

Connecting 18th-century data for the 21st-century, George III and

George Washington in the Digital Age

The Georgian Papers Programme is an international digital and research enterprise based upon substantial unpublished collections for the period 1714-1837 in the Royal Library and Royal Archives, Windsor Castle, in partnership with King's College London, Library of Congress, Mount Vernon Library, the Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture, and the College of William and Mary. The Programme aims to transform scholarly access to and public enjoyment of these collections and to connect them with comparable holdings in the UK and USA. Metadata creation and scanning is being undertaken at Windsor Castle. This residency is the first in a series that will focus on establishing the opportunities for the Programme with international metadata standards and open access interoperability frameworks, including optimization of access and use among collections held at separate institutions. The Library of Congress (LC) collections to be assessed include several historical resources already online. The project could include the papers of not only George Washington but of Thomas Jefferson and other leaders from the founding era of the United States along with broadsides, maps, political cartoons, and newspapers. Candidates should plan for up to three trips to England, including one extended stay.

The residency has the following goals and objectives for year one:

1. Conduct a comparative analysis of descriptive metadata for selected collections at LC and a proposed system for Windsor Castle, and identify digital image formats involved
2. Review functionality and workflows in two open access digital aggregators: DPLA and Europeana
3. Develop use cases for the collections selected at Windsor Castle and Library of Congress
4. Reexamine the initial comparative analysis of metadata and do a gap analysis
5. Prepare recommendations for future online shared access, including metadata elements and image formats, based on information gathered about how effectively users would be able to work with available descriptive metadata
6. Review of overall project goals and objectives

DELIVERABLES

- Summarize existing and desired metadata elements and their content values, including a review of relevant standards and policies
- Assess the options for using an existing open access collection aggregator compared to developing a new aggregation system
- Outline five or more use cases for the collections, representing the range of key audiences and user groups

- Recommend a set of next steps for the project

Background of the Georgian Papers Programme

Launched on 1 April 2015 by Her Majesty The Queen, the Georgian Papers Programme is transforming access to papers in the Royal Archives and Royal Library covering the period 1714-1837. By 2020 free digital access will be available to all the material, both private and official, relating to Britain's Hanoverian monarchs.

At the heart of the Programme is a partnership between the Royal Archives and Royal Library with King's College London. King's both frames multidisciplinary academic interpretation of the material and brings to bear its own track record of leadership in the development of digital access and has relevant collections that will feature in the partnership. Technical advice and support will be provided by King's Digital Lab, a newly established unit that builds on three decades of digital humanities activity at the College. The Omohundro Institute of Early American History and Culture and the College of William & Mary are sharing in this work as primary Programme partners for the USA.

Including the papers of George I, II, III, and IV and William IV, as well as other members of the Royal Family, politicians, courtiers and the Privy Purse, the Programme promises to deepen our understanding and provide new insights into Britain's role in the world, its relationships with other European states, colonial America and the United States of America, as well as the Enlightenment, science, food, art collecting and patronage, life at court and the education of royal children. Careful checking has revealed that only 15% of the 350,000 pages have ever been published before. This will be augmented with a further 100,000 pages of manuscript material from the Royal Library.

Unprecedented access to this large body of uncatalogued material offers a huge opportunity to enrich and energise 18th-century research internationally, provides researchers and students alike with a rare opportunity to share in the shaping of the public access agenda, and helps underpin Royal Collection Trust's declared intent to ramp up research into its holdings. Programme partners have held and plan further seminars and conferences to frame research, publication and public engagement, drawing upon their multi-disciplinary expertise spanning Arts and Humanities, and Social and Medical Sciences. Programme partners and supporters are also funding several research fellowships and visiting professorships which will see over 50 researchers at Windsor by 2020.

The Programme will deliver enhanced access to these papers by digitising and cataloguing them, and both images and attached metadata will be presented on a freely accessible platform within Royal Collection Trust's website. The Programme will engage with resources and expertise provided by its partners, supporters and researchers to enrich and index further the metadata so as to enhance dramatically the discoverability of the material. This will be leveraged by seeking ways to link the Georgian Papers with holdings within the Royal Collection, at King's College London, Mount Vernon, the Library of Congress and elsewhere, allowing these papers to be seen within their wider context and transform ways that academic researchers and the public can view this documentary heritage.

A series of residencies based at the Library of Congress and Windsor Castle will first establish a foundation of descriptive metadata and image file format compatibility to determine how easily researchers might be able to navigate among collections at different institutions. The collections to be examined at the Library of Congress are already online and rights cleared for open access.

- George Washington papers, Thomas Jefferson papers, and the papers of other founders, <https://www.loc.gov/collections/thomas-jefferson-papers/>
- Maps from the American Revolution, <https://www.loc.gov/collections/american-revolutionary-war-maps/about->
- Newspapers from the 18th century, <http://blogs.loc.gov/loc/2016/08/headlines-from-americas-earliest-days/?loclr=ealocb>
- Broadside and other ephemera, <https://www.loc.gov/collections/broadside-and-other-printed-ephemera/?dates=1700-1799>
- Visual materials, <https://www.loc.gov/photos/?q=united+states+history+1775>
- Other online learning/teaching and public programming resources

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS

1. Possess a master's degree with graduation between Summer 2013 and Summer 2016, or a doctoral degree within the same timeframe or beyond, in one of the following fields (or other discipline engaged in the stewardship of digital materials): Library Science; Information Science; Archival Science; Digital Media.
2. Must be a U.S. Citizen.
3. Appointment/retention is subject to a favorable evaluation of a personnel security/suitability investigation.
4. Demonstrable project management experience.
5. Background in Encoded Archival Description (EAD) and Describing Archives: A Content Standard (DACS).
6. Background in other types of descriptive metadata for digitized collections.
7. Familiarity with digital imaging issues, standards, protocols, and approaches.
8. Previous use of primary historical sources.

DESIRED QUALIFICATIONS

1. Professional background in libraries, archives, or other applicable information management
2. Familiarity with the Digital Public Library of American (DPLA) and Europeana

3. Awareness of the *International Image Interoperability Framework* (IIIF) or implementation of linked data or equivalent
4. Knowledge of metadata reuse in research and public access environments
5. Familiarity with the use and reuse of large library and archive metadata sets
6. Experience with workflow analysis or use case writing
7. Academic degree in history
8. Cultural sensitivity and awareness
9. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills
10. Self-starter and able to work independently
11. Experience of working with multiple partners or in a complex project structure
12. An understanding of tools and methods used in digital humanities, and particularly digital history
13. Ability to work remotely and across time-zones
14. Experience of producing metadata from primary source material

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

\$40,000.00 stipend

Travel to the UK as required by the program

Travel within the US and UK as required by the program

Accommodation within the UK for up to 6 months (based on a house share in Windsor)

HOW TO APPLY

Interested Applicants for this one year residency should send the following to George Coulbourne, Chief of Internship and Fellowship Programs, Library of Congress. Email gcou@loc.gov

1. Professional resume
2. Cover letter that states professional objectives and why you are qualified for this position.
3. Two (2) letters of recommendation, from either of the following: academic advisor or professors, previous employers, or college/university work-study supervisors, who can attest to the applicant's character, work ethic, and proficiency, reliability, and interest in digital stewardship.

4. Graduate transcripts. Unofficial transcripts are acceptable, however you may be asked to provide official transcripts if necessary.