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Available at: http://scholarworks.umass.edu/adan/vol8/iss1/6

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Black British Heritage Internet Resources

By Richard Paul Benjamin

Overview

The following internet resources were current and accessible up to May 1st 2005. It should be remembered that due to the fact that electronic links can often fail and URL addresses can change, this might not be the case after these dates.

In the past few years there has been an explosion of resources which pertain not only to the black community in Britain as a whole, but to the study of black history and heritage. There are two reasons in particular why this is the case. Access to the internet has grown and as such it is now more than ever used as a supplementary educational tool, by teachers, parents and schoolchildren. Secondly, as members of the black community themselves become more aware that there are such things as resources addressing "Black British history" they are more likely to look for such information.

One thing should be understood about the creation of some of these resources. Many of them were designed by interested individuals, possibly amateur historians, who may well have gained much of their information from other resources, rather than having carried out an original piece of scholarly research. But this can also be the case for resources created by national bodies and local authorities. This in no way undermines the relevance and importance of such sites but it has to be taken into account. The study of black history and heritage is a fairly new phenomenon in Britain, and there simply is not a great number of academics who are engaged at an university level in such research. Hopefully this situation will change, and as more people in Britain become interested in their African heritage these resources may well assist them in such research endeavors.

General

- Black Britain: News and information service http://www.blackbritain.co.uk/
• The Black Presence in Britain:
  Information about black British history http://www.blackpresence.co.uk

• Black History Month:
  Site celebrates Black History Month all year http://www.black-history-month.co.uk/home.html

• Black Information Link:
  Interactive site for black communities http://www.blink.org.uk/

• PortcitiesUK:
  Information on the histories of several port cities (including the slave ports of Bristol, Liverpool and London) http://www.portcities.org.uk/

• ORIGINATION:
  Web resources for the black British community http://www.channel4.com/culture/microsites/O/origination/

• Black and Asian History Map:
  Gateway to information about black and Asian history http://www.channel4.com/history/microsites/B/blackhistorymap/

• Every Generation Online:
  Genealogy and heritage site http://www.everygeneration.co.uk/

• Mckenzie Heritage Pictures:
  Specialist image library on African, Asian and Caribbean people, cultures and communities based in London http://www.mckenziehpa.com/

• Moving Here:
  Pictures, archives exploring 200 years of migration to England http://www.movinghere.org.uk/default.htm

• Slave's Stories:
  Web resources about Transatlantic Slavery http://www.diduknow.info/slavery/access/index2.html

• The Equiano Foundation:

• Africa 05:
  BBC site celebrating African culture, including visual arts, cinema, literature, history, music, craft, and performing arts http://www.bbc.co.uk/bbcafrica/africa05/

• Empire Windrush Project:
  A photographic documentary of minority communities living in Britain http://www.anneh.force9.co.uk/
- **Black People Online:**
  An educational and support site for black people in England and Wales
  [http://www.blackpeopleonline.org.uk/index_content.htm](http://www.blackpeopleonline.org.uk/index_content.htm)

- **CASBAH (Caribbean Studies Black and Asian history):**
  Online resources relating to Caribbean Studies and the history of Black and Asian peoples in the UK [http://www.casbah.ac.uk/](http://www.casbah.ac.uk/)

- **Recognition:**
  A celebration of successful black Britons [http://www.recognition.co.uk/](http://www.recognition.co.uk/)

**By Region**

**North East**

- **BBC Tyne Roots:**
  Information on the black presence on Tyneside

**North West**

- **National Museums Liverpool:**
  Merseyside Maritime Museum Transatlantic Slavery Gallery pages

- **BBC Local History -- Liverpool:**
  Information about Liverpool's involvement in the slave trade

- **Liverpool Slavery Tour:**
  Information about the Liverpool Slavery Tour

**Yorkshire and Humberside**

- **Generations Journey:**
  An interactive archive of afro-caribbean history in Kirklees, West Yorkshire
  [http://www.batley.org.uk/genj/#anchor347361](http://www.batley.org.uk/genj/#anchor347361)

**West Midlands**

- **Birmingham City Council Black History:**
  Information about Black History Month
  [http://www.birminghamblackhistory.com/about](http://www.birminghamblackhistory.com/about)
• Black History in Birmingham Libraries:
  Information and material related to Black History and culture in Birmingham
  http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/blackhistory.bcc

East Midlands

• Leicester Afrikan Caribbean Arts Forums (LACAF):
  Information about Leicester Black History Season 2004
  http://www.leicesterblackhistory.co.uk

East Anglia

• Norfolk Education & Action for Development (NEAD):
  A Development Education Association (DEA) website which raises awareness and
  understanding of global and development issues in the UK. Has a black history of
  Norfolk section http://www.nead.org.uk/blackhistorymonth.html

South West

• Bristol City Council Black History Resources:
  Provides information on black historical themes http://www.bristol-
  city.gov.uk/equalities/eq_race_black_hist_res.html

• The Bristol Slavery Trail:
  An online journey around the streets of Bristol
  http://www.englandpast.net/education/bristol_index.html

• British Empire & Commonwealth Museum:
  Information about the British Empire & Commonwealth Museum, which shows the
  500-year history of the rise and fall of Britain's overseas empire
  http://www.empiremuseum.co.uk/

• Gloucestershire our untold stories:
  BBC website chronicling the counties black and Asian communities
  http://www.bbc.co.uk/gloucestershire/untold_stories/index.shtml

South East

• Brighton and Hove Black History Website:
  Information on Brighton and Hove's black community http://www.black-
  history.org.uk/

London

• Black Heritage Programme:
  Victoria and Albert Museum information on black heritage exhibitions
  http://www.vam.ac.uk/activ_events/community/black_heritage/index.html
The British Museum African Collections:
Collections of both historic and ancient Africa
http://www.thebritishmuseum.ac.uk/world/africa/africa.html

The National Archives Black Presence Home:
Information about the black and Asian presence in Britain from 1500 – 1800
http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/pathways/blackhistory/index.htm

Fulham and Hammersmith Black History Month 04:
Black History Month events in Fulham and Hammersmith

FREEDOM:
A KS3 history resource about Britain and the Transatlantic Slave Trade by the
National Maritime Museum http://www.nmm.ac.uk/freedom/

Black British Heritage:
Hammersmith information site on black heritage http://www.black-heritage.com/

Archive and Museum of Black Heritage (ambh):
Heritage lottery funded site on the history of the black diaspora in Britain
http://www.aambh.org.uk

The We Were There exhibition:
Ministry of Defence picture exhibition on black and Asians in the armed forces
http://www.mod.uk/wewerethere/intro.html

Anti-Slavery Library:
Contemporary and historical material relating to slavery and related subjects
http://www.antislavery.org/homepage/resources/library.htm#historical

Connections:
Project which documents the history and experiences of Black, Asian, and Jewish

Wales

Butetown History and Arts Centre:
Online information about the black Welsh community of Cardiff Bay
http://www.bhac.org/index.html

Scotland

Scotland's Transatlantic Relations Project (STAR):
Promotes collaboration and exchange in the field of transatlantic studies
http://www.star.ac.uk/index.html
• The National Archives of Scotland:
  Black history information page of the National Archives of Scotland
  http://www.nas.gov.uk/miniframe/exhibitions/Black%20History%20Month/main.htm