For personal use only. It offers a single username and password that must not be shared.

The Royal Historical Society Bibliography has revolutionized the study of British and Irish history. Indeed it is the envy of scholars in other fields. Suffice it to say that my colleagues in American history are deeply and profoundly envious of this innovative development.

It is impossible to overstate the importance of the Bibliography. Before its arrival, the process of preparing reading lists for courses and of subjecting the precise bibliographical details of often recondite books and articles was a laborious task that could easily consume hours, if not days, a task that often ended in frustration. Nowadays, the business of guiding students to relevant background reading for a research project was in these circumstances a highly erratic task. Consequently, with the Bibliography, it is now possible to find as definitive an answer as we are ever likely to get to any query about earlier works on a certain subject.

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The Bibliography of British and Irish History (BBIH) has grown out of, and will supersede, the Royal Historical Society Bibliography of British and Irish History. Over the last ten years the BBIH has established itself as an essential tool for researchers at every level and throughout the world working on British and Irish history from the corner of the Romans to the present.

**Aims and scope**

The Bibliography of British and Irish History Online provides bibliographical data on historical writing dealing with the British Isles, and with the British empire and Commonwealth, during all periods for which written documentation is available - from 55BC to the present.

As well as providing details of publications, the bibliography offers links to online catalogues to help you find the same text that is kept in research libraries in Britain and Ireland. It also provides links to online texts when available.

The bibliography is a guide to the work of historians - it does not contain original sources, unless they have been edited and republished by historians (except for a selection of key sources republished by historians). Material is included irrespectively of place or language of publication, although coverage is best for works published in Britain and Ireland during 1936-2005, the dates of publication so far covered by Irish History Online).

The BBIH is a vital tool for any university library and is invaluable for all levels of academic research, from undergraduate dissertations to the most advanced scholarship.

**Subject areas covered by the bibliography:**

- Homogeneous and historical methods
- Population and environment
- Social history
- Economic activity and organization
- Technology
- Intellectual and cultural history, and the arts
- Social and cultural identity
- Religious belief, practice and organization
- Politics, administration and law
- Military history
- Foreign affairs
- Fronts and periods

**Key features**

- A database of around 440,000 records, updated 5 times per year, with around 10,000 records added annually
- Covers British and Irish history and relations with the empire and Commonwealth, from 55 BC to the present
- Includes records from partnering projects: London's Past Online and Irish History Online
- Bibliographical data drawn from many sources, including (by kind permission of the British Library) the inside article database and the British National Bibliography
- Incorporates books, articles in journals (print and electronic), review articles and articles in collections of essays
- Over 600 journals regularly checked
- Contents reviewed by specialist academics for accuracy and completeness
- Indexed by a team of specialists using a specially designed classification hierarchy
- Aims and scope
- Named and indexed (by kind permission of the British Library) to allow detailed searching.
- Number of responses for each search term
- Compatible with EndNote, RefWorks, Microsoft Word
- Multi-lingual interface
- Use of Boolean and truncation operators
- Choice of simple or advanced search
- Auto-complete function
- Automatic counting of number of responses for each search term
- Search expert forums (EduMark, RefWorks, Microsoft Word)
- Ability to find out more about people covered using the integrated links with the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, the National Register of Archives and the Who Was Who database
- Also including links to British History Online, Oxford Dictionary of National Biography, the National Register of Archives and Who Was Who

**Numerous search options**

The interface and search engine are identical to those used by other BREPOLIS bibliographical databases which have detailed searching.

**Features**

- Numerical search fields: author, title, year of publication, subject, place, period, person, etc.
- Choice of simple or advanced search
- Auto-complete function
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The creation of the Bibliography was funded by various charities, including the Leverhulme Trust and The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, and its development has been supported by the UK’s Arts and Humanities Research Council. From 1 January 2010, in order to secure its long-term future, the Bibliography will become a subscription service.

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