



State Papers Online Part I

The Tudors: Henry VIII to Elizabeth I, 1509-1603: State Papers Domestic

State Papers Online, 1509-1714, is a groundbreaking new online resource for the study of Early Modern Britain and Europe. Spanning two centuries of the British monarchy in the 16th and 17th centuries the collection reunites State Papers Domestic and Foreign with the Registers of the Privy Council in The National Archives, Kew and the State Papers in the British Library. This unique online resource reproduces the original historical manuscripts in facsimile and links each manuscript to its corresponding fully-searchable Calendar entry. By overcoming the challenge of matching an individual Calendar entry to the original Paper, *State Papers Online* signifies an enormous advance for scholars researching and teaching 16th and 17th century politics, society, and economic and religious history.

Owing to the size of the collection - almost 2.2 million pages in total - *State Papers Online* is published in four parts. Parts I and II, combined, cover the complete State Papers for the whole of the Tudor period. Part III consists of the State Papers Domestic for the Stuart era. Part IV contains State Papers Foreign, Ireland and Registers of the Privy Council and completes the collection of State Papers for the whole of the Stuart period.

State Papers Online Part I: The Tudors: Henry VIII to Elizabeth I, 1509-1603: State Papers Domestic

The Tudor period was witness to great changes, revolution and transformation, particularly affecting matters of faith and politics. Part I contains 270,000 facsimile manuscript documents linked to fully-searchable Calendar entries. The collection delivers the complete collection of State Papers Domestic for this era which details every facet of early modern government including social and economic affairs, law and order, religious policy, crown possessions and intelligence. For example, the papers of Cardinal Wolsey can be assessed alongside those of his powerful successor Thomas Cromwell to evaluate how each influenced King Henry VIII's affairs and policies during the 1520s and 1530s.

Key Themes of Part I:

- Henry VIII's relations with Europe
- The Reformation
- The Dissolution of the Monasteries
- Elizabeth I: Marriage and the Succession
- Voyages of Discovery of Drake, Gilbert, Hawkins and Frobisher
- Relations between the Crown and the nobility
- The rise and fall of the Earl of Essex
- The diplomacy of William Cecil and Francis Walsingham

Part I Content:

- 270,000 pages and manuscript images
- 114,000 calendar entries
- Introductory essay by Dr Stephen Alford
- Essays by leading scholars on key subjects with links to the documents
- Scanned facsimile images of State Papers
- Searchable Calendars, transcriptions or hand lists
- Key Documents – a selection of important documents for easy access
- Links to online palaeography and Latin courses
- Research Tools including an Image Gallery



Home page



The National Archives



State Papers Online

The Government of Britain, 1509-1714



Manuscript series:

- The National Archives, London: SP 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15
- British Library: Lansdowne Collection Burghley Papers
- Calendars to all the above series and the HMC Calendars and Haynes/Murkin transcriptions of the Cecil Papers, Hatfield House

An interdisciplinary resource:

Literature

Documents include correspondence and records associated with notable playwrights, authors and poets.

Religious History

The range of documents relating to Religious History is vast – from Henry VIII's letters to François I or Pope Clement VII to papers discussing local issues. Researchers will find a wealth of rare primary source documents in the following areas:

- Henry VIII's break with the Papacy
- Development of the Reformation across Europe
- 1534 Act of Supremacy declares Henry VIII Supreme Head of the Church in England
- Dissolution of the monasteries in England
- Martin Luther writes his 95 theses on the power of indulgences
- Religious wars in Europe
- Social unrest in England caused by extreme religious swings from Protestant Edward VI, to Catholic Mary I and then to Protestant Elizabeth

Legal History

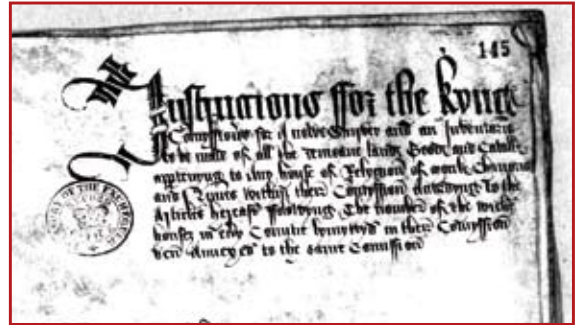
Part I contains information on every facet of early modern government, including social and economic affairs, law and order, religious policy, crown possessions and intelligence gathering as well as foreign policy.

An international resource:

- Francis I and his correspondence with Henry VIII
- St. Bartholomew's Day Massacre of the Protestants (1572)
- Henry VIII's letters to Charles V
- Mary I's marriage to Philip II of Spain
- Rivalry at sea between the European powers
- Exploration in the West Indies and the orange trade

Part I include documents partly or completely written in these languages:

- Dutch - 84 documents
- French - 6,258 documents
- German - 66 documents
- Italian - 1,499 documents
- Latin - 7,592 documents
- Spanish - 943 documents



Dissolution of the Monasteries: SP5_4f145

Ways to search:

- View Calendar entry side by side with manuscript
- View manuscript with notepad to make notes
- Limit searches by Calendar Volume, Manuscript Volume, Reign, Date and more
- Browse Documents, Calendars and Transcripts
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State Papers Online

The Government of Britain, 1509-1714



State Papers Online Part II

The Tudors: Henry VIII to Elizabeth I, 1509 – 1603:

State Papers Foreign, Ireland, Scotland, Borders and Registers of the Privy Council

State Papers Online, 1509-1714, is a groundbreaking new online resource for the study of Early Modern Britain and Europe. Spanning two centuries of the British monarchy in the 16th and 17th centuries the collection reunites State Papers Domestic and Foreign with the Registers of the Privy Council in The National Archives, Kew and the State Papers in the British Library. This unique online resource reproduces the original historical manuscripts in facsimile and links each manuscript to its corresponding fully-searchable Calendar entry.

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State Papers Online Part II: The Tudors: Henry VIII to Elizabeth I, 1509-1603: State Papers Foreign, Ireland, Scotland, Borders and Registers of the Privy Council

Containing around 500,000 facsimile manuscript pages linking to fully-searchable Calendar entries, Part II reunites Foreign, Scotland, Borders and Ireland papers for the 16th century together with the Registers ('Minutes') of the Privy Council for the whole of the Tudor period. Part II completes the sixteenth century section of *State Papers Online*.

Key Themes:

- Mary, Queen of Scots: captivity, trial and execution
- French wars of Religion between Catholics and Huguenots (1562-98)
- Henry VIII's 'rough wooing' of Scotland
- England's defeat of Philip II of Spain's Grand Armada in 1588
- Beginning of 80-year war between Spain and the Netherlands in 1566
- England's relations with the Barbary States, Denmark, Flanders, France, Genoa, Holy Roman Empire, German States, Hambery and Hanse Towns, Holland and Flanders, Italian State and Rome, Poland, Portugal, Russia, Savoy and Sardinia, Sicily and Naples, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, Tuscany and Venice
- Letters to and from the English agents in Scotland: the ambassadors Randolphe, Killigrew and the two Bowes, and the secretarial assistant Nicolson
- Extents and valors of the possessions of dissolved religious houses in Ireland, and those accused of high treason, including Gerald, Earl of Kildare (1540-1583)

Part II Content:

- 500,000 pages of manuscripts and images
- 230,000 Calendar entries
- Introductory essay by Dr Stephen Alford
- Essays by leading scholars on key subjects with links to documents
- Scanned facsimile images of State Papers
- Searchable Calendars, transcriptions or hand lists
- Key Documents – a selection of important documents for easy access
- Links to online palaeography and Latin courses
- Research Tools including an Image Gallery



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The National Archives



State Papers Online

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From The National Archives, London: SP 46, 49, 50,51, 52, 53, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 68, 69, 70, 71, 75, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 88, 89, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 108, and PC2 (Registers of the Privy Council, 1509-1602)

From the British Library: Selected documents from the Cotton, Harley and Yelverton Collections

Content Detail:

State Papers relating to Scotland include:

- Correspondence between Henry VIII and James IV and James V, and Queens Margaret and Mary in Scotland
- The marriage treaty of Mary, Queen of Scots and the future Francis II of France
- Letters between Queen Elizabeth I and Mary, Queen of Scots
- The special series *State Papers Scotland: Mary, Queen of Scots*

State Papers relating to Ireland include:

- Correspondence between Edward VI, the Privy Council, Protector Somerset, the King's chief ministers and the Crown's representative in Ireland and his Council in Ireland
- Letters to and from Queen Mary I and the Privy Council and the Queen's Secretaries, as well as despatches from the Crown's representative in Ireland (the Lord Deputy) and his Council in Ireland
- Letters to and from Elizabeth I's Secretaries of State
- Valuations of the possessions of dissolved religious houses in Ireland, and those accused of high treason, including Gerald, Earl of Kildare (1540-1583)

State Papers Foreign include:

- The Letters and papers relating to foreign countries of Edward VI, Mary I and Elizabeth I
- Correspondence and papers of the Secretary of State concerning the Revolt of the Netherlands against the rule of Spain
- State Papers relating to Holland which cover the assassination of Prince William of Orange
- State papers relating to Turkey, many from the Levant Company

Registers of the Acts of the Privy Council:

- Covered colonial policy, commercial and maritime law, trade and industry and naval and military policy
- Arranged by reign and then by date order and include minutes of proceedings
- Each register usually contains lists of members of the Privy Council



Death of William of Orange: SP 83/22 f59

Ways to search:

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State Papers Online

The Government of Britain, 1509-1714



State Papers Online Part III

The Stuarts: James I to Anne, 1603-1714: State Papers Domestic

State Papers Online, 1509-1714, is a groundbreaking new online resource for the study of Early Modern Britain and Europe. Spanning two centuries of the British monarchy the collection reunites State Papers Domestic and Foreign with the Registers of the Privy Council in The National Archives, Kew. This unique online resource reproduces the original historical manuscripts in facsimile and links each manuscript to its corresponding fully-searchable Calendar entry. By overcoming the challenge of matching an individual Calendar entry to the original Paper, *State Papers Online* signifies an enormous advance for scholars researching and teaching 16th and 17th century politics, society, and economic and religious history.

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State Papers Online Part III: The Stuarts: James I to Anne, 1603-1714 State Papers Domestic

Under the general editorship of Professor John Miller from Queen Mary, University of London, *State Papers Online, Part III* uncovers a fascinating portrait of Stuart Britain. Documenting one of the most compelling and turbulent eras in Britain's social, political and religious history, the era's internal struggles come to life through a wealth of primary source documents including: royal and diplomatic correspondence, reports and parliamentary drafts from civil servants and provincial administrators. Included among its almost 1 million pages scholars will find accounts of the English Civil War, the execution of Charles I, the subsequent rise of Cromwell, the Restoration of Charles II and the invasion of William of Orange. As well as providing detailed accounts of daily life and events across all strata of society, the collection uncovers the numerous incidents in Stuart Britain of conspiracy, espionage, treason, heresy, imprisonment and execution. *State Papers Online, Part III* offers fertile ground for new shoots of research and teaching in 17th century politics, government, social economic and religious history.

Part III Content:

- 1 million pages of manuscript
- 270,000 Calendar Entries
- Essays by leading scholars on key subjects with links to the documents
- Scanned facsimile images of State Papers mostly in colour
- Searchable Calendars, transcriptions or catalogued entries
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Reigns covered:

- James I (1603-1625)
- Charles I (1625-1649)
- Oliver Cromwell serving as Lord Protector (1653-1658)
- Charles II (1660-1685)
- James II (1685-1688)
- William III and Mary II (1689-1702)
- Anne I (1702-1714)

Key Themes of Part III:

- The Coronation of James I (1603)
- The Gunpowder Plot (1605)
- The Coronation of Charles I (1625)
- The beginning of the English Civil War (1642)
- The trial and execution of Charles I (1649)
- Declaration of England as a Commonwealth (1649)
- Oliver Cromwell claims the title of Lord Protector (1653)
- Restoration of the monarchy - Charles II (1660)
- The Great Fire of London (1666)
- William of Orange invades England and becomes joint ruler with his wife, Anne (1688)
- The Coronation of Anne (1702)

Manuscript series:

- SP 8 King William's Chest
- SP 14 SP Domestic: James I
- SP 15 SP Domestic: James I: Addenda
- SP 16 SP Domestic: Charles I
- SP 17 SP Domestic: Charles I: Large Documents
- SP 18 Council of State, Navy Commission and related bodies
- SP 20 Sequestration Committee: Books and Papers
- SP 21 Committee of Both Kingdoms ("Derby House Committee")
- SP 22 Committee for Plundered Ministers: Orders and Papers
- SP 24 Committee and Commissioners for Indemnity
- SP 25 Council of State: Books and Accounts
- SP 26 Trustees for Crown Lands and Fee Farm Rents: Books
- SP 27 State Paper Office: Deeds and Miscellaneous Documents
- SP 28 Commonwealth Exchequer Papers*
- SP 29 SP Domestic: Charles II
- SP 30 SP Domestic: Charles II: Large Documents
- SP 31 SP Domestic: James II
- SP 32 SP Domestic: William and Mary
- SP 33 SP Domestic: William and Mary: Large Documents
- SP 34 SP Domestic: Anne
- SP 44 Secretaries of State: State Papers: Entry Books*

*due 2011



Guy Fawkes' Confession, 1605

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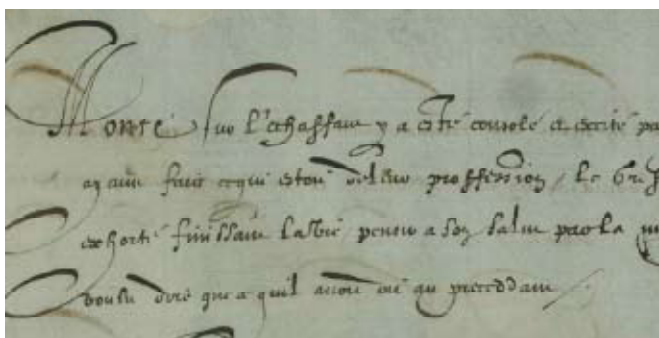


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State Papers Online Part IV: The Stuarts: James to Anne, 1603 – 1714: State Papers Foreign, Ireland and Registers of the Privy Council
SPO Part IV charts international affairs through the 17th century - one of the most turbulent periods of transition and unrest in British and European history. All the great international themes of the 17th century play out in document after document: marriage alliances, revolutions, wars and treaties, trade and commerce and, crucially, religion. Users can uncover a wealth of primary source documents relaying the details of the international crises of the period - notably the Thirty Years' War, the Great Turkish War, the end of the Dutch Revolt, the disintegration of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth and the English Civil War.



Interrogation of François Ravillac, Catholic fanatic, accused of assassinating the French King, Henri IV, on 14 May 1610
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Part IV Content:

- Approx. 460,000 manuscript images (approx 900,000 pages)
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- Scanned facsimile images of State Papers - all in colour
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New research paths:

State Papers Online Part IV contains volumes of State Papers from, to and about all the countries of Europe, many of which have lost their own collections of documents from this period. The State Papers are not just essential documents of British History but also of European History.

Researchers can browse and search the letters exchanged between the monarchs and rulers of Europe, Russia and the Ottoman Empire, the reports of ambassadors and members of the trading companies, as well as treaties and other documents of trade. The ambassadors' descriptions of events and conversations at the Courts and capital cities of Europe provide intriguing new insights into the diplomacy, culture and society of the Stuart age. By disclosing European rulers' relationships with each other and offering confidential accounts of court life as seen through the eyes of ambassadors Part IV provides researchers with exciting new in-roads into exploring and understanding 17th C international diplomacy, politics, law, religion, travel, trade and colonial expansion.

Key Themes of Part IV:

- Barbary piracy
- Christian IV of Denmark and rivalry with Sweden
- Collapse of the Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth
- Diplomatic manoeuvring before the War of Spanish Succession
- End of the Dutch Revolt 1609
- English Civil War 1642-1651
- English and Scottish colonisation in the Plantations of Ireland
- European Colonisation of the Americas
- Great Turkish War 1662-1699
- Impact of Spanish Colonial wealth
- Marriage alliances
- Power struggles between Protestant and Catholics countries and state
- Thirty Years' War 1618 -1648
- Wars of the Three Kingdoms

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