and research landscape in the UK by realising the enormous potential of online resources. The range, depth and quality of the digitisation projects featured in the following pages are testament to its success.”

Alastair Dunning
Programme Manager, JISC Digitisation Programme

18th Century Parliamentary Papers

"The 18th Century House of Commons Papers...cannot be matched as a historical source in any other country in the world."

Norman Gash, Times Literary Supplement

The House of Commons Parliamentary Papers are vital to the historical record of Britain, its former colonies and the wider world. They are among the richest and most detailed primary sources for the history of the past two centuries, and are fundamental to an understanding of current legislation, policy making and the political environment.

Previously difficult to access and poorly indexed, this collection unlocks over 100 years of policy making, investigation, correspondence and

reporting for researchers of all kinds. It features publications released officially by the House of Commons and the House of Lords from 1688 to 1834, including sessional papers and other material such as Journals and Private Acts, and records at the highest level the century that bore witness to the Industrial Revolution and the American War of Independence.

Website: www.bopcris.ac.uk/18c

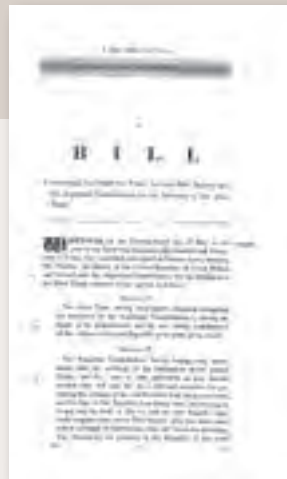
Access: Free access to UK FE and HE institutions

Lead site: University of Southampton

Summary: Opening up Britain's 18th century decision-making



Luke Hansard, Printer to the Government



19th Century Pamphlets Online

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19th Century British Pamphlets comprises seven individual collections held in universities within the United Kingdom, many of which are whole collections that belonged to individual politicians or political families. The pamphlets focus on the political, economic, and social issues that fuelled the great Parliamentary debates and controversies of the 19th century. Although they have a political emphasis, these collections represent the wide interests of their collectors, and provide researchers, students and teachers

with an immensely rich and coherent corpus of primary sources with which to study the socio-political and economic landscape of 19th century Britain.

The 23,000 pamphlets in the collection include items from the Earl Grey Pamphlets Collection (Durham University), Foreign & Commonwealth Office Collection (University of Manchester), the Cowen Tracts (Newcastle University), the Hume Tracts (UCL), the Knowsley Pamphlet Collection (University of Liverpool) and selections from collections held by the

London School of Economics and the University of Bristol.

Website: www.jstor.org/page/info/participate/other/britishPamphlets.jsp

Access: Free to schools, FE and HE in the UK

Lead site: BOPCRIS at the University of Southampton

Summary: Polemical voices from the past on the great debates of the 19th century

"This project will be of tremendous value to those who study the nineteenth century...Britain was the most powerful and influential nation, economically, politically and intellectually."

Dr Tim Leunig, Department of Economic History, LSE



British Newspapers 1620-1900

"It's almost like giving people a virtual key to the stacks at the British Library. It is the sheer range of material which will be a completely new experience for the user."

Jane Shaw, British Library

From the Great Fire of London to the cricket match that started the Ashes, this collection brings 300 years of history to life through the newspapers of the day. Over three million pages of national and local newspapers, pamphlets, addresses and proclamations from the British Library's collections can now be accessed online from anywhere in the UK.

All material is fully-text searchable, and is presented alongside bibliographic notes, a chronology and contextual essays on newspapers, their history and contents. Readers can explore issues

such as Chartism and suffrage which shaped Britain today. They can research iconic events such as the French Revolution, the Battle of Trafalgar or the Great Exhibition of 1851. They can view the gory details of crime cases such as Jack the Ripper, or read famous authors who wrote for newspapers such as Dickens and Thackeray.

British Newspapers makes it possible to examine the minutiae of daily life through columns packed full of source material on all aspects of British cultural, political and sporting life.

Website: www.bl.uk/britishnewspapers

Access: Free access to UK FE and HE institutions

Lead site: The British Library

Summary: Unlocking a rich seam of hidden treasures from 300 years of newspaper history



- Over three million fully text searchable pages
- National and regional papers from the UK and colonies
- Contextual essays on the history and role of newspapers
- Titles include
 - *The Calcutta Chronicle and General Advertiser*
 - *The Chartist*
 - *The Graphic*
 - *The Glasgow Herald*

The Cabinet Papers 1915-1978

"While we have created some fantastic resources for students, we hope the tools will help to open up the files to everyone with an interest in British history and politics."

Edward Hampshire, the National Archives

From the Somme to Suez, via Black Wednesday and Dunkirk, students and researchers can now delve into the inner-workings of government via a groundbreaking website that provides unprecedented online access to more than 60 years' worth of Cabinet papers. This resource offers a fascinating opportunity to discover the government discussions that shaped Britain. More than half a million pages of Cabinet Minutes and Memoranda are available, and they cover all the key events of the 20th century.

Users can keyword search the entire content of each record, opening up the files in a way that has never been possible before. The website also presents a selection of cabinet papers using thematic and chronological historical overviews. It covers three main themes of British governance in the 20th century: world affairs, the economy and the welfare state. Educational resources to contextualise the material include introductions to more than 100 topics, written by

academics, and a dynamic writing frame tool for A level students.

Website: www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/cabinetpapers

Access: Open access for at least 18 months then free to schools, FE and HE institutions in the UK

Lead site: The National Archive

Summary: Making the momentous decisions of the 20th century available at the touch of a button

- From fuel crises to world wars – find out how the government dealt with it all behind the scenes
- Half a million pages of Cabinet papers
- Over 100 learning packages
- Interactive educational tools
- Maps section



ETHOS, The Electronic Theses Online Service

ETHOS offers a single point of access to the entire range of UK theses for the first time. Through the easy-to-use ETHOS website, which is free at the point of use, researchers can search and download theses right on to their desktops.

Where a thesis has already been digitised by the service, ETHOS provides immediate access to it in a high quality digital format. Where a thesis is not immediately available for download, it is digitised from the print copy and made available, usually within a 10 day

period. As ETHOS is a demand-driven programme, it is a resource that will continue to grow as it is used.

For researchers, ETHOS enables access to relevant theses much more quickly than in the past. At an institutional level, ETHOS acts as a shop window for research that is taking place in the UK. It promotes UK postgraduate research to the world, and contributes to the global knowledge pool.

ETHOS is:

- Improving research theses access to those who need it
- Promoting UK higher education postgraduate research to the world
- Contributing to the global knowledge pool

Website: <http://ethos.bl.uk>

Access: Open access

Lead site: The British Library

Summary: Creating a one stop electronic shop for all UK Theses



First World War Poetry Digital Archive



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The First World War Poetry Digital Archive brings together dispersed and unseen primary source material from the major poets of the Great War: Wilfred Owen, Isaac Rosenberg, Edward Thomas, Robert Graves, Vera Brittain, and David Jones with material from Edmund Blunden, Ivor Gurney, and Siegfried Sassoon to follow. It includes their poetry manuscripts, service records, war diaries and correspondence sent while they were on active service. The material can be searched, downloaded and is copyright

cleared for educational use, and the site also features a range of specially developed educational resources, including tutorials, podcasts and resource packs.

While the resource opens up previously inaccessible manuscripts to everyone, the archive is not just about the famous literary names of the first world war. The poetry resource is placed within the wider context of the war as it affected the ordinary men and women of the time. There is video and audio from the Imperial War

Museum, alongside both official and amateur photographs. These provide an extraordinary visual account of the conflict. Personal tales of the war are on offer, too, through the Great War Archive. The general public were invited to send in digital versions of memorabilia originating from the first world war, or stories that had been passed down through their families.

Website: www.oucs.ox.ac.uk/ww1lit

Access: Open access

Lead site: University of Oxford

Summary: Taking the work of nine first world war poets to a new generation

- Over 10,000 items:
 - Manuscripts
 - Letters
 - War diaries
 - Photographs
- 500 multimedia items from the Imperial War Museum:
 - Video footage
 - Audio interviews with veterans
 - Online tutorials and teaching material



(Opposite) Pages from the last letter home written by the war poet Wilfred Owen. It was sent just a few days before he was killed in action in France at the age of 25 on 4 November 1918.

A?

Oct. 31. Thur.
6.15 p.m.

Dearest Mother,

I will call the place
from which I'm now writing "The Smoky
Cellar of the Forester's House".
I write on the first sheet of the
writing pad which came in the
parcel yesterday. Luckily the parcel
was small, as it reached me
just before we moved off to the line.
Thus only the pen-ink was ~~unwelcome~~
unwelcome in my pack. My servant
& I ate the chocolate in the cold
middle of last night, crouched under
a draught, Tamboos roofed with
planks. I hummed the Walter
Hale for tonight, & tomorrow night.
The handkerchief & socks are
most opportune, as the ground
is marshy, & I have a

slight cold!

So thick is the smoke in
the cellar that I can hardly see
by a candle 12 ins. away, &
so thick are the ~~revelations~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~
that I can hardly write for pokes,
nudges & jolts. On my left
the Coy. Commissary snores on a
bench; other officers repose on
wire beds behind me. At my



Kellett, a delightful
A Coy in The Old
his joy & contentment
eeks & baby eyes.
with a signaller, to
is glued the Receiver;
eyes rolling with
that he is listening
at ear to a merry
who appears at

Ireland Collection

The demand for research materials relating to Ireland cannot be overestimated, nor can the current paucity of material available either online or through UK-based academic libraries.

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This comprehensive, multidisciplinary digital library is an unrivalled resource for online Irish Studies resources, comprising more than 75 key journals, spanning the 1700s to the present day, alongside over 200 monographs and 2,500 manuscript pages.

The Irish Collection offers an unparalleled range of printed research materials that are not available to the academic community in such critical mass anywhere else. Closed runs of rare periodicals essential to the study of Ireland's cultural and political life can

be found alongside journals publishing vital contemporary scholarship in their fields. Noteworthy journals include: the Proceedings and Transactions of the Royal Irish Academy, Irish Historical Studies, History Ireland, Irish Arts Review, Irish Journal of Agricultural and Food Research, and Fortnight.

- Disciplines include music, art, history, literature, archaeology, sociology, mathematics, and science
- Over 200 monographs
- Minimum of 2,500 manuscript pages

Website: www.jstor.org/action/showJournals?browseType=collectionInfoPage&selectCollection=ireland

Access: Free for not-for-profit institutions within Ireland, and UK FE, HE and research councils

Lead site: The Queen's University of Belfast, JSTOR

Summary: The world's first digital library of core resources on Ireland



Medical Journals Backfiles

300+ journals, including the *British Medical Journal*, *Annals of Surgery*, *British Journal of Pharmacology*, *Journal of Anatomy* and the *Journal of Physiology*.

From Sir Alexander Fleming's discovery of the use of penicillin to the very latest life-changing research, Medical Journals Backfiles makes two centuries' worth of medical milestones available to all. Spanning 1809 to the present day, the resource delivers the complete backfiles of more than 300 significant medical journals from the US and the UK. It is freely accessible to anyone with an internet connection, bringing the best in medical research to teaching, clinical and research communities throughout the world.

Medical Journals Backfiles covers the 19th and 20th centuries but the archive is not limited to historical content. It is also a dynamic resource: as well as making their archive material available, publishers also deposit all their current and future issues.

Every word in every article, letter or editorial is fully searchable, so, as the resource is open access, users can search and browse the archive through the PubMed Central website, but they can also find content using their familiar search tools.

Website: www.pubmedcentral.nih.gov

Access: Open access

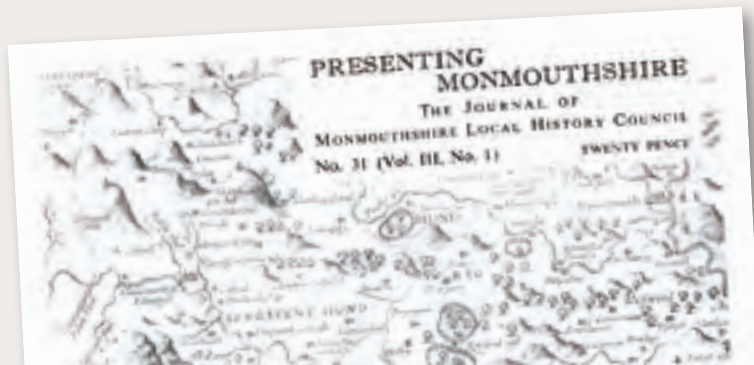
Lead site: Wellcome Trust (UK) and the National Library of Medicine (US)

Summary: Free access to the best medical publications of the past, present and future

"The story of medical history in the 19th and 20th centuries is told through medical journals. Before that it was books, but for the 19th and 20th centuries, it's journals. So providing online access to these is a way of providing a resource that medical historians, clinicians and others can make use of."

Robert Kiley, Wellcome Trust

Welsh Journals Online



Welsh Journals Online provides students, teachers and researchers with free online, searchable access to a selection of 19th, 20th and 21st century Welsh and Wales-related journals held at The National Library of Wales and partner institutions. These materials cover a very wide range of subject areas, including humanities, social sciences, science and technology.

The collection is a selection of 50 journals in both Welsh and English and includes learned publications, literary journals, science and social

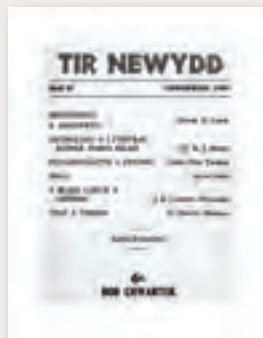
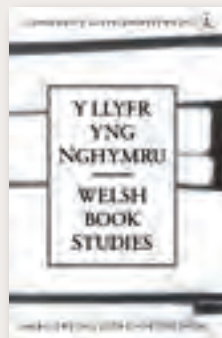
science titles and popular publications discussing current affairs in Wales and beyond. It is the largest website of content about Wales available anywhere and allows non-specialists direct access to important source materials that have, until now, been the preserve of professional scholars. The resource will continue to grow as, of the journals that are still being published, agreements have been made with some that as each new issue is published an older one is released, scanned and made available.

Website: www.welshjournals.llgc.org.uk

Access: Open access

Lead site: National Library of Wales

Summary: Free online access to key periodicals from Wales – past, present and future



- Over 400,000 pages of text from journals published between 1900 and 2003
- Biggest single corpus of Welsh language content on the web
- Iconic literary journals, putting the work of Welsh authors back into the context where it was originally published
- Collection includes:
The Pembrokeshire historian, Cymru, Y llyfr yng Nghymru, Tir newydd, Nature in Wales, Contemporary Wales, Welsh Outlook, Welsh History Review, Studia Celtica

British Cartoon Archive

- 144,000 images from 250 leading cartoonists
- Cartoons from 1904 to the present day
- 20,000 new cartoons
- 5,000 related images
- Sketches
- Letters
- Documents



The British Cartoon Archive offers access to an unrivalled collection of British newspaper cartoons. Its new, easy to use website provides a gateway to one of the largest cartoon databases available in the world, making original artwork from scribbles and sketches to the finished cartoon accessible to all.

The Carl Giles Collection is the single most important archive of British newspaper cartoons. Giles is best known for his work in the Daily and Sunday Express from 1943 until 1991 and was the most famous social

cartoonist of his generation. He died in 1995 but is still remembered fondly by the public and continues to influence today's cartoonists. The archive covers every aspect of Giles's working life, digitised from his vast studio archive that was boxed up after his death. As well as Giles's original black and white cartoons, full colour annuals and Christmas cards, there are also the preliminary sketches that reveal how a cartoon is developed, from start to finish.

Website: www.cartoons.ac.uk

Access: Open access

Lead site: British Cartoon Archive

Summary: Opening up the single most important archive of British newspaper cartoons

"I think it will be a terrific resource. Take someone like Giles who is such an important cartoonist for so many cartoonists and people generally, who had such a long career from the late 30s through to the 90s, and you've got a kind of living history in itself from the work he did."

Steve Bell, the Guardian's political cartoonist





Cartoons don't come fully formed, they have to be dug out as it were, carved out of sometimes unwilling material.

Steve Bell, the Guardian's political cartoonist

Carl Giles at work in his studio.



Steve Bell interview

A century of satire, humour and biting political wit is finding a new audience thanks to the British Cartoon Archive. The online resource of over 144,000 images from 250 leading cartoonists makes the largest collection of British social and political cartoons freely accessible to all.

It includes the vast Giles archive, which has never before been open to the public or available for research.

Giles is best known for his work in the Daily and Sunday Express from 1943 until 1991 and was the most famous social cartoonist of his generation. He died in 1995 but is still remembered fondly by the public and continues to influence today's cartoonists.

Giles used his famous cartoon family, from matriarch Grandma to the mop-haired anarchic child Larry to comment on contemporary topics. Over 50 years, in his single panel snapshots of working Britain, he gently mocked the institutions of the day and conjured up a familiar yet always slightly subversive world.

Steve Bell, the Guardian's award-winning cartoonist, is also featured

in the archive, and has affectionate memories of Giles's world.

"I'd have been very young when I first saw Giles because we took the Sunday Express and Giles was in it every week," Bell says. "I always remember loving looking at it, and the Giles annuals which would come round every year, and it was just such a wealth of observation. That's the wonderful thing about Giles, the scope of his work which was always panoramic, a social panorama. It was always very cosy, which is nice in retrospect, but also quite penetrating in its way because he was looking at the times with quite a sceptical eye, quite a wry sense of humour."

Bell adds that "you've got a kind of living history in itself from the work he did. It's a sort of social history of English attitudes from war-time to post-war to 50s and 60s."

It also provides a real insight into the craft of cartooning. As well as Giles's original black and white cartoons, full colour annuals and Christmas cards, there are also the preliminary sketches

that reveal just how a cartoon is developed, from start to finish.

For Steve Bell, this provides a crucial educational aspect to the collection. "I think it's very important to have some examples that show the process of how a cartoon comes about because a cartoon is a very finished medium by definition. When you see it on a page there are no signs of any apparent effort behind it but there obviously has been a long process going up to building it. To see this is fascinating for any cartoonist but especially for Giles."

"Cartoons don't come fully formed, they have to be dug out as it were, carved out of sometimes unwilling material," Bell adds. "It intrigues me that people always think that you do a cartoon in a couple of minutes but that's not true – cartooning takes much longer than, for instance, ordinary written journalism."

"It's a wonderful thing to have an open resource which is publicly available and freely available to people as this stuff is important. It's a terrific resource," Bell concludes.

East London Theatre Archive



East London has made a unique contribution to the development of theatre – it was the East End that first brought music hall and variety to the world – but it has often been overshadowed by the focus on West End theatre. By bringing its precious archives and diverse resources into the spotlight, the East London Theatre Archive celebrates and facilitates research into East London theatres, and enables researchers and students to chart the influence and power of the areas contribution to theatre today.

The East London Theatre Archive has created an invaluable database of performing arts resources, from playbills and programmes to press cuttings and photographs. Sourced from a range of East End theatres, it not only preserves unique and endangered collections but makes them accessible as a diverse and dynamic resource full of rich potential for students and researchers across the country.

Website: www.elta-project.org

Access: Open access

Lead site: University of East London

Summary: Putting the spotlight on East End music hall heritage

“Without the history of the theatre, it’s very difficult for people to know where they’re coming from. Unless you know, for instance, where farce has come from – from Feydeau, Moliere and, earlier, the Greeks – you can appreciate it as theatre, but you can’t appreciate its history. You think you’ve invented something when you haven’t.”

Lord Rix, former actor-manager Brian Rix, now Chancellor of the University of East London



Freeze Frame: historic polar images 1845-1982

"The Freeze Frame archive is invaluable in charting changes in the polar regions. Making the material available to all will help with further research into scientific studies around global warming and climate change."

Polar explorer Pen Hadow

The collection of photographic negatives held by the Scott Polar Research Institute at the University of Cambridge is among the richest in the world for the study of polar environments. They are a unique and fragile resource and their very nature makes research access to them difficult. Many of the earlier images are daguerrotypes or on glass plates, for example. To preserve these visual resources for the future while providing access to them today, the Freeze Frame website makes 20,000 images freely available to all. Covering

the period from 1845-1982, they represent some of the most important resources for research into British and international polar exploration.

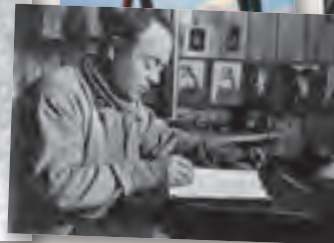
Users can view a range of images, including Herbert Ponting's glass plate negatives from the 1910-1913 British Antarctic Expedition, which are so fragile that they will never be placed on public display, as well as images from important surveying expeditions from the 1930s and 1950s which mapped the Arctic and Antarctic.

Website: www.freezeframe.ac.uk

Access: Open access

Lead site: Scott Polar Research Institute

Summary: Discover the polar environment through the eyes of the explorers who dared to go into the last great wildernesses on earth



The John Johnson Collection: An Archive of Printed Ephemera

"This project really solves the problems that are associated with accessing ephemera...this gives a very wide array of different kinds of user access to that material for the first time."

Peter White, ProQuest

The John Johnson Collection is one of the largest and most important archives of printed ephemera in the world. It was amassed between the 1920s and Johnson's death in 1956, during which period he collected retrospectively a vast array of these minor transient documents of everyday life. The collection of one and a half million items was transferred to the Bodleian Library and was largely available only to those who could visit the library in person.

These rare or unique archival materials document various aspects

of life in Britain in the eighteenth, nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The collection includes playbills for theatrical entertainments, broadsides relating to murders and executions, book and journal prospectuses, popular prints, and a wealth of different kinds of printed advertising material.

Ephemera, when preserved and made accessible, can provide valuable insights into our everyday lives. They offer a rich mine of information for scholars of social history and other fields of research.

These historical documents are easy to find through the new site because the resource has been richly catalogued and the text is fully searchable.

Website: <http://johnjohnson.chadwyck.co.uk>

Access: Free access to public libraries, schools, FE and HE in the UK

Lead site: University of Oxford

Summary: Discover hidden treasures of everyday life from the 18th century to the early 20th



Pre-Raphaelite Resource Site



Pre-Raphaelitism was Britain's most significant and influential 19th century art movement. Founded in 1848, it centred on a group of three young artists: Dante Gabriel Rossetti, John Everett Millais and William Holman Hunt. These artists wanted to revive English art by turning away from the old studio tradition and bring painting into direct contact with nature.

Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery's holding of Pre-Raphaelite drawings is of national and international importance and has never before been

comprehensively documented and accessed as a collection. Now, through the open access website, visitors can follow the thoughts of a Pre-Raphaelite artist through his or her initial sketches and scribbles to working drawings, detailed studies and through to the final oil painting.

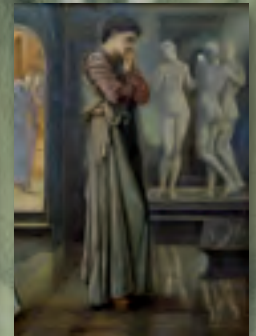
The collection spans painting on canvas, works on paper, sculpture, designs for stained glass and textiles and cartoons as well as printed books, unpublished letters, notebooks and associated photographic material.

Website: Available spring 2009

Access: Open access

Lead site: Birmingham Museums and Art Gallery

Summary: Trace a movement that changed the face of British art



A Vision of Britain Through Time

Fascinating primary source material for historians, geographers, sociologists, political scientists and literary students

- Parliamentary election results since 1832
- Census reports 1801-1961
- Historical maps of boundaries, land utilisation and more
- Maps and graphs of statistical trends
- Largest collection of historical British travel writing on the web

From maps and census reports to travellers' tales and election data, the Vision of Britain Through Time project is a one-stop-shop for historical information on places in Britain. Via the Vision of Britain Through Time website, a vast array of population data is now accessible to all, online, simply by typing in a British place name.

At the heart of A Vision of Britain Through Time is the site's comprehensive digital library of historic administrative boundaries. This provides the framework that allows anyone to

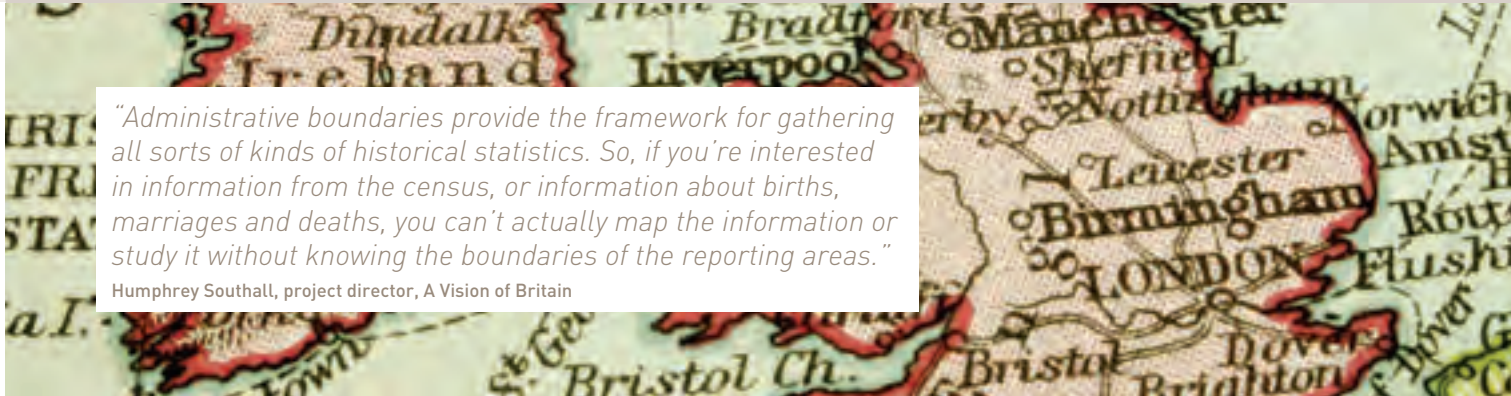
search the site easily by place, and to see the information presented on maps. In just a couple of clicks, the site reveals detailed information about a location's population, social class, land use, housing, religion, and much more – and how it has changed over time. A Vision of Britain Through Time makes information that was previously disparate and difficult to access available to all, and integrates and organises it in innovative ways.

Website: www.visionofbritain.org.uk

Access: Open access

Lead site: University of Portsmouth

Summary: Mapping the past: a digital library of Britain's borders



"Administrative boundaries provide the framework for gathering all sorts of kinds of historical statistics. So, if you're interested in information from the census, or information about births, marriages and deaths, you can't actually map the information or study it without knowing the boundaries of the reporting areas."

Humphrey Southall, project director, A Vision of Britain

Histpop: Online Historical Population Reports

"The resource as it stands on the website is complete. There is nothing missing from the 19th and early 20th century population returns, which is pretty unlike most university libraries which have only parts of this material and in many cases where they do have them they've been heavily used in the past and are fragile and difficult to use and difficult to access. Providing them online makes these fragile resources available for all to use."

Matthew Woollard, Histpop

The Online Historical Population Reports website – Histpop – provides an extraordinary and vivid picture of Britain's changing demographic structure from 1801 until the second world war. Histpop offers free online access to almost 200,000 digitised pages of population data for the whole of the British Isles, providing in-depth insights into the society, economy, medicine and even attitudes of the time. At the heart of the collection is the census data and annual reports of the registrar general.

The site is comprehensive and features material from the National Archives, including 5,000 pages of images of maps and enumerator's books and a complete collection of relevant parliamentary legislation. There are also around 200 essays which contextualise the reports and the information within them.

This wide range of both primary source and contextual material, which is now so easily accessible via a user-friendly website, makes Histpop an invaluable resource for teaching,

learning and research at all levels across a range of disciplines.

Website: www.histpop.org

Access: Open access

Lead site: The History Data Service and the UK Data Archive at the University of Essex

Summary: Illuminating Britain's changing population



Archival Sound Recordings

“Sound recordings represent a massively untapped resource in the field of education. They are relevant to all subjects and we are delighted that this programme will bring wide access to rare, historic and hugely valuable sound resources.”

Lynne Brindley, Chief Executive of the British Library

Archival Sound Recordings provides free online access to selections of spoken word, music and environmental sounds from the British Library Sound Archive, one of the world’s treasure houses of audio heritage. The groundbreaking service features many rare, unpublished or out-of-print recordings, including classical, world and folk music, oral histories, radio programmes, wildlife vocalisations and sounds of the natural and industrial worlds.

Over 2,000 of the recordings are available to the public online. These

include classical music, accents and dialects, British wildlife, Holocaust testimonies, ethnographic wax cylinders and Ugandan field recordings. Staff and students at UK FE and HE institutions can also log in and play or download recordings to cut, loop, transcribe, embed and otherwise repurpose for academic use. By making rare and often unpublished primary source material available online for the first time, Archival Sound Recordings has been opening up new areas of research for academics, teachers, researchers and students.

Website: www.bl.uk/sounds

Access: Free access to UK FE and HE institutions

Lead site: The British Library

Summary: A critical mass of the world’s rich audio heritage at your fingertips

Collection highlights include:

- Classical music
- World and traditional music
- Wildlife vocalisations
- Soundscapes
- Accents and dialects
- Art and design interviews
- Holocaust survivor testimonies





London Broadcast Company / Independent Radio News



WORDS

PICTURES

MAPS

SOUND

FILM

The Independent Radio News/London Broadcasting Company radio archive consists of thousands of reel-to-reel tapes in a collection that runs from 1973 to the mid-1990s. It is the most important commercial radio archive in the UK and provides a unique audio history of the period.

This project focuses on the most noteworthy content – 3,000 hours of recordings relating to news and current affairs. The archive to be digitised includes invaluable recordings of a wide range of broadcasts including

coverage of the Falklands war, the miners' strike, Northern Ireland and the whole of the Thatcher period of government. It includes the first hours of UK commercial radio and the first commercial radio news.

Users will be able to access the recordings via a website which combines access to the archive catalogue and digital audio files.

Website: Available spring 2009

Access: Free to UK FE and HE institutions

Lead site: University of Bournemouth

Summary: From Callaghan to Thatcher, a contemporary audio archive from the only radio news archive outside the BBC



The LBC/IRN Archive ... forms an important part of the history of radio broadcasting

InView: moving images in the public sphere



The unique strength of the resource is that it will be sourced from different collections of national importance, each carrying the voice of a different section of the polity ...

The project will deliver 600 hours of unique moving image materials and digitised contextual documents to educational communities and the public across the UK. It will pursue a curated and thematic approach; demonstrating how the key social, political and economic issues of our time have been represented, illustrated, expressed and debated through moving image media forms.

Material featured will include public record films, parliamentary coverage, national news broadcasts, and campaigning films. This project will make research materials currently only accessible at one location widely available throughout further and higher education and to a wider public.

Website: www.bfi.org.uk/inview

Access: Free to schools, FE, HE in the UK, and some open access

Lead site: British Film Institute

Summary: Watch some of the key social, political and economic issues of our time unfold through digital moving image media





Jon Snow interview

WORDS

PICTURES

MAPS

SOUND

FILM

“391!” exclaims Jon Snow, looking pleased. The veteran ITN reporter and Channel 4 news presenter has just looked himself up for the first time on the NewsFilm Online resource and discovered that he features in nearly 400 stories.

It is not surprising that Snow will be a prominent figure in a collection that includes 3,000 hours of footage from the ITN and Reuters archive and features the most significant world events of the last 100 years. Snow himself joined ITN in 1976 and has covered Afghanistan to Zanzibar. Among his assignments, he reported the overthrow of Idi Amin in Uganda; the Iran hostage crisis; the Russian invasion of Afghanistan; the Iran Iraq war; the fall of the Berlin wall and the release of Nelson Mandela. He was also presenting during the day and night of 9/11.

These events and many more are now available to the academic community in a collection of 60,000 clips Snow describes as “amazing”.

Funded by JISC, NewsFilm Online

is a partnership with ITN Source and British Universities Film and Video Council and allows the HE and FE sector to search, watch and download video clips for free for teaching, learning and research purposes.

“I think what people don’t realise is that modern history has moved on from jerky old pictures of people in trenches in the first world war,” says Snow. “There’s now a cascade of history which spans a hundred years which has been covered by cameras in quite presentable quality and you have real access to real life stories and I think they bring modern history, current affairs, politics right to life.”


The archive features not just those iconic moments of world history – think Chamberlain at Munich, Hiroshima, Vietnam, the moon landings... – but also covers art and culture, sport, science and fashion, making the collection rich with possibilities for many different areas of academic research and teaching.

The resource also documents how

the media has evolved, not just in terms of the way reporters dressed and spoke but also how, says Snow, “it moves from the period when you were simply told what was important for you to know to the point now where the media has been much more democratised by the internet, by YouTube, by all these other opportunities.”

According to Snow, the “best is yet to come” and he contrasts vividly the instant access of today’s digital and interactive media with the sometimes tortuous routes news footage had to take in his early days as a reporter.

“I was despatched to cover Idi Amin – he’s in there. It took me a day and a half to get to Kampala. It took me a day to shoot the film then it took a day and a half to get it shipped back to Britain and then it took six hours to bath it in a laboratory because it was film and so five days after I said ‘hello Mr Amin, President Amin’ it appeared on a television screen. Now at the flick of a button you can see Amin for yourself – boom.”



I think the democratisation of image, sound, words of history and their accessibility to students is the essence of tomorrow's democracy.

NewsFilm Online

“By making original material available for study and research NfO has democratised an audio-visual resource and put it squarely into the academic arena alongside other more traditional sources. It is fundamentally not just about journalism and contemporary history. It is – amongst others – about art , business, science, fashion , medicine, crime, politics, economics, geography, architecture.”

Stewart Purvis, professor of television journalism, City University, London

From the funeral of Edward VII in 1910 to Celebrity Big brother in January 2007, NewsFilm Online offers unparalleled access to the archives of ITN and Reuters television. It includes some of the most significant events of the past century, including footage from the second world war, Vietnam, the Suez crisis, the fall of the Berlin Wall and the collapse of the Twin Towers. As well as world political events, users can also explore coverage of the arts and culture, sport, fashion and lifestyle, the environment and science and

technology. Previously unseen footage, programme scripts and running orders help to reveal what stories were reported, how and why they were reported and what was omitted

Anyone can search and browse the archive but staff and students at subscribing UK universities and colleges can also watch and download the clips for re-use within an education context.

The collection is supported with a full range of teaching materials including exemplars which illustrate how clips from across the archive might

be used. There are also video tutorials on how to use and adapt resources from the collection for teaching, learning and research.

Website: www.nfo.ac.uk

Access: Free access to UK FE and HE institutions

Lead site: British Universities Film and Video Council

Summary: See and hear the events that shaped the 20th and 21st centuries, online



Who can access the collections?



Within the UK, all these collections are freely available at the point of use, and many are openly accessible to all. Some of the collections have elements that are accessible to everyone, with the full resource available via an academic log in, while a few are only available to the further education and higher education community. Each individual project website provides full details of who can access the resource and how. For more information on these projects, and other JISC digitisation initiatives, go to the JISC Digitisation blog at <http://digitisation.jiscinvolve.org>.

	Open access	Some open access, full resource available to FE and HE	FE, HE and schools	FE and HE only
Medical Journals Backfiles	✓			
Histpop	✓			
First World War Digital Poetry Archive	✓			
Freeze Frame	✓			
A Vision of Britain Through Time	✓			
British Cartoon Archive	✓			
Welsh Journals Online	✓			
EThOS	✓			
Pre-Raphaelite Resource Site	✓			
East London Theatre Archive	✓			
Archival Sound Recordings		✓		
NewsFilm Online		✓		
InView		✓		
The Cabinet Papers 1915-1978		✓		
John Johnson Collection			✓	
19th Century Pamphlets			✓	
British Newspapers			✓	
LBC/IRN			✓	
Ireland Collection				✓
18th Century Parliamentary Papers				✓

The JISC Digitisation Programme: Overview of Projects

This document is available in alternative formats
For more information: www.jisc.ac.uk/digitisation

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