



RESEARCH GUIDE

British Government Publications

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.direct.gov.uk/>
- Law Library of Congress, United Kingdom** <http://www.loc.gov/law/help/guide/nations/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>	Level 2 /Oversize J 301 K62 1953
1696-1900	<i>British Sessional Papers Collection of Indexes.</i> (4 boxes) Microform Research Collection, Level 3	microprint cabinet
1731-1800	<i>Catalogue of Papers Printed by Order of the House of Commons, from the Year 1731 to 1800.</i>	Level 2 /Oversize J 301 A2 1800a

1801-1852	<i>A General Index to the Accounts and Papers, Reports of Commissioners, Oversize Estimates, etc., etc., Printed by Order of the House of Commons or Presented by Command, 1801-1852.</i>	
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>	Level 2 / Oversize 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>	Level 2 / Oversize J 301 M3 I69 1968
1801-1920	<i>Catalogue of Parliamentary Papers, 1801-1920</i>	Level 2 / Oversize J 301 M3 K55 1972
1814-1914	<i>A Century of Diplomatic Blue Books, 1814-1914.</i>	Level 2 / Oversize J 301 M3 T28 1938
1833-1899	<i>Select List of British Parliamentary Papers, 1833-1899.</i>	Level 2 / 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>	Level 2 / Oversize 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>	Level 2 / Oversize J 301 M3 G732
1919-1939	<i>A Breviate of British Diplomatic Blue Books, 1919-1939.</i>	Level 2 / 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 cabinet

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	House of Commons Sessional Papers of the Eighteenth Century	Level 2 / Oversize Non-Circulating J 301 K635 1975
1801-1977	Microform Research Collection, Level 3	microprint cabinet
1978-1980	Foreign Publications Collection, Level A (missing as of 8/2003)	GtB1-X2.10:
1981-1991	Microform Research Collection, Level 3	microfiche cabinet

House of Lords

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

Special Parliamentary Series

Central and South America

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

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) Level 2 / JX 103 B7

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 – Library Catalog

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

Parliamentary Debates

1066-1803	<i>Cobbett's Parliamentary History</i>	Level A Level 3	GtB1-X1.3/4: microprint
1892-1908	<i>Hansard's, 4th series</i> , paper 1906-1908	Level A	GtB1-X13/8:
1909-1980	<i>Hansard's, 5th series</i> , House of Commons House of Lords	Level A Level A	GtB1-X2.3: GtB1-X3.3:
1981-1994/95	<i>Hansard's, 6th series</i> , House of Commons	Level A	GtB1-X2.4:

Guides

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

Checklist of British Official Serial Publications 1987
Level 2 Oversize / J 301 M3 C3 1987

Guide to Official Statistics
Level 2/ HA 37 G5816

A Guide to Parliamentary Papers
Ref. JN 521 F68 1972

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.
Level 2 Oversize J 301 G73 1977

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