
Shanghai’s waterfront, circa 1930, where colonial structures mixed with traditional architecture.

DELIVER GREATER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

The eighth collection in the China and the Modern World series, Records of Shanghai and the International Settlement, 1836–1955, provides a primary source collection vital to understanding and researching the social, political, and economic history of not just the British-dominated yet highly globalised International Settlement in Shanghai but the history of modern China. Comprised of nine series of British Foreign Office files from The National Archives in the United Kingdom that are directly related to the history of Shanghai and the International Settlement, plus a small number of files selected from the records of the British Ministry of Labour, Treasury, and War Office, this collection deciphers and illuminates the International Settlement as the seat of formative events that shaped the history of modern China as it transitioned from an imperial dynasty to a globally engaged republic.

ABOUT THE COLLECTION
This collection covers the century-long history of Shanghai and the Shanghai International Settlement from multiple political, commercial, military, cultural, and legal perspectives. It offers unprecedented insight into China’s most-developed “semicolonial” territory, which was governed by a Westerner-dominated Municipal Council; put in place modern infrastructural mainstays such as electricity and tramways; and saw cataclysmic events that pushed the country toward the eventual establishment of the People’s Republic of China in 1949. The topics covered encompass politics, industry, trade, crime, cultural affairs, entertainment, and everyday life, and some of the included materials are exclusive to these files.

VALUE OF THE ARCHIVE
- The accounts illustrate a century of political and cultural life in a “semicolonial” and global city in what is now one of the world’s superpowers.
- These files provide a diverse set of valuable English-language archives for researching one of the most dynamic and globalised cities in modern Asia, making it accessible to a Western/Anglophone audience in an area of increasing academic curiosity.
- Given that the Shanghai Municipal Council, which governed the International Settlement, was populated mostly by Anglophone Westerners, and that the Settlement itself was integral to the political, economic, and cultural makeup of the city, researching it is valuable not only for students of Chinese history but also for those researching colonialism, imperialism, urban history, and global cities.
- The material has no overlap with any other searchable collection.
- The collection enhances the following Archives Unbound collections:
  - China: Records of the U.S. Department of State, 1940–1944
  - Chinese Maritime Customs Service: The Customs’ Gazette, 1869–1913
  - The Minutes of the Shanghai Municipal Council
  - Papers of American Missionaries to Asia: Jay C. and Lucile C. Oliver and YMCA China
  - Papers of British Consulates and Legation in China (1727–1951)
  - Papers of Old Shanghai: Business, Banking, and Insurance, 1874–1949
  - Papers of Old Shanghai: Miscellanies, 1853–1945
  - Papers of Old Shanghai: Social Shanghai, 1906–1912
  - Papers of Old Shanghai: Societies and Clubs, 1890–1942
  - The Papers of Sir Ernest Mason Satow
  - Policing the Shanghai International Settlement, 1894–1945
  - Political Relations and Conflict between Republican China and Imperial Japan, 1930–1939: Records of the U.S. State Department
  - Service Lists and Reports of the Chinese Maritime Customs Service and Whangpoo Conservancy Board
  - Shanghai International Settlement: Shanghai Municipal Council Reports, Minutes of Ratepayers Meetings, and Shanghai Volunteer Corps
  - Shanghai International Settlement: Urban Planning and Development, 1845–1948
  - Shanghai Municipal Council: The Municipal Gazette, 1908–1940

Note on a civil case involving the Dallas brothers. FO 1092/40 Shanghai Courts, China: Judges’ and Magistrates’ Notebooks. CIVIL CASES. reproduced courtesy of The National Archives, UK.
TOPICS COVERED
- Shanghai Municipal Council
- Shanghai Volunteers Corps
- Extraterritoriality and the Mixed Court
- Shanghai riots [1905]
- World War I in Asia
- May Thirtieth Movement [1925]
- Shanghai incident (January 28, 1932)
- Second Sino-Japanese War
- Opium traffic and ban
- Rise of nationalism and communism in China
- Construction of railways and tramways
- British expatriate community in Shanghai

COLLECTIONS INCLUDED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Content Creator</th>
<th>Series Included</th>
<th>Date Range</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Office</td>
<td>FO 93, 371, 656, 671, 672, 881, 914, 925, and 1092</td>
<td>1836–1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ministry of Labour</td>
<td>LAB 2</td>
<td>1941</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasury</td>
<td>T 160</td>
<td>1939–1943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>War Office</td>
<td>WO 32</td>
<td>1927–1935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Record Office Maps</td>
<td>MR 1</td>
<td>1924</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
GALE DIGITAL SCHOLAR LAB

With the help of feedback from librarians, faculty, and students, Gale continuously refreshes its award-winning, data-mining research environment. Open even more valuable research pathways with Gale Digital Scholar Lab, the intuitive, cloud-based analysis platform that helps tell impactful visual stories with historical data—and helps students build valuable new skills for the workforce.

With Gale Digital Scholar Lab, your library can:

Remove Barriers to Digital Humanities: Using streamlined tools and the comprehensive Learning Center, the Lab sets users of all skill levels right to work analyzing any plain-text data, regardless of technical experience.

Harness the Power of Data-Led Scholarship: With the Lab, sourcing, cleaning, and analysing content from China and the Modern World alongside millions of pages of other Gale Primary Sources has evolved using enhanced visualisation techniques and natural language processing.

Boost Usage of Your Institutional Investment: Using the Lab shows increased usage of Gale Primary Sources.

Now researchers can:

Work in Groups: Using Gale Digital Scholar Lab: Groups, students and faculty can collaborate in real time with others in the institution, directly within the platform.

Acquire New Digital Skills for the Workforce: The comprehensive Learning Center is continually updated with sample projects and learning content to promote digital literacy in the classroom and in the workforce.

LEARNING CENTERS FOR GALE PRIMARY SOURCES

Gale now offers instructional support on nearly 40 Gale Primary Sources archives, and counting, to make them as accessible as possible—at no additional cost to the library. Built with the student researcher in mind, Learning Centers pursue an urgent goal: to help connect the library’s interdisciplinary content to student success.

Learning Centers promote usage and amplify data literacy by:

• Orienting new users with the content available in a digital archive

• Providing guidance and best practices for searching, browsing, citing, and reusing primary sources

• Kindling inspiration for new research topics

Learn more at gale.com/china