

# RESEARCH GUIDE

## British Government Publications

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Revised November 2005

### Introduction

The British Government publications held by the Babbidge Library are primarily **historical**. Information about contemporary publications of the British Government, and occasionally the publications themselves, can be obtained from:

- BOPCRIS, the British Official Publications Collaborative Reader Information Service** <http://www.bopcris.ac.uk/>
- The United Kingdom Parliament** <http://www.parliament.uk/>
- Directgov** <http://www.open.gov.uk/>
- Law Library of Congress, United Kingdom** <http://www.loc.gov/law/guide/uk.html>

British Government publications are divided into two categories: Parliamentary and non-Parliamentary. The Babbidge Library has a large collection of Parliamentary publications and a small collection of publications from other British Government agencies. This guide focuses on the **Parliamentary** publications.

For access to non-Parliamentary publications, see the sources listed in the last section under "Publications Catalogs." For an overview of British government publications, see the "Guides" section on the last page.

**Note:** Many of these publications are not accessible through HOMER and are shelved on Level A.

### British Sessional Papers

The Sessional Papers encompass various types of materials. "Papers" for each session are compiled in a specific order. The best multi-year index is the *Subject Catalogue of the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers, 1801-1900* (Ref. DA 530 C6 1988). It offers direct references to our microprint set. See the inside cover for an explanation of how to interpret a sample entry. Before the 1968/69 session, the documents were arranged in the following order; note the lack of a numerical arrangement:

- **Public Bills** alphabetically by title.
- **Committee Reports** alphabetically by subject or committee name.
- **Reports from Commissioners, Inspectors and Others** alphabetically by subject. Includes many **Blue Books** and **Command Papers**.
- **Accounts and Papers** in the following order: finance, security and defense, civil estimates, trade and navigation, and state papers (mainly treaties and international agreements). Includes most **Command Papers**.
- **Sessional Indexes:** separate numerical arrangements for Bills, Papers and Command Papers, and a detailed alphabetical index for all Papers.

Since the 1969/70 session, the documents are arranged as follows:

- **Public Bills** arranged alphabetically by title, followed by their relevant **Committee Proceedings and Reports**.
- **Reports, Accounts and Papers** integrated alphabetically by subject.
- **Sessional Indexes** are issued as separate volumes.

### British Sessional Paper Indexes

1696-1834	<i>Hansard's Catalogue and Breviate of Parliamentary Papers, 1696-1834.</i>	Ref. J 301 K62 1953
1696-1900	<i>British Sessional Papers Collection of Indexes.</i> (4 boxes) Microform Research Collection, Level 3	microprint

1731-1800	<i>Catalogue of Papers Printed by Order of the House of Commons, from the Year 1731 to 1800.</i>	Ref. J 301 A2 1800a
1801-1852	<i>A General Index to the Accounts and Papers, Reports of Commissioners, Estimates, etc., etc., Printed by Order of the House of Commons or Presented by Command, 1801-1852.</i>	Ref. J 301 M3 1801-1852a
1801-1859	<i>A General Index to the Sessional Papers Printed by Order of the House of Lords, or Presented by Command, 1801-1859</i>	Ref. J 301 J6
1801-1900	<i>Subject Catalogue of the House of Commons Parliamentary Papers, 1801-1900. 5 v.</i>	Ref. DA 530 C6 1988
1801-1907	<i>General Index to the Reports of Select Committees Printed by Order Of the House of Commons aka Irish University Press Series of British Parliamentary Papers. 8 v.</i>	Ref. J 301 M3 I69 1968
1801-1920	<i>Catalogue of Parliamentary Papers, 1801-1920</i>	Ref. J 301 M3 K55 1904a
1814-1914	<i>A Century of Diplomatic Blue Books, 1814-1914.</i>	Ref. J 301 M3 T28 1938
1833-1899	<i>Select List of British Parliamentary Papers, 1833-1899.</i>	Ref. J 301 M3 1953
1833-1961/62	<i>A Numerical Finding List of British Command Papers Published 1833-1961/62</i>	Ref. J 301 D57 1967
1900-1949	<i>General Index to the Bills, Reports and Papers Printed by Order of the House of Commons and to the Reports and Papers Presented by Command, 1900 to 1948-1949.</i>	Ref. J 301 K6 1960
1910-1920	<i>Arrangement of the Papers Printed by Order of the House of Commons and of the Papers presented by Command</i>	Ref. J 301 M3 G732
1919-1939	<i>A Breviate of British Diplomatic Blue Books, 1919-1939.</i>	Ref. J 301 M3 V64 1963
1962/63-1976/77	<i>British Command Papers: A Numerical Finding List, 1962/63-1977</i>	Ref. J 301 D57 1982
1981/82-1990/1991	<i>British Sessional Papers</i> Microform Research Collection, Level 3	microprint

### **British Sessional Paper Breviates**

1900-1916.	<i>A Breviate of Parliamentary Papers, 1900-1916</i>	Ref. JN 549 F59
1917-1939	<i>A Breviate of Parliamentary Papers, 1917-1939</i>	Ref. JN 549 F6
1940-1954	<i>A Breviate of Parliamentary Papers, 1940-1954</i>	Ref. JN 549 F62

### **British Sessional Papers Holdings and Locations**

#### **House of Commons**

1715-1760	<b>House of Commons Sessional Papers of the Eighteenth Century</b>	<b>Oversize J 301 K635 1975</b>
1801-1977	<b>Microform Research Collection, Level 3</b>	<b>microprint</b>
1978-1980	<b>Foreign Publications Collection, Level A</b> missing as of 8/2003	<b>GtB1-X2.10:</b>
1981-1991	<b>Microform Research Collection, Level 3</b>	<b>microfiche</b>

## House of Lords

1940-1970 (Papers numbered in a single sequence)  
**Microform Research Collection, Level 3** **microprint**

## Special Parliamentary Series

### Central and South America

1800-1899 **Microform Research Collection, Level 3** **microfiche**

### British and Foreign State Papers

The majority are *Command Papers* (also included in the *Sessional Papers*).1812-1934.1  
**Microform Research Collection, Level 3** **microfiche**  
FICHE INDEXES: v. 64 (1373-1873), 93 (1873-1900),  
115 (1900-21), 138 (1922-34)1935-1968  
PAPER INDEXES: v. 165 (1935-60), 170 (1961-68) **JX 103 B7, Level 2S**

## Statutes

1225-1763 *Statutes at Large*, paper, 9 v. **Dodd Research Center**

1603-1830 Some in *Goldsmiths'-Kress Library of Economic Literature*  
**Microform Research Collection, Level 3**

Use HOMER

<http://www.lib.uconn.edu/> → UConn Libraries homepage → HOMER -- Online Catalog

or the paper index to *Goldsmiths'-Kress Library of Economic Literature* located on the **Babbidge Reference Microform Guides Table, Level 3** or at **Ref. Z 7164 E2 G64**

## Parliamentary Debates

1667-1694	<i>Grey's Debates</i>	Level A	<b>GtB1-X1.3/1:</b>
1668-1739	<i>A Collection...</i>	Level A	<b>GtB1-X1.3/2:</b>
1751-1761	<i>Parliamentary/Constitutional History</i>	Level A	<b>GtB1-X1.3/3:</b>
1066-1803	<i>Cobbett's Parliamentary History</i>	Level A	<b>GtB1-X1.3/4:</b>
1803-1820	<i>Cobbett's/Hansard's, 1st series</i>	Level A	<b>GtB1-X1.3/5:</b>
1820-1830	<i>Hansard's, 2nd series</i>	Level A	<b>GtB1-X1.3/6:</b>
1830-1891	<i>Hansard's, 3rd series</i>	Level 3	<b>microprint</b>
1892-1908	<i>Hansard's, 4th series</i> , paper 1906-1908	Level A Level 3	<b>GtB1-X1.3/8:</b> <b>microprint</b>
1909-1980	<i>Hansard's, 5th series</i> , House of Commons House of Lords	Level A Level A	<b>GtB1-X2.3:</b> <b>GtB1-X3.3:</b>
1981-1994/95	<i>Hansard's, 6th series</i> , House of Commons	Level A	<b>GtB1-X2.4:</b>
1981-1990/91	<i>Hansard's, 6<sup>th</sup> series</i> , House of Lords	Level A	<b>GtB1-X3.4:</b>

## Guides

*A Bibliography of Parliamentary Debates of Great Britain*  
Ref. JN 521 B52

*British Official Publications*  
Ref. Z 2009 P45 1973

*Checklist of British Official Serial Publications* 1987  
Ref. J 301 M3 C3 1987

*A Guide to British Government Publications*  
Ref. Z 2009 R62

*Guide to Official Statistics*  
Ref. HA 37 G5816

*A Guide to Parliamentary Papers*  
Ref. JN 521 F68 1972

*Sectional List*  
Ref. J 301 G734

*Serial Publications in the British Parliamentary Papers, 1900-1968: A Bibliography*  
Ref. JN 521 S47 1971

## **Publications Catalogs**

*Sale Catalogues of British Government Publications, 1836-1921* 4 V.  
Ref. J 301 G73 1977

*Catalogues And Indexes of British Government Publications, 1920-1970* 2 V.  
Ref. J 301 G85 1974

*HMSO Annual Catalogue* (Title Varies) 1951-1995  
Ref. J 301 G732

*HMSO Monthly Catalogue*  
Ref. J 301 G732