Gale’s wealth of primary and secondary resources in Asian studies will help researchers explore four centuries of regional and international events with unmatched depth. Gain insights from witnesses to history in East Asia and Southeast Asia to cultivate a deeper appreciation for the shifting political, diplomatic, civic, cultural, and economic landscape, and the central role that Asian countries and territories have played.
Trace over 400 years of pivotal events in regions comprising nearly a third of today’s human population. With new and recent collections in *Gale Primary Sources*, including two new entries to *China and the Modern World*, researchers and students can explore underrepresented voices in the study of empires, colonialism, economics, geography, and government systems, along with the nationalist movements, political turmoil, and military struggles that shaped East and Southeast Asia, and discover their lasting impacts.

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- Empower students and researchers with Gale’s unique digital resources
- Spark new findings from rare, never-before-digitized media
- Expand research by developing counternarratives
- Create impactful visual analyses with primary sources data
Digitized primarily from the records of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), this collection continues where *China and the Modern World: Hong Kong, Britain, and China, Part I: 1841–1951* left off. *Part II* documents the process of Hong Kong maneuvering, surviving, thriving, and transforming into a modern, international metropolis and financial center in the wider context of the Cold War.

**FILES INCLUDED**

**FCO 40**
Contains records of the Hong Kong and West Indian Department “C” of the Commonwealth Office, which dealt with UK and Commonwealth relations with Hong Kong. Gale has selected over 2,900 volumes directly pertaining to Hong Kong as well as some that apply to all dependent territories.

**FCO 21**
This series comprises Foreign Office and FCO Far Eastern Department Registered Files (F and FE Series). Gale has digitized more than 50 thus-far undigitized volumes closely related to the subject.

**VALUE OF THE COLLECTION**
- **Supports Researchers:** Item-level metadata created from scratch further enhances the research experience.
- **Unique Content:** Access all declassified volumes—those directly related to Hong Kong and those that affect all British colonies or territories—from The National Archives–held FCO 40 and 21.
- **Topical Coverage:** From the 1967 Hong Kong riots, social reforms of the 1970s, the influx and resettlement of Vietnamese refugees, to China’s opening up and negotiations on the return of Hong Kong to China, this collection highlights nearly three decades of transformative history.
- **Handwritten Text Recognition (HTR):** Discover text that includes handwriting at all search levels (basic, advanced, and document level) with Gale’s HTR technology.

**COMPLEMENTARY GALE ARCHIVES:**
- *China and the Modern World: Hong Kong, Britain, and China, Part I: 1841–1951*
- *State Papers Online Colonial: Asia, Part I: Far East, Hong Kong, and Wei-Hai-Wei*
STATE PAPERS ONLINE COLONIAL: ASIA, PART II: SINGAPORE, EAST MALAYSIA, AND BRUNEI

ABOUT THE COLLECTION
Size: Approximately 500,000 pages (over 3,300 files & volumes)
Source: The National Archives, United Kingdom
Date Range: 1759–1967
Support Digital Humanities: Integrates with Gale Digital Scholar Lab

These British Colonial Office files document two hundred years of British engagement with the people and resources of Singapore, Brunei, Labuan, Sarawak, and British North Borneo (now Sabah, Malaysia). Researchers will find insight into Britain’s administration and governance of these countries, their international relations across the period, and the changing demographics and daily life of inhabitants. The documents also showcase how colonial history continues to influence these now-independent countries.

VALUE OF THE COLLECTION
• Supports Researchers: The collection includes mainly English-language documents covering formerly colonized Southeast Asia.
• Comprehensive in Scope: The breadth of the material allows researchers to trace the “route to independence” for each of the key countries included.
• Unique Content: Offering newly digitized materials with minimal overlap with existing products, these documents are often the only record of people and events in the countries concerned.
• Handwritten Text Recognition: Discover text that includes handwriting at all search levels (basic, advanced, and document level) with Gale’s HTR technology.

CONTENT SAMPLES
• CO 874/1104 War with Japan, 1941–1943. This file contains communications, including intercepted Japanese broadcasts, between the CO and the British Governor of North Borneo (now Sabah) during Japanese occupation in World War II.
• CO 953/12/6 Assassination of D.G. Stewart, Governor of Sarawak: trial and enquiry, 1950. In December 1949, Duncan George Stewart, the British Governor of Sarawak, was assassinated. While the British government officially concluded that an anti-cession movement supporting the continued rule of “White Rajah” Anthony Brooke carried out the assassination, confidential files reveal that there was likely involvement from outside parties.
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Access Work Quickly: With Shibboleth authentication, users can log in using university credentials for a simplified experience.

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

Visit gale.com/dslab to learn more about bringing digital humanities to your library.
Resource Spotlight:

ABOUT THE COLLECTION
Size: Approximately 270,000 pages
Source: The National Archives, United Kingdom
Date Range: 1836–1955
Support Digital Humanities: Integrates with Gale Digital Scholar Lab

The eighth installment 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 both the British-dominated yet highly globalized International Settlement in Shanghai—and modern China as a whole.

This collection covers the century-long history of Shanghai and the Shanghai International Settlement, offering unprecedented insight into China’s most-developed “semiccolonial” territory, which was governed by a Western-dominated Municipal Council and saw the transformational events that pushed the country toward the establishment of the People’s Republic of China in 1949.

VALUE OF THE COLLECTION
• These files, which have no overlap with any other searchable collection, provide a diverse set of valuable English-language archives for researching one of the most dynamic and globalized cities in modern Asia.
• 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.
• Discover text that includes handwriting at all search levels (basic, advanced, and document level) with Gale’s HTR technology.

COMPLEMENTARY GALE ARCHIVES:
• China and the Modern World: all collections, but especially Imperial China and the West Part I: 1815–1881 and Imperial China and the West Part II: 1865–1905
• Nineteenth Century Collections Online: Asia and the West
ARCHIVES UNBOUND
Gale offers numerous entry points to bringing Shanghai’s place in a rapidly modernizing East Asia to life during this period of pivotal geopolitical change.

- 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: Social Shanghai, 1906–1912
- Papers of Old Shanghai: Societies and Clubs, 1890–1942
- Papers of Old Shanghai: Miscellanies, 1853–1945
- Policing the Shanghai International Settlement, 1894–1945
- The Papers of Sir Ernest Mason Satow
- 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

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Match unfiltered primary source materials on Shanghai and China with authoritative Gale eBooks, from a variety of trusted publishers, that provide incisive overviews of the region in a format ideal for instructional environments and starting points for research.

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CHINA AND THE MODERN WORLD:
MISSIONARY, SINOLOGY, AND LITERARY PERIODICALS, 1817–1949

Size: Approximately 160,000 pages

This archive presents a collection of 17 English-language periodicals published in or about China from 1817 to 1949. Set within the context of such major historical events as the Opium Wars, the Taiping Rebellion, the Boxer Rebellion, the Revolution of 1911, the first and second Sino-Japanese Wars, and the Chinese Civil War, these periodicals illuminate the ideas of Chinese intellectuals and Western missionaries and diplomats about China, and, more importantly, their efforts to understand Chinese culture and transform China from an imperial dynasty into a modern nation.

CHINA AND THE MODERN WORLD:
RECORDS OF THE MARITIME CUSTOMS SERVICE OF CHINA, 1854–1949

Size: Approximately 270,000 pages

The Maritime Customs Service of China (the Imperial Maritime Customs Service until 1912) was an international yet (at senior levels) British-dominated bureaucracy under successive Chinese central governments from 1854 and lasting for nearly a century. As one of the most important and powerful institutions in China during the period, the Service engaged in a wide range of activities: assessing duties on Chinese trade, building and maintaining China’s lighthouses, mapping China’s coast and major rivers, combating smuggling, and policing rivers, harbors, and railroad lines. Records of the Maritime Customs Service of China provides a uniquely valuable source for understanding Chinese trade and politics within the larger global political and economic context.

CHINA AND THE MODERN WORLD:
DIPLOMACY AND POLITICAL SECRETS, 1869–1950

Size: Approximately 225,000 pages

China and the Modern World: Diplomacy and Political Secrets, 1869–1950 offers a valuable collection of primary source material from the British India Office Records, covering Anglo-Chinese relations and British interests in South Asia, Central Asia, East Asia, and Southeast Asia from 1869 to 1950.
CHINA AND THE MODERN WORLD: HONG KONG, BRITAIN, AND CHINA, PART I: 1841–1951

Size: Approximately 645,000 pages

Digitized from the CO 129 series of British Colonial Office files, this archive relates to Hong Kong as a British colony between 1841 and 1951 and provides essential reference material for researching the history of Hong Kong in the context of modern China and the British Empire in Asia, from the inception of the British colony in the 1840s to the early 1950s immediately after the founding of the People’s Republic of China.

This digital archive consists of original correspondence between the governors of Hong Kong and the Colonial Office, as well as letters and telegrams of other government departments and organizations, such as the Foreign Office, Home Office, and War Office. The archive is equipped with HTR at all search levels, and contains many records pertaining to the relations between China, Britain, and Japan during World War II.


Size: Approximately 1.1 million pages (Part I: 532,000; Part II: over 600,000)

Released in two parts, China and the Modern World: Imperial China and the West is digitized primarily from the FO 17 series of British Foreign Office Files held at The National Archives in the UK, providing a vast and significant primary source for researching every aspect of Chinese-British/Western relations during the nineteenth century, ranging from diplomacy and war to trade, piracy, riots and rebellions within China, international law, treaty ports and informal empires, the coolie trade and Chinese emigration, as well as translation and cross-cultural communication. The archive documents many significant historical events that are key to any student of Chinese history, such as Lord Amherst’s embassy to China in 1816, the Opium Wars of 1839–1842 and 1856–1860, the Taiping Rebellion (1850–1864), the First Sino-Japanese War (1894–1895), the Hundred Days’ Reform in 1898, and the Boxer Rebellion (1900).

Imperial China and the West, Part I: 1815–1881 consists of volumes 1–872 in FO 17. The remaining volumes 873–1769 form the core of Imperial China and the West, Part II: 1865–1905, which also includes seven volumes of law officers’ reports from FO 83.
STATE PAPERS ONLINE COLONIAL: ASIA, PART I: FAR EAST, HONG KONG, AND WEI-HAI-WEI

Size: Approximately 390,000 pages

This collection is the first installment in State Papers Online Colonial, which brings British Colonial Office files from The National Archives in the UK to a global audience. These Colonial Office working files illustrate two very different sides in the colonial relationship: a British government whose main priority was the acquisition of commodities, wealth, and labor; and the local people living under colonial rule and British-style institutions for law, health, education, policing, defense, agriculture, and industry. HTR is included.

NINETEENTH CENTURY COLLECTIONS ONLINE: ASIA AND THE WEST: DIPLOMACY AND CULTURAL EXCHANGE

Size: Approximately 1.3 million pages

This collection features a range of primary sources concerning international relations between Asian countries and the West. These documents, many not previously available, allow scholars to explore the history of British and U.S. foreign policy and diplomacy in Asia in greater detail. Topics include Asian political, economic, and social affairs; the Philippine Insurrection; the Opium Wars; the Boxer Rebellion; missionary activity in Asia; and more. It also includes personal letters and diaries that offer firsthand accounts revealing the human side of international politics, in addition to nautical charts, maps, shipping ledgers, company records, and expedition and survey reports, which help illuminate more than a century of world history.

THE GALE-AAS NON-RESIDENTIAL FELLOWSHIPS

Gale has partnered with the Association for Asian Studies (AAS) to support early career researchers in developing the digital humanities (DH) skills they need. Along with a stipend for each researcher, the five fellows have been awarded six months of access to the China and the Modern World series, Nineteenth Century Collections Online: Asia and the West, and the Archives Unbound Asian Studies collections to support their research projects.

OUR 2023 GALE-AAS FELLOWS:

- Daniel Barish, early career scholar, Baylor University
- Ruochen Chen, Ph.D. candidate, Washington University in St. Louis
- Xiaoyu Gao, Ph.D. candidate, University of Chicago
- Haoran Ni, Ph.D. candidate, University of Kansas
- Wei Wu, Ph.D. candidate, University of Oslo

Association for Asian Studies
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ABOUT THE COVER IMAGE

This painting by Ellen Thorbecke was printed in her book Shanghai: Photographed & Depicted, and shows a transaction at one of the variety of foreign currency exchange shops that were available in the city throughout the twentieth century and which still exist today. The book is one of the dozens of digitized monographs, many of which are gorgeously illustrated, available in the Archives Unbound collection Papers of Old Shanghai: Miscellanies. Thorbecke, Ellen. Shanghai Photographed & Depicted. North-China Daily News & Herald Ltd., n.d. Archives Unbound.

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