

## OUR COLLECTION

**Blue Books** - 1874-1939

**Census Reports** – 1851 - present

**Colonial Secretary Office records** Colonial administrative files, 1814-1954.

**Council Papers** Various government departmental reports, 1877-1961.

**Hansard Reports** The official verbatim record of Parliamentary proceedings from 1990 to present.

**Indentureship Registers** East Indian Immigration Registers – 1845-1917, Chinese immigration Registers – 1852-1866.

**Land Ownership Records**

Administrative records pertaining to land and property, 1851-1947.

**Laws of Trinidad and Tobago** 1832-present.

**Maps** A small collection of maps including maps of the cities of Port of Spain and San Fernando.

**Microfilm Collection** A collection of some of the earliest British colonial records on microfilm.

**Newspaper Collection** Selected holdings of major national publications, 1821 to present, including the early Port of Spain Gazette, the Chronicle and the San Fernando Gazette.

**Photographs** A collection of black and white prints originating from the Government's Information Division.

**Private Collections** The private records of Andrew Carr, Charles Gocking, Captain J.B. Saunders, H.P. Singh and the Trinidad Lake Asphalt Company are available.

**Registry of Slaves** A collection of records pertaining to the Slave Registry established from 1812.

**Trinidad Royal Gazette and Trinidad and Tobago Gazette** The publication arm of the Government from 1825 - present.

**Yearbooks** A comprehensive annual record, with index, of public and commercial life, and events, 1882-1969.

## National Archives' inscriptions on UNESCO's Memory of the World Register

Two collections housed at the National Archives – the Documentary Heritage of the Indian Indentured Labourers and the Registry of Slaves of the British Caribbean 1817-1834 – have been inscribed on UNESCO's Memory of the World International Register. The Register lists documentary heritage of world significance and outstanding universal value, based on selected criteria.



### Opening hours: (Reference)

Monday – Thursday 8:15am – 4:00pm

Friday 8:15am – 3:45pm

National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago  
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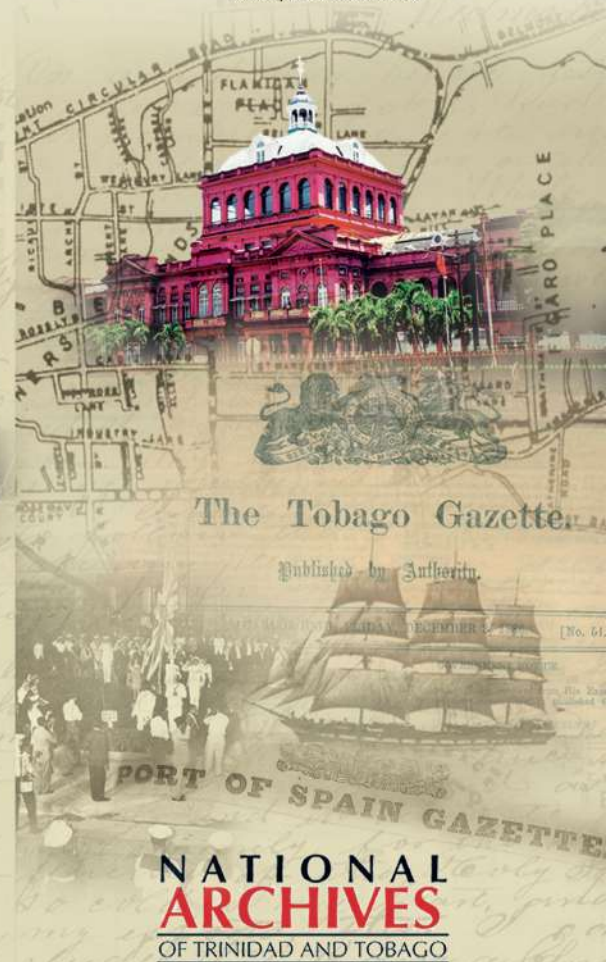
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Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago  
Ministry of Communications



**NATIONAL ARCHIVES**  
OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

Preserving Memories, Enriching Lives

## OUR VISION

The National Archives of Trinidad and Tobago provides services that build, maintain and provide access to Trinidad and Tobago's records to sustain a free, open and democratic society and to support the cultural and intellectual life of all citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.

## OUR MISSION

The National Archives is responsible for acquiring, preserving and providing public access to the documentary heritage of the nation (in all formats); and guiding in the management of all government records throughout the public service.

## TO FULFILL OUR MISSION THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES IS COMMITTED TO:

- The acquisition, preservation and access to records of enduring administrative, legal, cultural and intrinsic value to Trinidad and Tobago.
- The development of policies and procedures for the management and care of all public records throughout the life cycle.



Established in 1960, the National Archives houses records dating from the 18th century to the present.

## Some items of note include:

- The oldest newspaper, The Port of Spain Gazette, and the first issue of the Trinidad Guardian.
- The General Register documenting the arrival of the East Indian indentured labourers.
- The Registry of Slaves.
- The original contracts of Chinese indentured labourers.
- The Register of Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths of the English Protestant Church, Tobago, 1781-1817.

A small reference library collection, including a collection of rare books, on the history of Trinidad and Tobago is also available.

You are invited to visit the National Archives to conduct research, view our exhibitions and experience the rich history of Trinidad and Tobago.

## SERVICES

### REFERENCE



Access to the National Archives' collection is available to all members of the public through our reference service. Researchers may consult records in the Search Room in accordance with Search Room guidelines.

### OUTREACH



The National Archives engages with individuals and communities to bring them closer to their history and documentary heritage. This is usually done through in-house exhibitions, lectures, tours and the hosting of an annual Archives Awareness Week, but activities at other venues may be facilitated upon request.

### RECORDS MANAGEMENT



Records management training and advisory services are provided to Government ministries and agencies, including the provision of guidelines on the preparation of Records Retention and Disposition Schedules. The Government Archivist is the only officer who can authorize the destruction of Government records.

### CONSERVATION



A well-equipped in-house conservation laboratory ensures that restoration, preservation, and conservation work, which includes disaster recovery, are undertaken to safeguard the nation's archival records for future generations.

