Contextualising Research:
Networks, Websites and Databases

1. Networks, databases, websites and research methodologies

- Medieval Swansea and Monastic Wales as case studies

2. Databases and websites as means of broadening horizons

- Transatlantic slavery websites as case studies

What is a network?

What is a network? OED entries as a noun

1. Work (esp. manufactured work) in which threads, wires, etc., are crossed or interlaced in the fashion of a net; frequently applied to light fabric made of threads intersecting in this way. Also in extended use.

2. A piece of work having the form or construction of a net; an arrangement or structure with intersecting lines and interstices resembling those of a net.

(From 16th Century onwards)



From MS M.1044 *Livre de la chasse* [*Book of the Hunt*], Paris, c. 1406-1407. Morgan Library and Museum, New York

What is a network?

3. A chain or system of interconnected immaterial things.

- 1817 S. T. COLERIDGE *Blessed are ye that Sow* Introd. p. xi The arterial or nerve-like net-work of property.
- 1876 E. A. FREEMAN *Hist. Norman Conquest* V. xxiv. 381 A network of feudal tenures is thus spread over the whole land.
- 1947 N. FRYE *Fearful Symmetry* iv. 105 His [*sc.* Blake's] independence as an artist involved him..in the vast network of commercial conspiracy by which dealers, critics and factory-painters got their pictures sold.
- 1957 G. ASHE *King Arthur's Avalon* iii. 107 The poem entangles Arthur in a network of other-worldly themes, a network which takes in Glastonbury and the quest for a miraculous vessel.

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What is a network?

4. Any netlike or complex system or collection of interrelated things, as topographical features, lines of transportation, or telecommunications routes (esp. telephone lines).

… *Computing*. A system of interconnected computers.

5. a. An interconnected group or chain of retailers, businesses, or other organizations.

b. An interconnected group of people; an organization; spec. a group of people having certain connections (frequently as a result of attending a particular school or university) which may be exploited to gain preferment, information, etc., esp. for professional advantage

What is a database?

What is a database?

OED = A structured set of data held in computer storage and typically accessed or manipulated by means of specialized software.

- Computerised system for storing and organising information/data
- Tabulates information/data
- Enables searches of information/data

Why Databases and Websites for Historians?

- What are some of the uses of databases and websites for historians?
- Why might historians choose to present their research in/on a database or website? What intellectual, institutional or professional factors might influence their decision?
- What inspirations lay behind the two medieval history websites/databases consulted for this week's exercises? (Why Monastic Wales? Why Medieval Swansea?)

Monastic Wales

The *Monastic Wales Project* —a non-profit endeavour— grew out of the desire of its founders to create a platform for the study of the monastic history of medieval Wales, to explain its historical context, to encourage further investigation of Wales's medieval monastic sites, and, finally, to explore how medieval monasteries have helped shape modern society. The *Monastic Wales Project* seeks to facilitate informed visits to the medieval monastic sites of Wales.

- Janet Burton and Karen Stöber, 'The *Monastic Wales* Project,' *Imago Temporis Medium Aevum* 10 (2016), p. 345.

Medieval Swansea

A thriving port, a Marcher base for the lords of Gower and a multi-cultural urban community, the south Wales town of Swansea was an important centre in the Middle Ages, comparable with many other historic European towns. Yet the medieval legacy of Swansea is almost invisible today. Wartime bombing and later re-development of the city centre in particular have almost completely obscured the traces of the medieval urban layout and its buildings. Currently, urban regeneration is fostering interest in Swansea's medieval heritage, driven by rescue archaeological work in the city and on-going excavation and conservation projects on Swansea Castle. The City Witness project has sought to further our understanding of medieval Swansea and its cultural contexts, as well as to engage with wider-reaching questions about medieval urban culture, place, identity and memory.

- Catherine A.M. Clarke, 'Witnessing History: Perspectives on Medieval Swansea and its Cultural Contexts,' *Journal of Medieval History*, 41:3 (September 2015), p. 249.





Research Impact

'IMPACT' = "an effect on, change or benefit to the economy, society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment or quality of life, beyond academia"



CITY WITNESS

About | Context | Mapping | Tours | Game | The Story | Blog

About

City Witness is a major, cross-institutional, multi-disciplinary research project, funded by the UK Arts and Humanities Research Council. The initial research phase ran from January 2013 until the end of June 2014, though activities continue beyond this period.

In these pages you can find information about the project, as well as guidance on how you can make use of the **City Witness** resources.



Project outputs include:

- Website with digital resources for the study of medieval Swansea, including an interactive digital atlas of Swansea c.1300, new edition and translation of the witness depositions relating to the hanging of William Cragh (MS Vat. Lat. 4015) and other selected medieval documents, visualisations of the medieval town and witness routes / sightlines, interactive tour facilities and a game.
- Special issue of the *Journal of Medieval History* (2015), with articles from the project team as well as contributions from other leading scholars (Daniel Power, Helen Fulton, Susan Ridyard and Jeremy Ashbee).
- Series of pavement markers in Swansea, showing locations in the medieval town (produced in partnership with the City and County of Swansea). These also link to the digital tours online.
- Exhibition at Swansea Museum, June - September 2014, with associated events and activities.
- Traditional paper tour leaflet for local people and visitors to Swansea.

The project aims to:

1. Create a hybrid digital resource which combines an interactive map of the town c.1300, showing its principal topographical and landscape features, with an electronic edition of the fourteenth-century witness testimonies of the hanging in Swansea of the Welshman 'William Cragh' by William de Briouze, lord of Gower.
2. Draw on these new, digitised primary resources to explore questions of place and perspective by reconstructing the multiple vantage-points on the town (literal as well as metaphorical) represented by the medieval witness statements. These will then show the different significations attached to locations within the town by different social and ethnic groups (including Anglo-Norman and Welsh; lay and religious; male and female; lord, burgess and outlaw).
3. Develop conceptual and methodological comparisons, building upon the project team's previous research on place and identity in frontier cultures, including work on Anglo-Norman towns in Wales and, especially, our Mapping Medieval Chester and Discover Medieval Chester projects.
4. Make a significant contribution to the local community and tourism in South Wales, by promoting the untapped cultural and economic asset of Swansea's medieval past. The High Street / Castle area of Swansea is currently targeted for regeneration, and the Council aspires to develop a distinct 'Castle Quarter'. This project will provide a new perspective on the Castle site by re-situating it within the medieval city. Interpretation and knowledge transfer work will include material on Swansea's culturally-diverse medieval past and downloadable multi-media resources for visitors to the city. Our digital map will also form the basis of a series of pavement markers, allowing visitors to view previously invisible features and locations within the medieval urban landscape.
5. Exploit the timeliness of this research and the partnerships we have established in order to achieve greater impact and value. Working with the City and County of Swansea and the Glamorgan Gwent Archaeological Trust, we are able to draw on additional resources and expertise, as well as matched funding. The intersection of our research with current renewal and development projects in the city will create a powerful 'multiplier effect' and enhance its profile.


DH Awards 2014
CITY WITNESS
About
Context
Mapping
Tours
Game
The Story
Blog
Cymraeg
What did you see?
In 1290 a Welshman, William Cragh, was hanged in Swansea by Lord William de Briouze. But then he seemed to come back to life... Can you gather the evidence and decide what really happened?
Public Poll
Most people think that Cragh William Cragh was never dead and recovered naturally.
Key to chart:
William Cragh was brought back to life by a miracle
William Cragh was never dead and recovered naturally
William Cragh was revived by magic
William Cragh's recovery was a story made up by local people in Swansea
William Cragh's recovery was a clever trick to fool Lord William de Briouze
PLAY THE GAME AND CAST YOUR VOTE NOW!
Find out more about the Cragh story...
Explore maps of medieval Swansea
Discover medieval Swansea today
Arts & Humanities Research Council
University of Southampton
Queen's University Belfast
King's College London



In this section

Delivery Plan 2019

Funded Themes and Programmes

Read, Watch and Listen

Search our grants and awards

Case studies by discipline

Impact

Supporting the cultural regeneration of Swansea

Following on from successful AHRC-funded projects that had a transformative effect on the city of Chester, Professor Catherine Clarke at the University of Southampton has turned her attentions to Swansea's rich history using medieval manuscripts and testimonies to bring historic locations of the city to life and subsequently ensuring that the Castle, the last surviving medieval building, is the centrepiece of the city's heritage tourist attractions.

The 'City Witness: Place and Perspective in Medieval Swansea' (2013-2014) is a multi-partner multidisciplinary project also involving Swansea Council and the Glamorgan-Gwent Archaeological Trust. Medieval Swansea was a thriving port, and a multi-cultural urban community but much of this history has been obscured by wartime bombing, and later urban developments, with few traces of the medieval city remaining. The city received convergence funding to develop the city centre and Clarke's input to the process was invaluable in realising the potential of rediscovering medieval sites.

Related Pages

Research Grants - Standard Route

Monastic Wales

Fostering 'conscientious tourism' is one of the key aims of the *Monastic Wales Project*. It seems clear that people treat historical patrimony differently when they have established a relation with it. In this sense, *Monastic Wales* not only target tourism from further afield, but is simultaneously aimed at 'internal tourism', raising people's consciousness of their local heritage. Putting the medieval Welsh heritage into its historical, but also its cultural, social and political context, helps people understand the wider significance of what might in some cases at first glance appear to the uninformed visitor simply as piles of old stone. It is therefore crucial for the preservation of the monastic heritage of Wales to initiate, through the provision of information, the process of understanding — appreciating — caring — maintaining — of the material remains of the abbeys and priories of medieval Wales. Furthermore, the *Monastic Wales* website provides the visitor with practical information beyond the immediate site of individual religious houses, by drawing their attention to the documentary sources kept in archives in Wales and beyond, and the seals that survive in some cases and are now at the National Library of Wales or the National Museum of Wales, or in archives outside Wales.

- Burton and Stöber, '*Monastic Wales*,' pp. 350-351.

Why Databases and Websites for Historians?

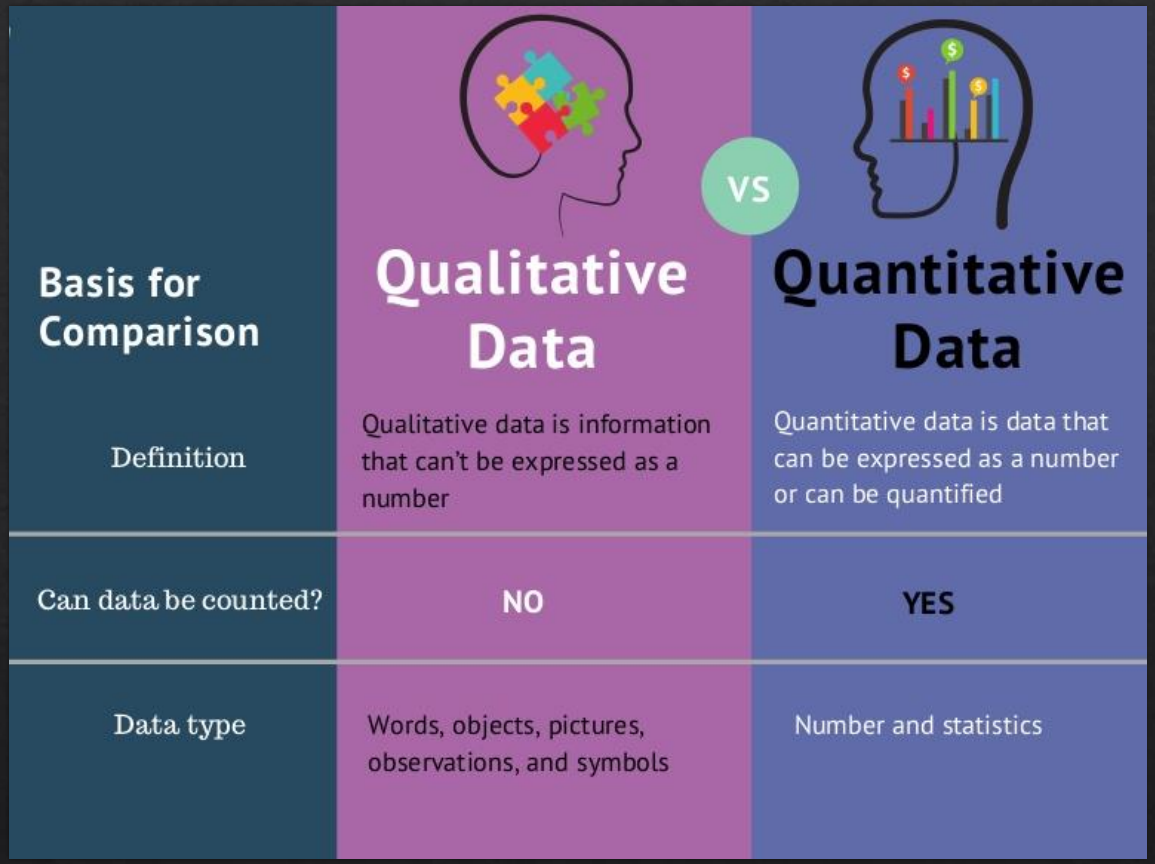
- What methodological considerations might inform an historian's decision to use or develop a database?

- What categories of information are able to be stored in a database?

Research Methods

- What is the difference between *QUANTITATIVE* and *QUALITATIVE* research methods?
- What examples of quantitative and qualitative data can you think of?
- What examples of qualitative or quantitative research methods can you think of?

Research Methods: Qualitative vs Quantitative



Basis for Comparison	Qualitative Data	Quantitative Data
Definition	Qualitative data is information that can't be expressed as a number	Quantitative data is data that can be expressed as a number or can be quantified
Can data be counted?	NO	YES
Data type	Words, objects, pictures, observations, and symbols	Number and statistics

Research Methods: Qualitative vs Quantitative

- What ‘types,’ ‘schools’ or ‘genres’ of history might make particular use of quantitative research methods?

Research Methods: Qualitative vs Quantitative

Thinking back to last week:

- What are some examples of quantitative sources that historians might access in an archive?

- What examples of quantitative and/or qualitative research methods were present in the articles which were assigned as key readings?

And returning to this week:

- What examples of quantitative and qualitative research/data are evident in the websites consulted for this week's exercises?

Research Methods: Qualitative vs Quantitative

- What are the respective strengths and weaknesses of quantitative and qualitative data/research for historians?

- What different claims to accuracy or ‘truth’ might be made about qualitative and quantitative data/research?

John Gladstone

Profile & Legacies Summary

11th Dec 1764 - 7th Dec 1851

Further Information

Absentee?	British/Irish
Spouse	(1) 1792: to Jane Hall (1765?- 16 April 1798); (2) Anne Mackenzie Robertson (1771/2–1835)
Children	With (2): Anne MacKenzie (1802–1829), Thomas (1804–1889), Robertson (1805–1875), John Neilson (1807–1863), William Ewart (1809–1898), Helen Jane (1814–1880)

Associated Claims (11)

British Guiana 556 (Pln Success)	£22,274 18s 9d	Awardee (Owner-in-fee)	DETAILS
British Guiana 656 (Wales)	£14,721 8s 11d	Awardee (Mortgagee-in-possession)	DETAILS
British Guiana 650 (Vreedestein or Vreedenstein)	£10,278 5s 8d	Awardee	DETAILS
British Guiana 687 (Vreed-en-Hoop)	£22,443 19s 11d	Awardee (Owner-in-fee)	DETAILS
British Guiana 707 (Met-en-Meerzorg)	£21,011 2s 7d	Awardee (Mortgagee)	DETAILS
Jamaica Hanover 498 (Fish River Estate)	£4,211 8s 0d	Claimants in List E or Chancery cases	DETAILS
Jamaica St Elizabeth 534 (Holland Estate and 'Shaws')	£5,624 3s 1d	Awardee	DETAILS
Jamaica St Elizabeth 535A-C (Holland Estate)	£2,074 14s 10d	Awardee	DETAILS
Jamaica St Mary 254 (Oxford Estate)	£3,059 18s 8d	Awardee (Owner-in-fee)	DETAILS
Jamaica St Thomas-in-the-East, Surrey 1 (Fair Prospect)	£4,295 3s 3d	Awardee	DETAILS
Jamaica Westmoreland 458 (Petersville)	£2,726 13s 0d	Claimants in List E or Chancery cases (Mortgagee)	DETAILS



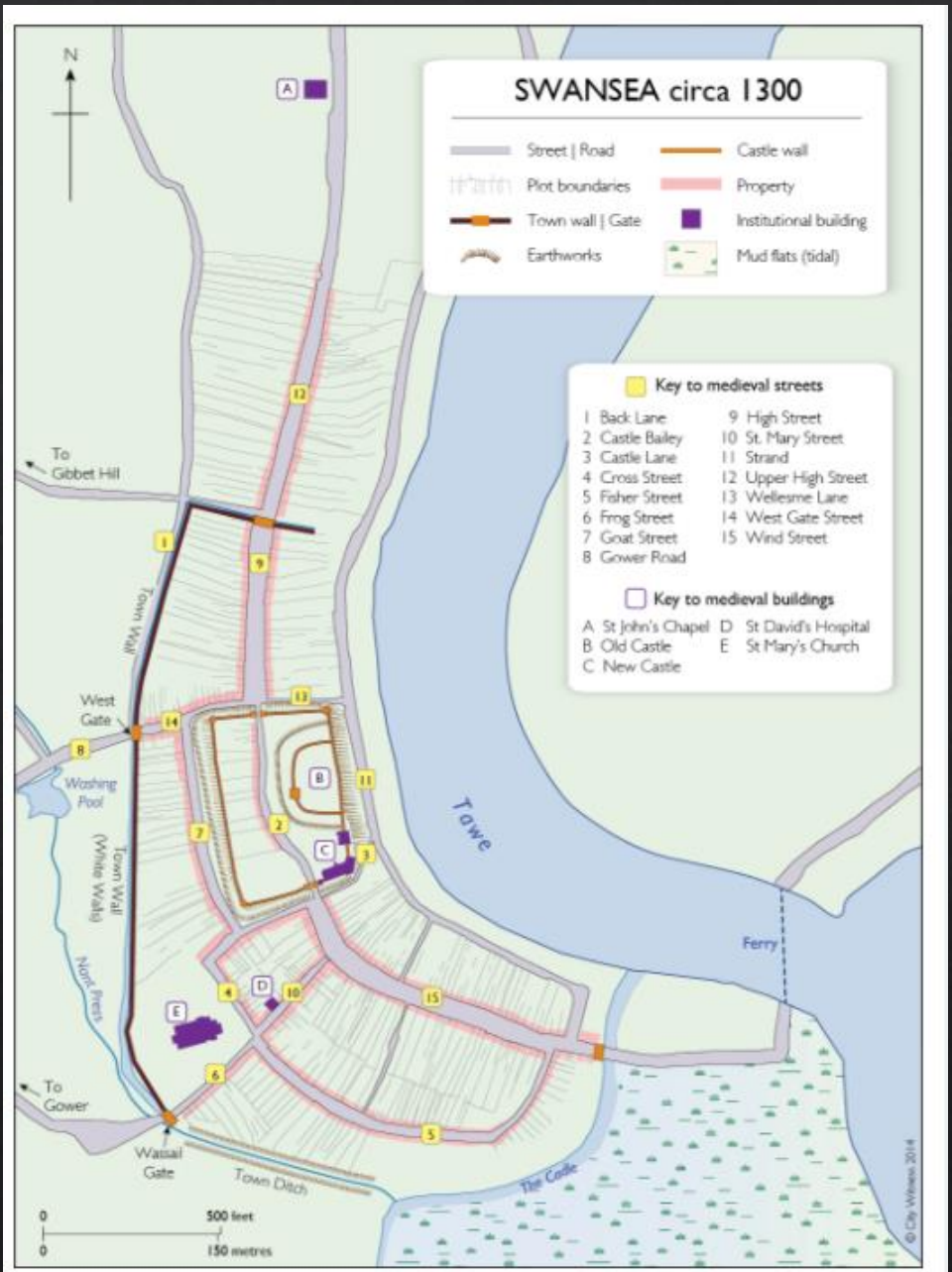
INCOMPLETE/INCORRECT?
Contribute to this information →

Legacies Summary

Commercial [7]
Cultural [1]
Historical [2]
Imperial
Physical [6]
Political [1]

Other Information

Relationships [9]
Addresses [5]
Inventories



Display site: --select--

Brecon (Friary)

Order: Dominicans

This small friary was founded in 1269 and surrendered in 1538. show details of standing remains

Dedicated to: St Nicholas Medieval Diocese: St David's
Lordship at foundation: Brecon
Access: The former friary is now a school.
Owned by: Christ College, Brecon

Main events in the history of this site

1269: Foundation - The friary was founded in 1269. [1 source]
1538: Dissolution - Brecon remained a small friary but was the largest of the Welsh friaries. At the time of its suppression there were ten friars and the community owned about six acres of land and had a small garden. [3 sources]
+ 2 minor events. Show minor events

People associated with this site

Rhys ap Thomas , Sir (benefactor)

Bibliographical sources

8 Printed sources
hide sources

Medieval Religious Houses, England and Wales, ed. R. Neville Hadcock and David Knowles (Harlow, 1971) **p. 215**

Clapham, A. W., 'The architectural remains of the mendicant orders in Wales', *Archaeological Journal,* 84 (1927) **pp. 92-5**

Easterling, R.C., 'The Friars in Wales', *Archaeologia Cambrensis,* 6th series, 14 (1914), pp. 323-56

Jones, A, 'Property of the Welsh Friaries at the Dissolution', *Archaeologia Cambrensis,* 91 (1936), pp. 47-49

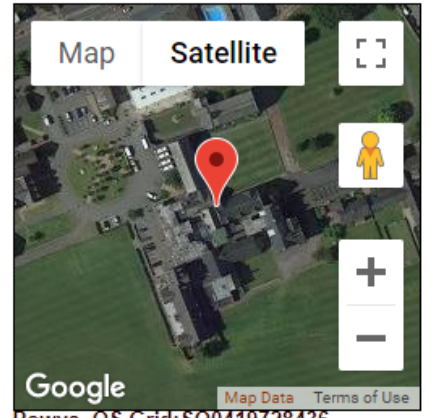
Lloyd-Morgan, Ceridwen, 'Manuscripts and the monasteries', *in Monastic Wales: New Approaches,* ed. Janet Burton and Karen Stöber (University of Wales: Cardiff, 2013), pp. 209-227

Owen, W.G., *Christ College, Brecon: archaeological evaluation*, CPAT Report 185 (Welshpool, 1996)

Salter, Mike, *Abbeys, Priories and Cathedrals of Wales* (Folly Publications: Malvern, 2012) **p. 29**

Williams, G., *The Welsh Church from Conquest to Reformation* (rev. edn; Cardiff, 1976)

4 On-line sources



Powys, OS Grid: SO0419728436
View site details on COFLEIN (RCAHMW database) [new window]

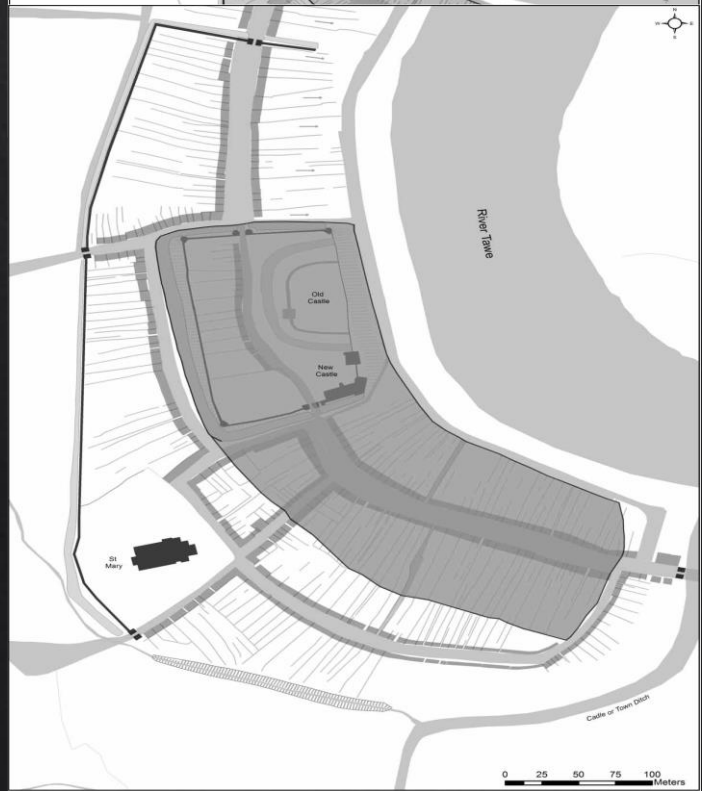
Mapping

A central part of the City Witness research was the creation of a new map of the medieval town … undertaken digitally within a Geographical Information System (GIS).

… The GIS comprises a series of layers, which for medieval Swansea include: (1) types of 'plan-element' (street, defence, plot, and so on); and (2) 'plan-units', morphologically defined areas in the town's plan.

- Keith D. Lilley and Gareth Dean, 'A Silent Witness? Medieval Urban Landscapes and Unfolding their Mapping Histories,' *Journal of Medieval History*, 41:3 (September 2015), pp. 282, 284



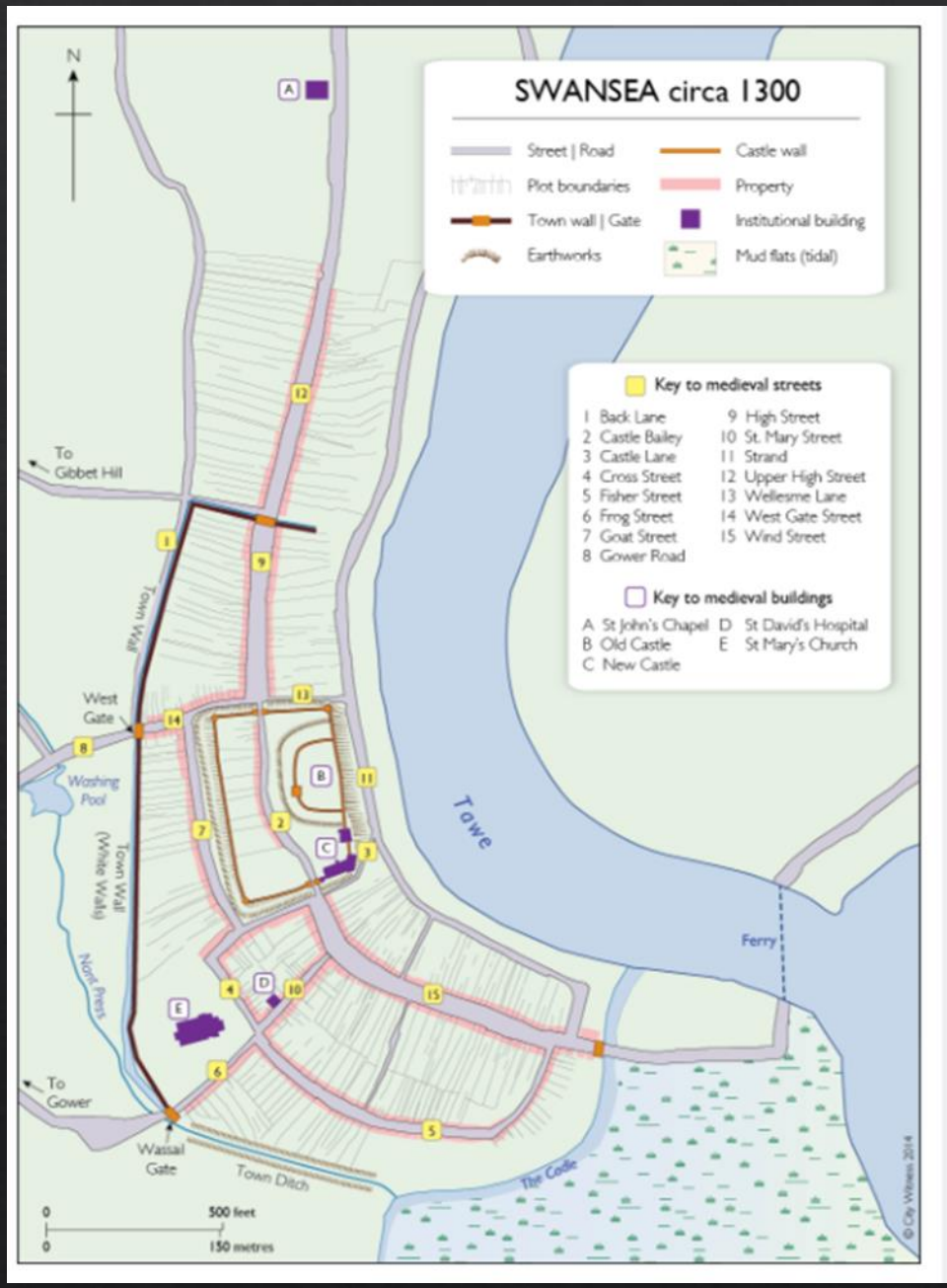


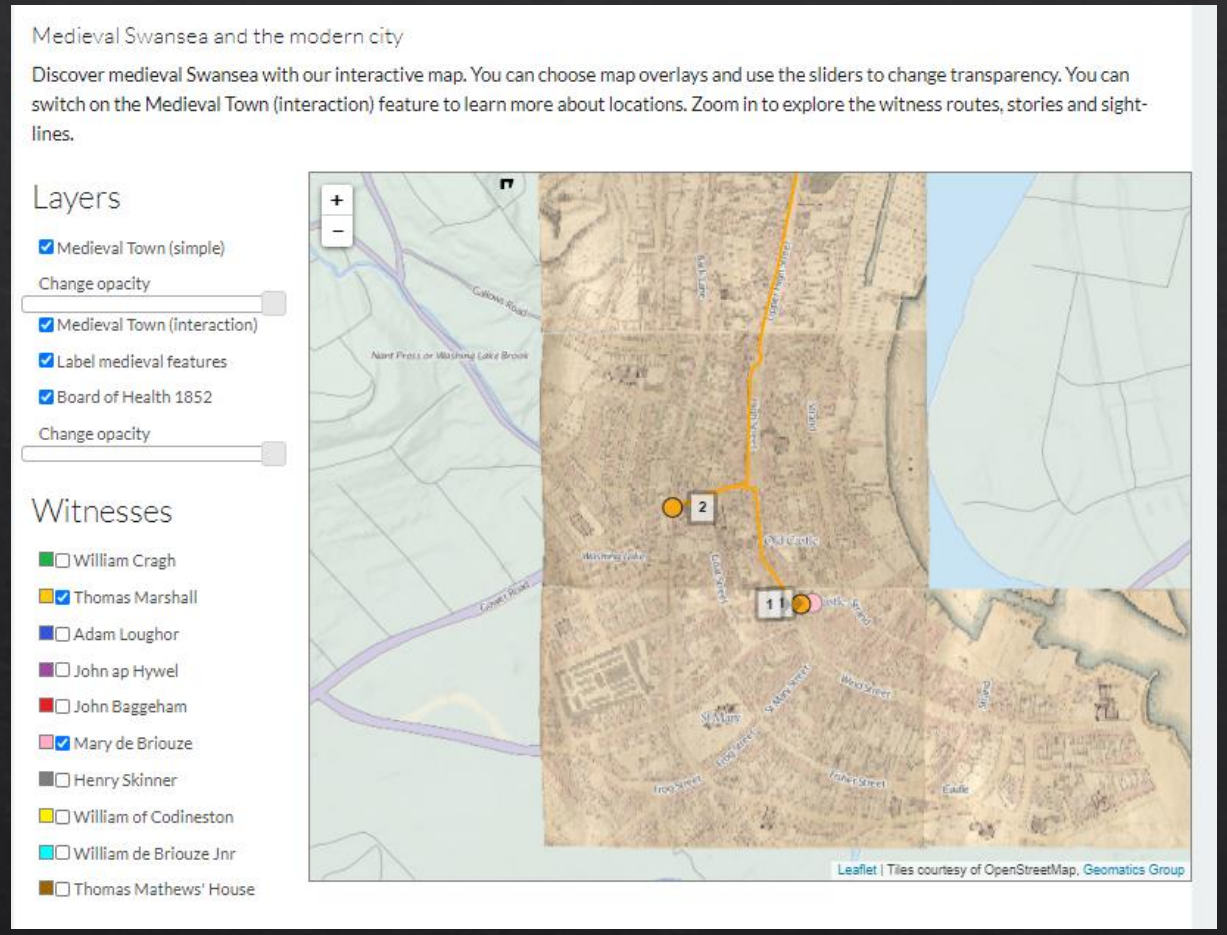
Mapping

In [French spatial theorist Henri] Lefebvre's view, there is no end to maps or mapping: there will not be, or indeed should not be, a final map, for no map can ever be final.

Thinking this through in relation to mapping medieval Swansea helps to reflect on the purposes of mapping medieval urban landscapes and dealing with uncertainties. The maps we make of medieval towns and cities are in a perpetual state of flux. Yet, rather than seeing this as an epistemological problem, and perhaps rejecting maps and analysis of maps as historical techniques, it is more productive to embrace the potential that mapping has for opening up landscape histories, of lifting their silences. This was the approach adopted by City Witness, of using maps and map-making as an iterative process of finding out about the town's origins and development, rather than believing that there could be at the end of the project a final, finished and complete map of Swansea's medieval urban landscape.

- Lilley and Dean, 'Silent Witness?' p. 281.





Lilley and Dean, 'Silent Witness?' pp. 289-290.

Multiple perspectives and interpretations of the 'same map' emerge every time it is engaged with, as with the landscape mappings of medieval Swansea, through toggling between map layers, and juxtaposing different features within the GIS data … these new uses and practices re-envision the map as an interpretative process, rather than a closed and fixed body of spatial data

… This rethinking of maps undermines the notion that maps reflect geographical truth or project historical reality.

2. Broadening Horizons

- What new areas of research might databases and websites open up for historians?

- What new areas of research might mapping open up for historians?

2. Broadening Horizons: Mapping and Networks

- ‘Mapping’ as a concept relates to some of the principal functions of databases and websites, and their utility for historians

- Where the form of websites rely on a network of information and users, the content of databases allows one to identify connections between pieces of data, and between persons and locations, and (potentially) to identify historical patterns and networks of communication

Mapping and Networks

- How novel are these functions of databases and websites?
- In what senses might mapping, networks and connectedness have appeared as themes of the articles read for last week's class?
- In what senses might mapping, networks and connectedness be features of 'old-fashioned' archival sources?

The Purpose of the Annals

From the evidence of the annals' composition and contents, their purpose becomes clearer: a reference work, a record of the house and the network in which it functioned at every level from internal administration, local affairs, relations with barons and monarchs, and even international figures when they entered the stage. So important was maintaining this physical 'paper trail' for the community, that if a deed got nibbled by mice, a new one had to be made:

> Eodem anno, circa festum Sancti Jacobi, fecit nobis archdiaconus Derbiae cartam suam novam de ecclesia de Bradeburne; quia alia a muribus fuit corrosa, quam antea dictus archidiaconus nobis confecerat.
>
> > (In the same year around the feast of St James [William] archdeacon of Derby made us his new charter for Bradbourne church, as the former charter made for us by the archdeacon had been nibbled into bits by mice.)[100]

This mentality was in keeping with wider trends in the thirteenth century. Bureaucratic systems were becoming not just the norm but essential, whether it be for kingdoms like England or France, or an institution like the papacy. The wider adoption of such practices both allowed for and perhaps necessitated the cross-referencing of documentation, which can be seen in the annals. For example, decisions recorded in the royal rolls are noted in the text together with a reference to the roll type and number, together with the opening line of the writ.[101] The benefits of implementing this system are shown to work too, as there are cases cited in the annals where this attention to past judgements and their documentation results in a beneficial outcome for the priory. In one instance, the prior was acquitted over an issue of land ownership at Worthing in 1259:

> vocavimus ad warrentum rotulos Willelmi de Euerwic et sociorum ejus de itinere apud Bedeford, multis annis a retro transactis; et statim quaesita sunt rotuli, et inventum est quod frater dictarum mulierum perdidit terram illam per magnam assisam coram dictis justiciaris; et sic nos recessimus quieti.
>
> > (We called as evidence the rolls of William Euerwick and his fellow justices, with their transactions from a circuit at Bedford of many years ago. The rolls were at once looked out and it was found that the brother of the three daughters had lost the land at Worthing at the great assize before those particular justices. So we left the court cleared of the accusation.)[102]

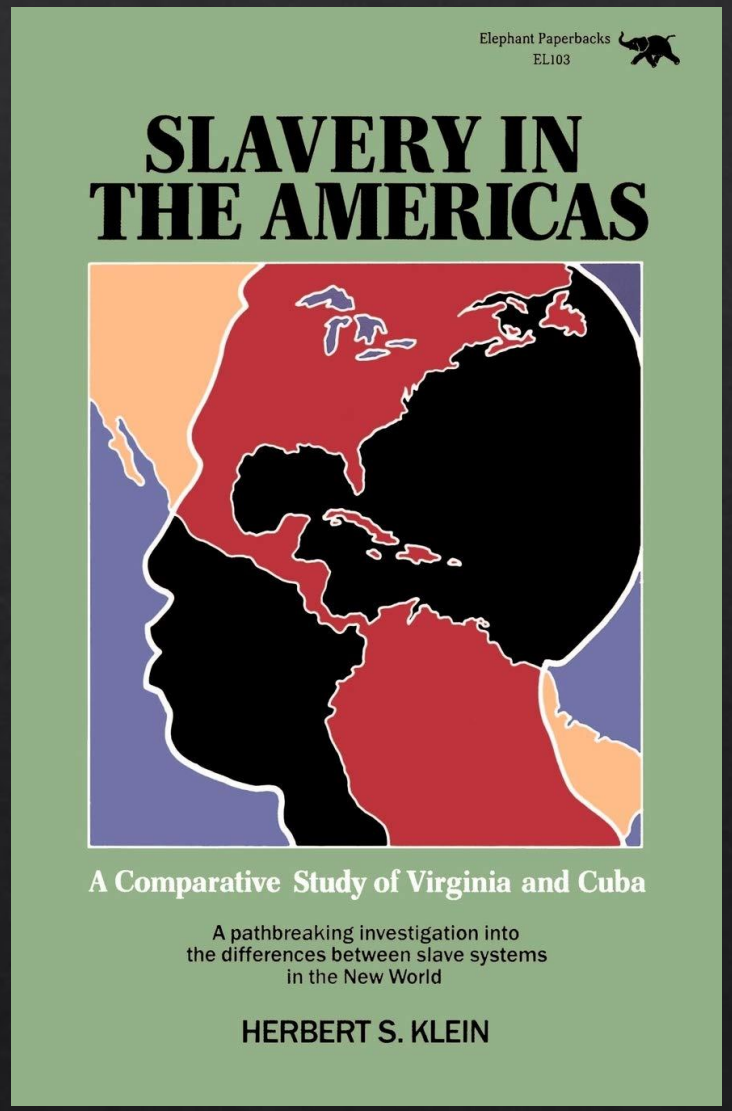
Databases in History

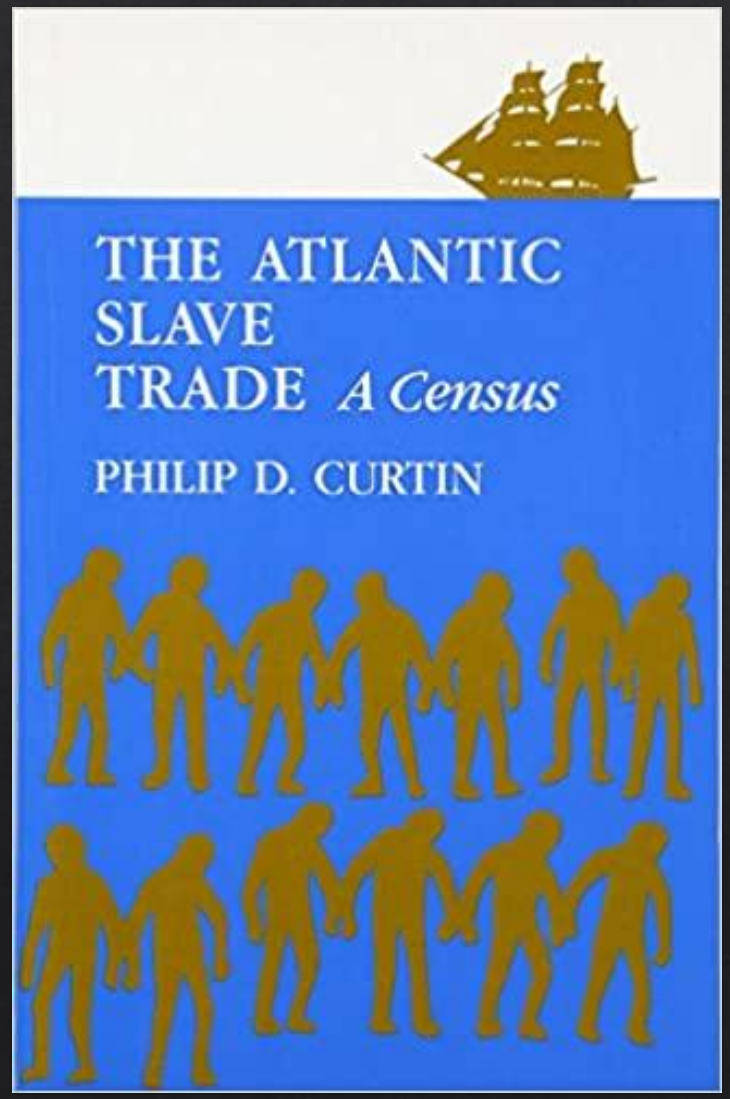
- So, no, websites and databases in-and-of-themselves do not revolutionise how historians use or the types of questions historians ask about data and information.

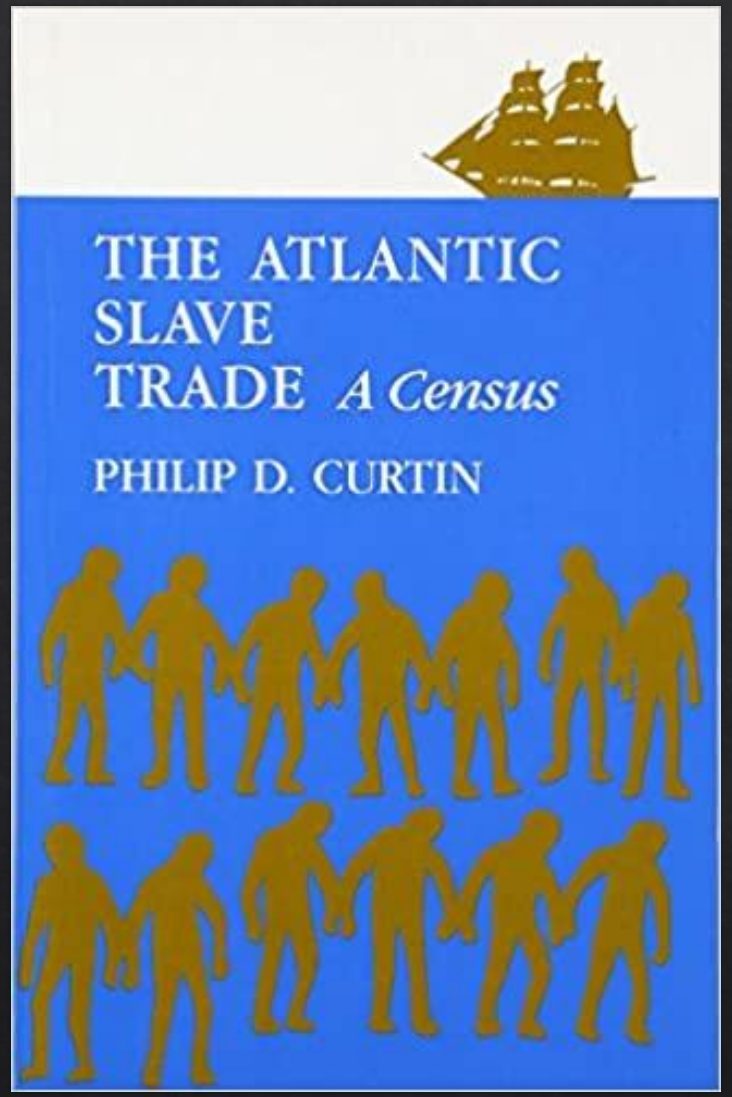
- At the same time, web-based databases can have a profound impact on *how* certain historical persons, events and phenomena are understood and appreciated and can shed *new insights* on persons, events and phenomena

- A good example of this pertains to the history of transatlantic slavery

Early Dataset Research on Transatlantic Slavery







CHAPTER I

THE SLAVE TRADE AND THE NUMBERS GAME: A REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

Now that many historians are trying to make history into a social science—at a time when the social sciences themselves are becoming more quantitative—one way to gauge the state of historical scholarship is to examine the way historians have dealt with an important quantitative problem. The rise and fall of the Atlantic slave trade poses just such a problem. The impact of the slave trade on African societies is a crucial problem for African historiography. For the Americas, both North and South, Africans who came by way of the slave trade were the most numerous Old-World immigrants before the late eighteenth century. Today, their descendants are the largest racial minority in many countries. Even for European history, the South Atlantic System —as a complex economic organism centered on the production in the Americas of tropical staples for consumption in Europe, and grown by the labor of Africans—was a crucial factor in European competition for overseas empire in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. A wide range of historical specialists are therefore concerned with quantitative aspects of the slave trade, and their treatment of it is not encouraging.

- The Slave Trade Numbers Game:

How to accurately account for the size and scope of transatlantic slavery?

Transatlantic Slave Trade Database

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Teacher's Manual

by Stephen D. Behrendt

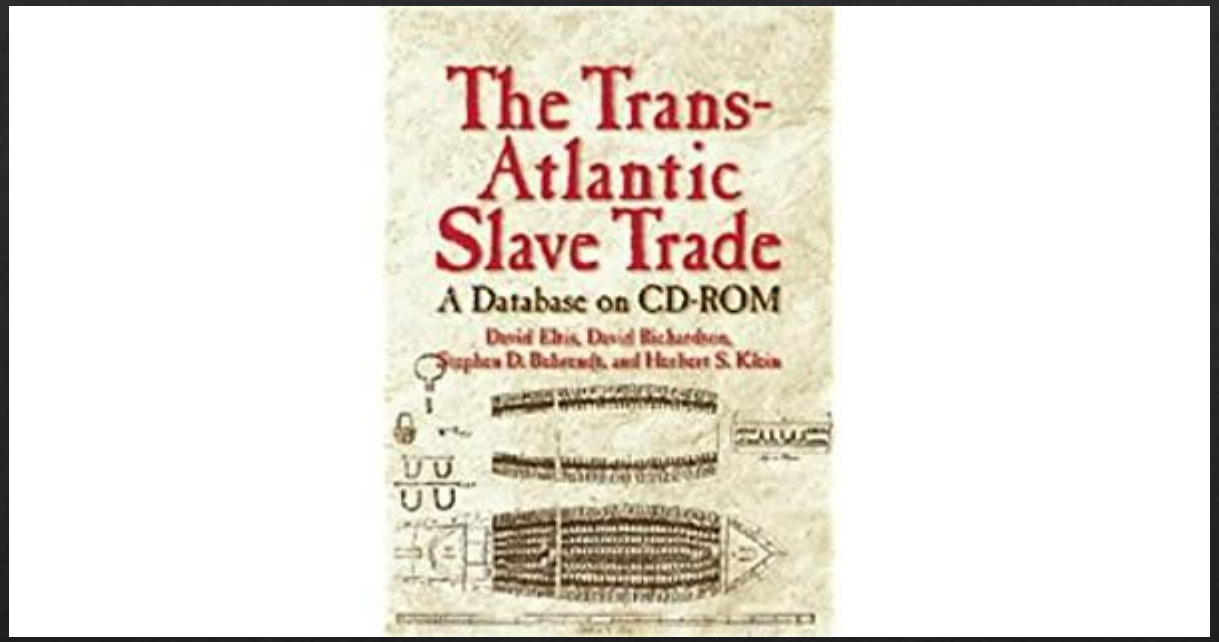
The Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade

A Database on CD-ROM

David Eltis, Stephen D. Behrendt,
David Richardson, and Herbert S. Klein

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Slave Voyages Website

Slave Voyages | Trans-Atlantic | Intra-American | African Names | Resources | About | EN

Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade - Estimates

Current Query | View All | Reset All

Time Frame

Show data from 1501 to 1866

Full extent of coverage by estimates is 1501 - 1866.

Apply | Reset

Flag

- [x] Spain / Uruguay
- [x] Portugal / Brazil
- [x] Great Britain
- [x] Netherlands
- [x] U.S.A.
- [x] France
- [x] Denmark / Baltic

Apply | Reset

Regions

Create a Query Link

Tables | Timeline | Maps

Rows: 25-year periods Columns: Flag

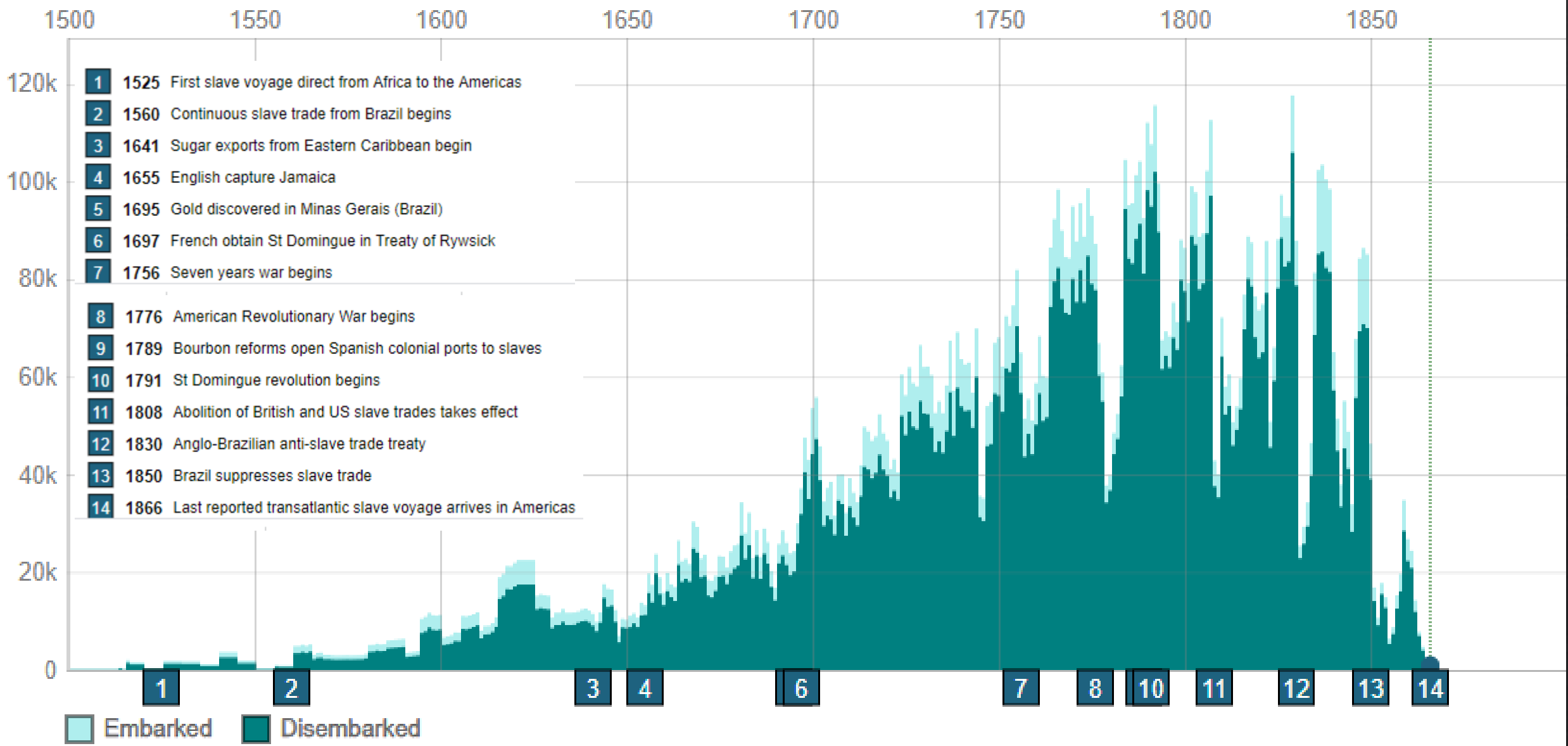
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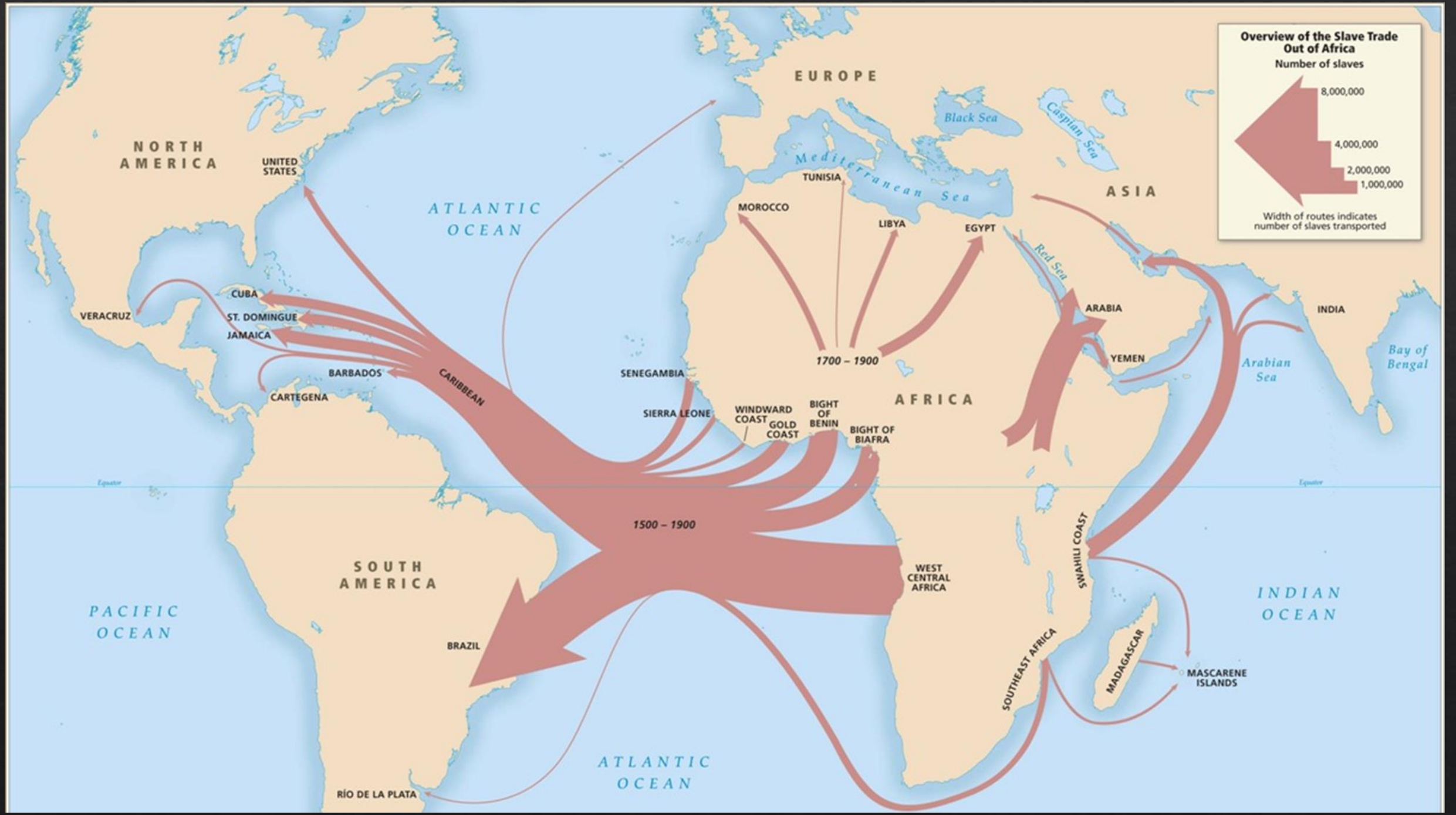
Update | Download Table

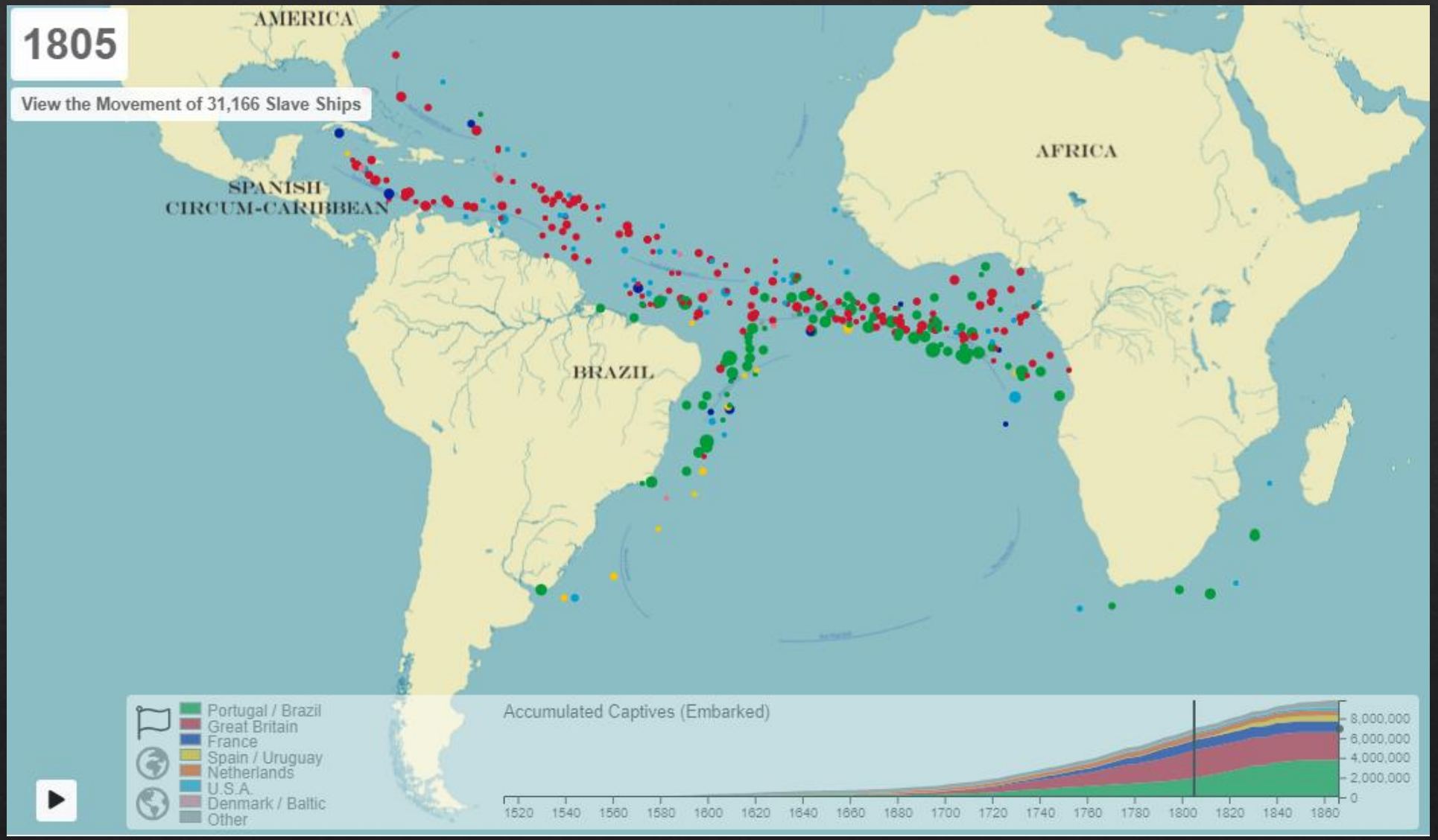
	Spain / Uruguay	Portugal / Brazil	Great Britain	Netherlands	U.S.A.	France	Denmark / Baltic	Totals
1501-1525	6,363	7,000	0	0	0	0	0	13,363
1526-1550	25,375	25,387	0	0	0	0	0	50,762
1551-1575	28,167	31,089	1,685	0	0	66	0	61,007
1576-1600	60,056	90,715	237	1,365	0	0	0	152,373
1601-1625	83,496	267,519	0	1,829	0	0	0	352,844
1626-1650	44,313	201,609	33,695	31,729	824	1,827	1,053	315,050
1651-1675	12,601	244,793	122,367	100,526	0	7,125	653	488,065
1676-1700	5,860	297,272	272,200	85,847	3,327	29,484	25,685	719,675
1701-1725	0	474,447	410,597	73,816	3,277	120,939	5,833	1,088,909
1726-1750	0	536,696	554,042	83,095	34,004	259,095	4,793	1,471,725
1751-1775	4,239	528,693	832,047	132,330	84,580	325,918	17,508	1,925,315
1776-1800	6,415	673,167	748,612	40,773	67,443	433,061	39,199	2,008,670
1801-1825	168,087	1,160,601	283,959	2,669	109,545	135,815	16,316	1,876,992
1826-1850	400,728	1,299,969	0	357	1,850	68,074	0	1,770,978
1851-1875	215,824	9,309	0	0	476	0	0	225,609
Totals	1,061,524	5,848,266	3,259,441	554,336	305,326	1,381,404	111,040	12,521,337

Tables | Timeline | Maps

Timeline: Number of Captives Embarked and Disembarked per Year

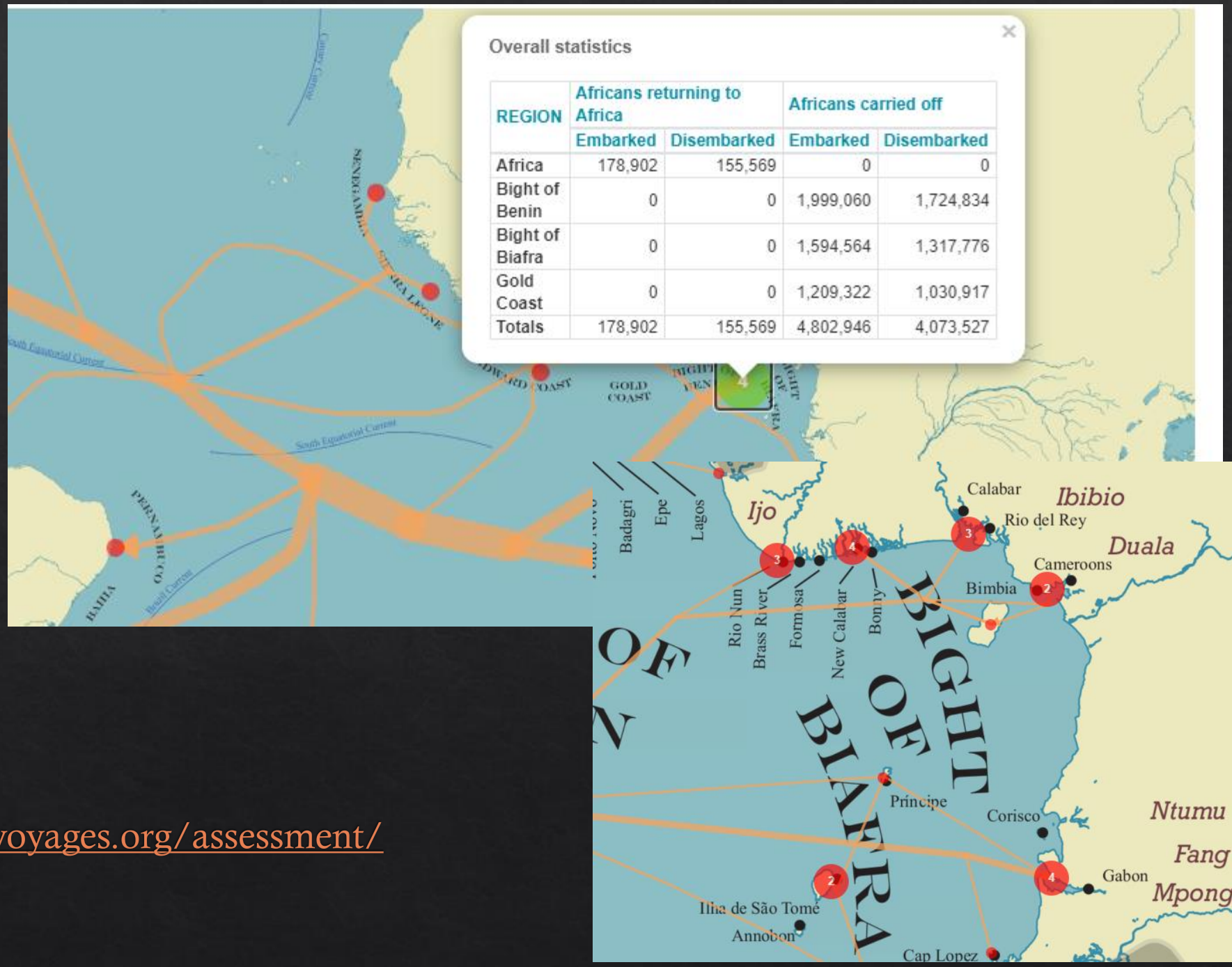



Overview of the Slave Trade Out of Africa
Number of slaves
8,000,000
4,000,000
2,000,000
1,000,000
Width of routes indicates number of slaves transported
NORTH AMERICA
UNITED STATES
EUROPE
ATLANTIC OCEAN
Black Sea
Caspian Sea
Mediterranean Sea
TUNISIA
MOROCCO
LIBYA
EGYPT
ASIA
Red Sea
ARABIA
INDIA
YEMEN
Arabian Sea
Bay of Bengal
1700 – 1900
CUBA
VERACRUZ
ST. DOMINGUE
JAMAICA
BARBADOS
CARTEGENA
CARIBBEAN
SENEGAMBIA
SIERRA LEONE
WINDWARD COAST
GOLD COAST
BIGHT OF BENIN
BIGHT OF BIAFRA
AFRICA
Equator
1500 – 1900
SOUTH AMERICA
WEST CENTRAL AFRICA
SWAHILI COAST
PACIFIC OCEAN
INDIAN OCEAN
BRAZIL
SOUTHEAST AFRICA
MADAGASCAR
MASCARENE ISLANDS
ATLANTIC OCEAN
RÍO DE LA PLATA



https://www.slavevoyages.org/voyage/database#timelapse

‘Granular detail: places of departure

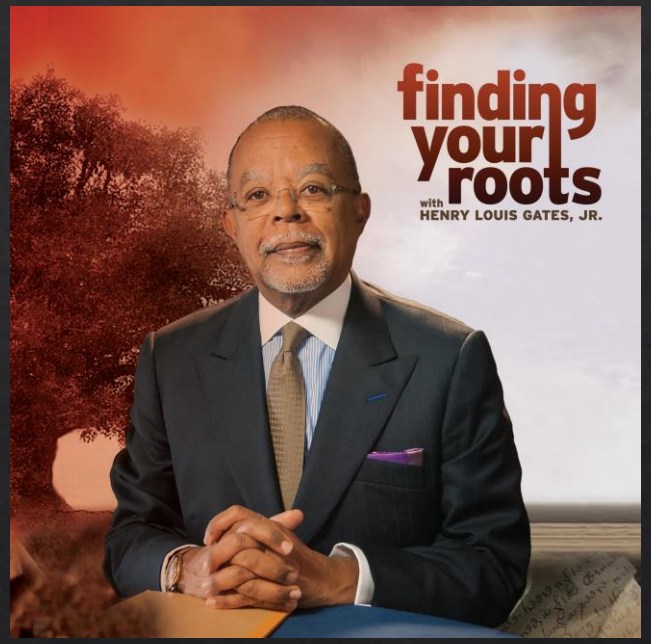


https://www.slavevoyages.org/assessment/estimates

Impact of Slave Voyages Database/Website

"The contributions of this website to the self-knowledge of African Americans, not just in the U.S. but throughout the New World, cannot be overestimated … If a DNA test says 20 percent of [an African American person's] ancestors came from what is now Angola, we then see what ships were coming in to the U.S. from Angola at about the time we estimate their ancestor might have arrived."

- Henry Louis Gates jr on the Slave Voyages website



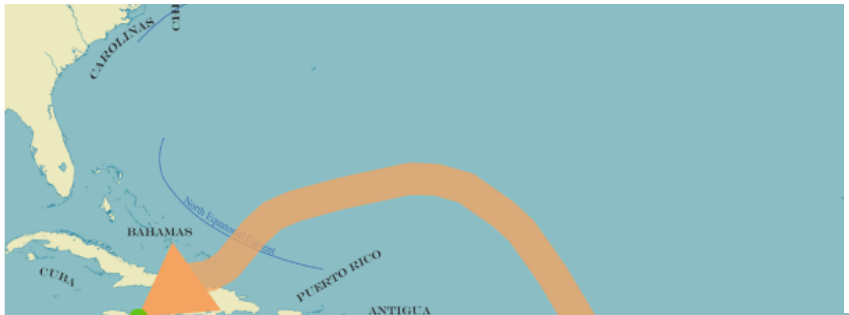
Results | Summary statistics | Tables | Data visualization | Timeline | Maps | Timelapse

Showing 1 to 1 of 1 entries

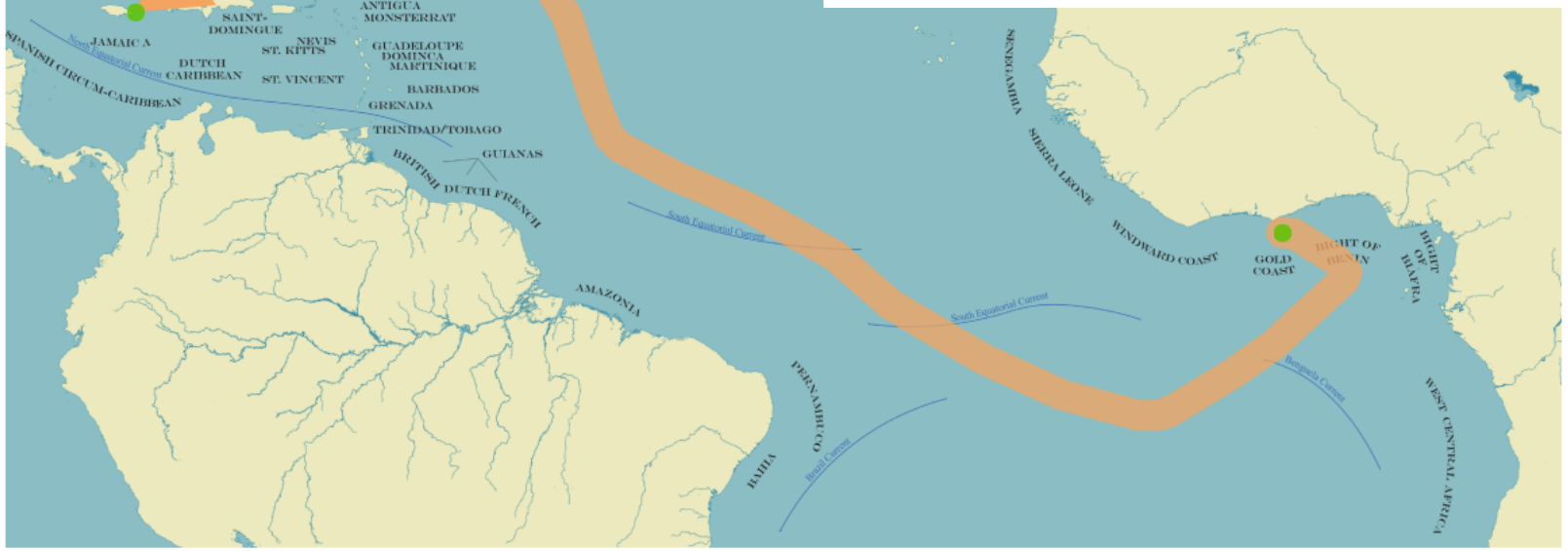
Configure columns | Show 15 rows | Download

Voyage ID	Vessel name	Place where voyage began IMP	Principal place of purchase IMP	Principal place of slave landing IMP	Year arrived with slaves IMP	Slaves arrived 1st port	Captain's name
84106	Zong	Liverpool	Gold Coast, port unspecified	Black River	1781	208	Collingwood, Luke Howard, Edward

Previous 1 Next



	Total slaves	Total voyages	Average
Slaves embarked IMP	440	1	440
Slaves disembarked IMP	208	1	208
Percentage of slaves embarked who died during voyage		1	53.0%
Length of Middle Passage (in days)		1	113
Percentage male		0	
Percentage children		0	
Tonnage of vessel		1	107



- ‘Granular detail: individual ships

‘Granular detail: individual ports

No. slave ship voyages that began in Liverpool

Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade - Database

Year range ▾ | Ship, nation, owner ▾ | Itinerary (1) ▾ | Enslaved people ▾ | Dates ▾ | Captain and crew ▾ | Outcome ▾ | Source ▾ | View all | Reset all

Results | Summary statistics | Tables | Data visualization | Timeline | Maps | Timelapse

Showing 1 to 7 of 7 entries

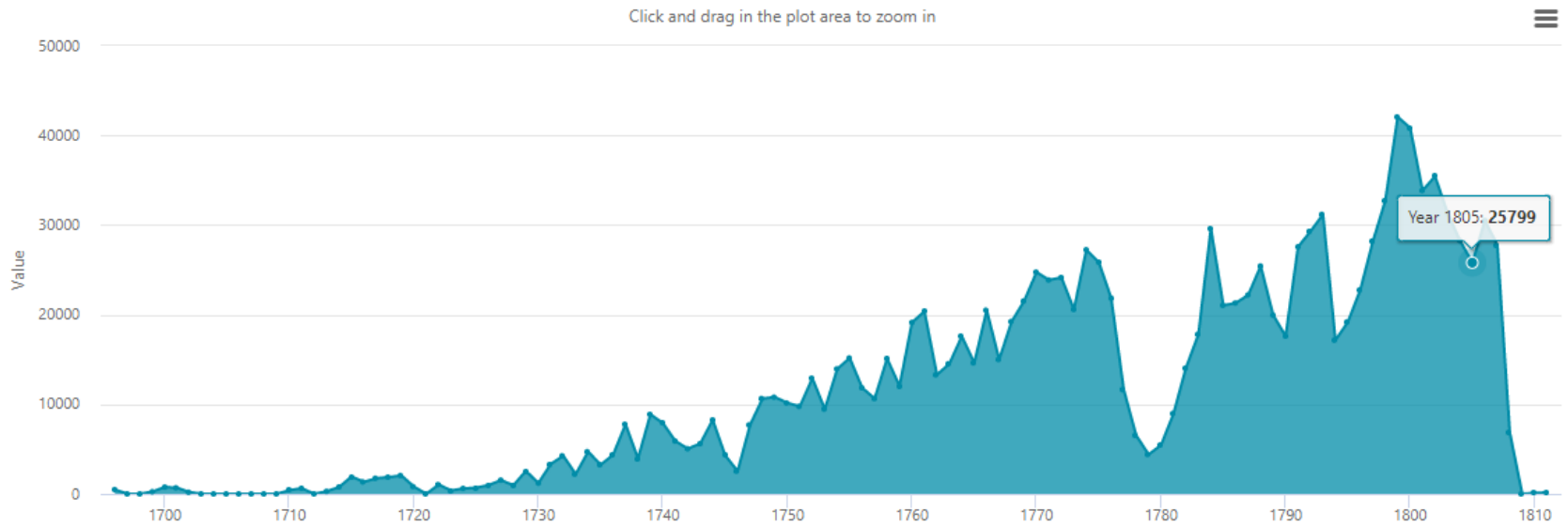
Download ▾

	Total slaves	Total voyages	Average	Standard deviation
Slaves embarked IMP	1,337,530	4,711	283.9	119.6
Slaves disembarked IMP	1,158,199	4,636	249.8	107.4
Percentage of slaves embarked who died during voyage		583	11.2%	15.6%
Length of Middle Passage (in days)		583	58.5	23
Percentage male		730	62.9%	8.2%
Percentage children		495	19.2%	13.2%
Tonnage of vessel		4,845	155	95.9

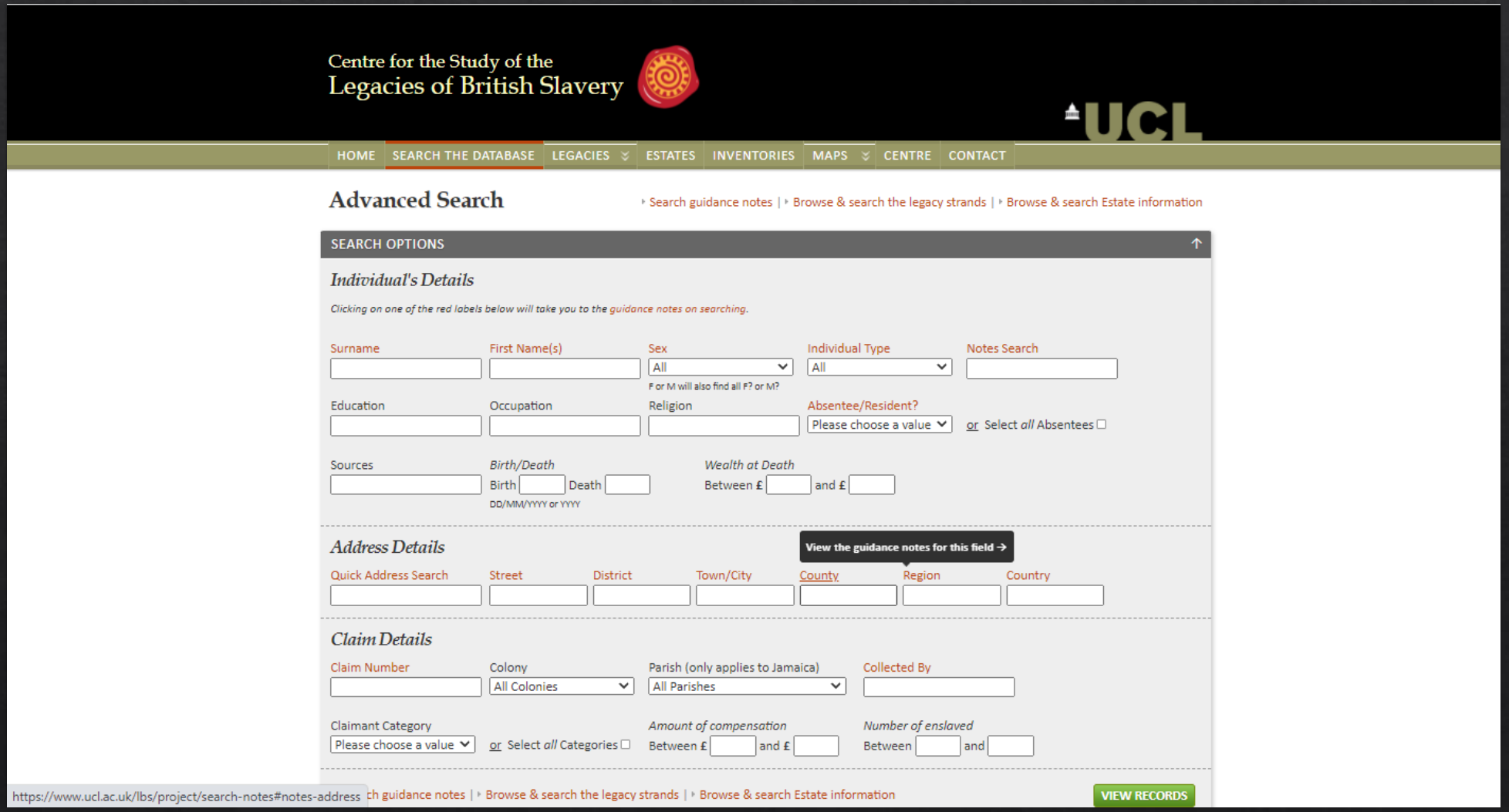
Results | Summary statistics | Tables | Data visualization | Timeline | Maps | Timelapse

Choose a variable to plot

Total number of slaves embarked IMP

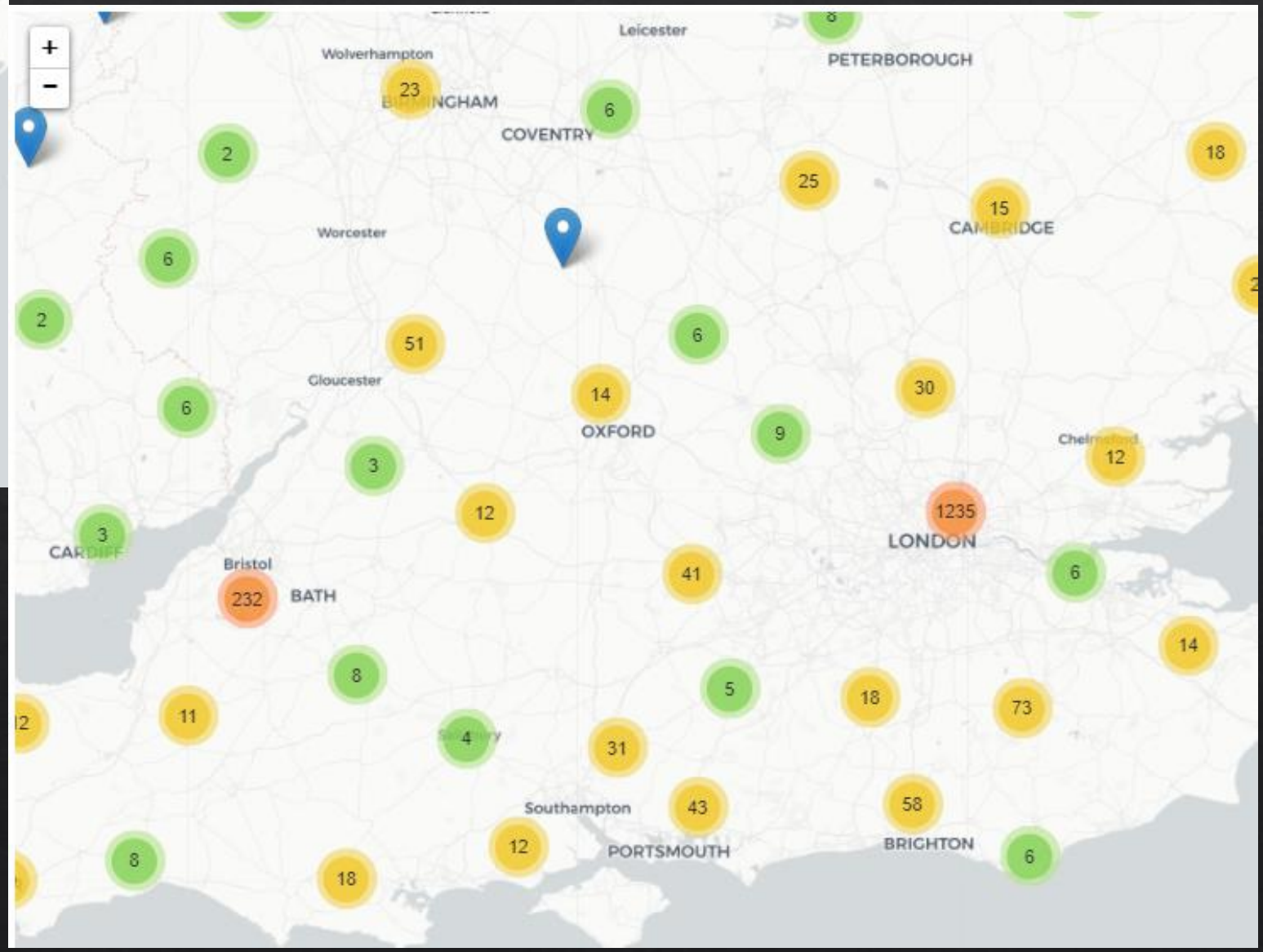


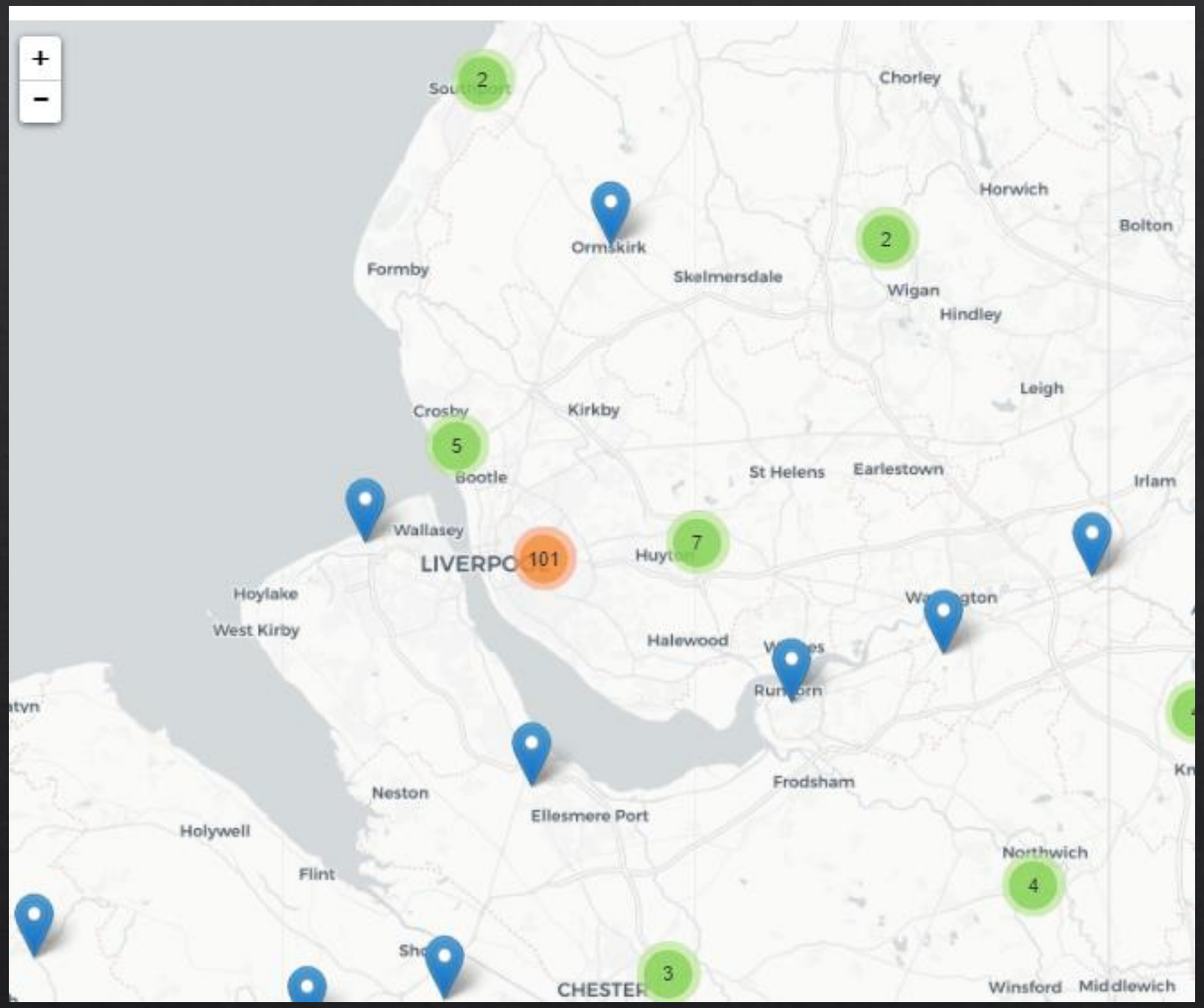
Centre for the Study of the Legacies of British Slave Ownership website

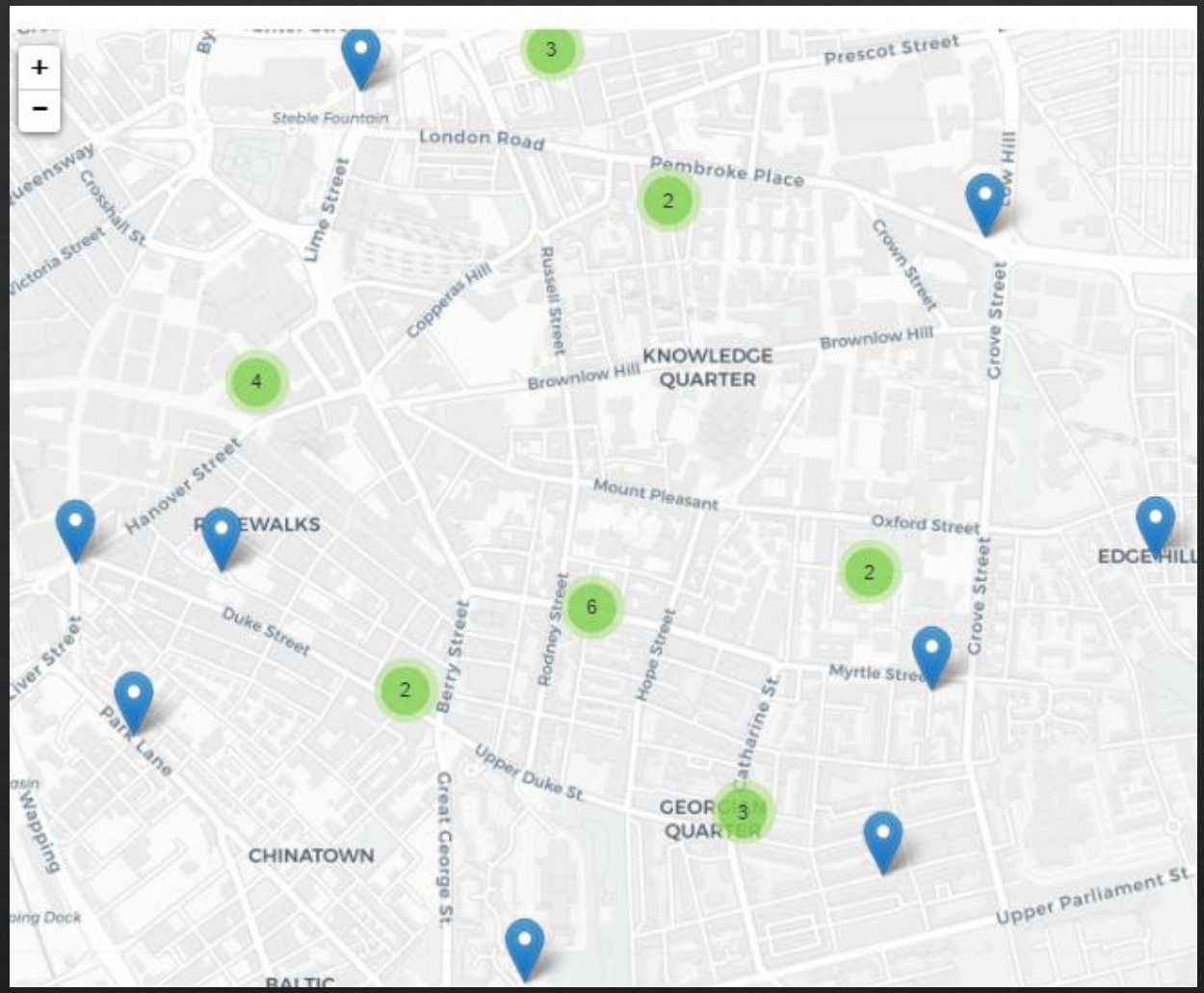



NORTH AMERICA
2
60
3242
ASIA
11
AFRICA
SOUTH AMERICA
3
OCEANIA
20

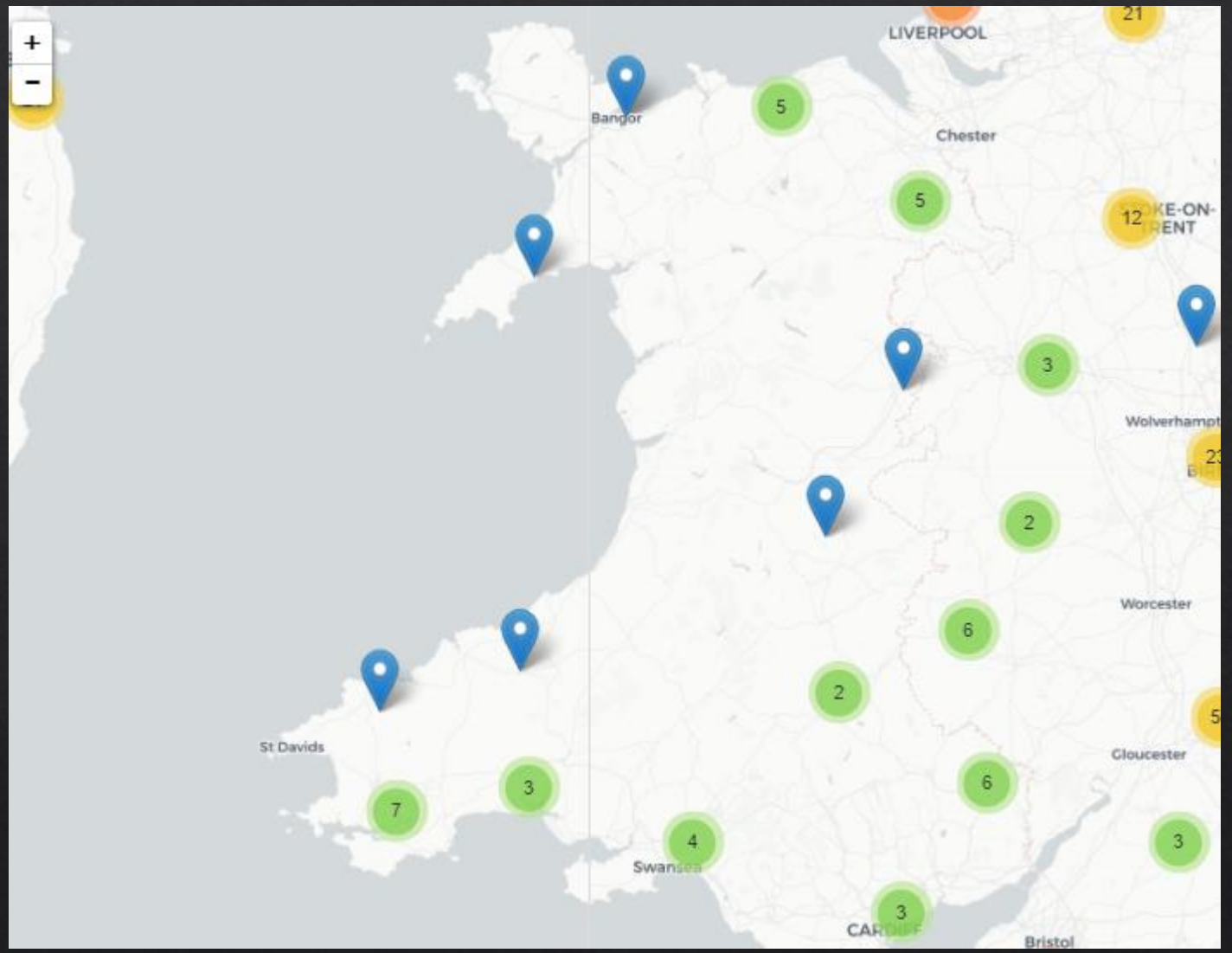
- BIG PICTURE


Leicester
Wolverhampton
PETERBOROUGH
23
6
COVENTRY
2
18
25
15
Worcester
6
2
51
6
Gloucester
14
30
6
OXFORD
9
12
3
12
1235
LONDON
3
Bristol
41
6
232
BATH
14
8
5
18
73
11
4
31
Southampton
43
58
12
PORTSMOUTH
BRIGHTON
8
18
6





- GRANULAR DETAIL



- GRANULAR DETAIL

Rev. Alexander Scott

Profile & Legacies Summary

1790 - 30th Mar 1858

CLAIMANT OR BENEFICIARY

Biography

Rev. Alexander Scott, Anglican clergyman, probably owner of the Bayleys and Wiltshires estate in Barbados and trustee for the award on Thibou's Estate in Antigua. The two estates in Barbados were the centre of Bussa's 'rebellion' in 1816. Rev. Alexander Scott's wife Anna Maria Ellcock was from a Barbadian family.

1.
Rev Alexander Scott fundholder born Antigua aged 61 shown living in 1851 at 18 Pulteney Street Bathwick Bath with son Sydney aged 30 and daughter Harriet aged 25. This links with the Caribbeana description of a monument at Bathwick to Anna Maria wife of Rev. Alexander Scott (she died 26/10/1843) and the Rev. Alexander Scott himself of the Island of Barbados and of Parkside Edinburgh who died 30/03/1858.
2.
Left £120,000, 'very likely a West Indies planter fortune'. Of 14 Pulteney Street Bath, and the Island of Barbados, and Parkside, Edinburgh. Son of David Scott of Antigua. Born c. 1784, died 30/03/1859 [sic].
3.
Possibly the son of Christiana Richardson nee Jarvis (q.v.) and her first husband David Scott. They married in 1782 so the birth of Alexander c. 1784-1790 would fit. Alexander was trustee of Christiana for her claim on Thibou's Estate which originated from her father Thomas Jarvis (1722-1785).
4.
The entry for Rev. Alexander Scott, son of David Scott of Antigua, in Venn's *Alumni Cantabrigienses* shows him matriculating Trinity, Cambridge, age 19 in 1804. There is some confusion here with another Rev. Alexander Scott who became Rector of Bootle 1835-1847.
5.
George Sidney Scott of 48 Cadogan Place, of Parkside Edinburgh and of Barbados who died 17/05/1892 left £271,606 10s 9d.

CHANGE SEARCH OPTIONS

4 Individuals *[13 Records]* → 0 to 13

Name	
Rev. Alexander Scott	
AWARDEE [TRUSTEE]	Antigua 30 (Thibou's Estate) £4194 12S 7D [276 Enslaved]
AWARDEE [OWNER-IN-FEE]	Barbados 2772 (Wiltshires) £2538 2S 3D [122 Enslaved]
AWARDEE [OWNER-IN-FEE]	Barbados 2811 (Bayley's) £3837 5S 4D [179 Enslaved]
Alexander Scott	
AWARDEE	Grenada 567 (Mount Nelson) £1317 12S 1D [48 Enslaved]
Alexander Scott	
Alexander Reid Scott	
AWARDEE [OWNER-IN-FEE]	Jamaica Kingston 2350 £100 6S 4D [4 Enslaved]
AWARDEE	Jamaica Kingston 2354 £99 4S 0D [4 Enslaved]
AWARDEE	Jamaica St David 12 (Epping Farm) £2509 19S 9D [129 Enslaved]
AWARDEE	Jamaica St David 6 (Whitfield Hall) £1389 13S 8D [67 Enslaved]
CLAIMANTS IN LIST E OR CHANCERY CASES	Jamaica Trelawney 183 (Orange Grove) £990 4S 11D [46 Enslaved]
CLAIMANTS IN LIST E OR CHANCERY CASES	Jamaica Trelawney 187 (Hague Estate) £2799 8S 1D [129 Enslaved]
CLAIMANTS IN LIST E OR CHANCERY CASES	Jamaica Trelawney 188 (Clifton Estate) £1829 15S 5D [82 Enslaved]
AWARDEE	Jamaica Trelawney 404 ('Trelawny') £921 1S 9D [47 Enslaved]

https://www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs/search/

PROSOPOGRAPHY

- Investigation of the common characteristics of a historical group of people by means of a collective study of their lives
- Social demographic analysis
- Looking for patterns, commonalities

Limitations

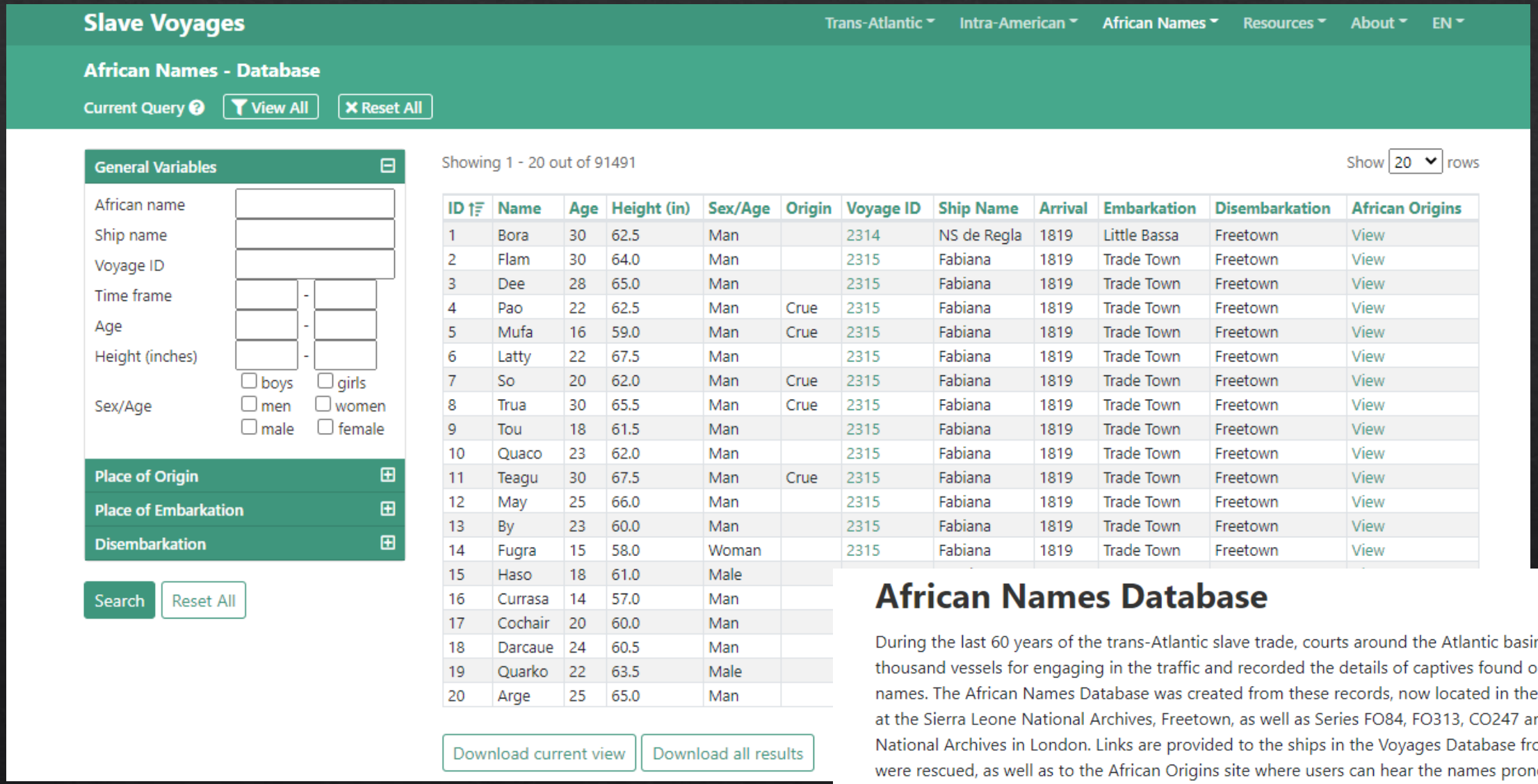
- What limitations or weaknesses might be associated with the Legacies of Slave Ownership and Slave Voyages databases?

- What limitations or weaknesses might be associated with websites and databases generally with respect to historical research?

Limitations

- Overemphasis on numerical data at expense of human experience?
- Reduction/abstraction of humanity into numerical data?
- Archival record predominantly consists of information about enslavers and enablers of slave trade

Correctives: African Names Database



African Names Database

During the last 60 years of the trans-Atlantic slave trade, courts around the Atlantic basins condemned over two thousand vessels for engaging in the traffic and recorded the details of captives found on board including their African names. The African Names Database was created from these records, now located in the Registers of Liberated Africans at the Sierra Leone National Archives, Freetown, as well as Series FO84, FO313, CO247 and CO267 held at the British National Archives in London. Links are provided to the ships in the Voyages Database from which the liberated Africans were rescued, as well as to the African Origins site where users can hear the names pronounced and help us identify th languages in which they think the names are used.

Correctives:
Enslaved: Peoples of the Historical Slave Trade







Runaway Slaves in Britain: bondage, freedom and race in the eighteenth century

The Database

The purpose of this website and database is not to replicate the objectification of African Americans, South Asians and Indigenous Americans who were brought to eighteenth-century Britain as the enslaved property of white British men and women. Instead we hope that the advertisements collected here will allow readers to explore and understand the people identified in these advertisements as historical subjects in their own right, as individuals who challenged their status and condition. We present the advertisements not with the intention of reproducing the violent circumstances of enslavement, but rather to delegitimise it by enabling readers to recognise the humanity of the individuals whose lives are hidden within a few lines of faded newspaper print.

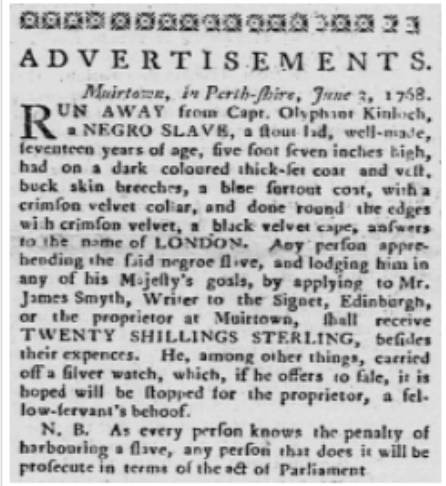
Browse/search the database (v.1.4 - 12.12.19)

Quick user guide

Detailed database guide

The current database is version 1.3. The next version, 1.4, will be released when there is enough new data.

Due to the high number of visitors, we are experiencing some server issues: if the database is not loading your file, please refresh the page or try again in a few minutes. If you are still having trouble, please use the enquiry form to contact us, here.



ADVERTISEMENTS.

Muirtown, in Perth-ſhire, June 2, 1768.

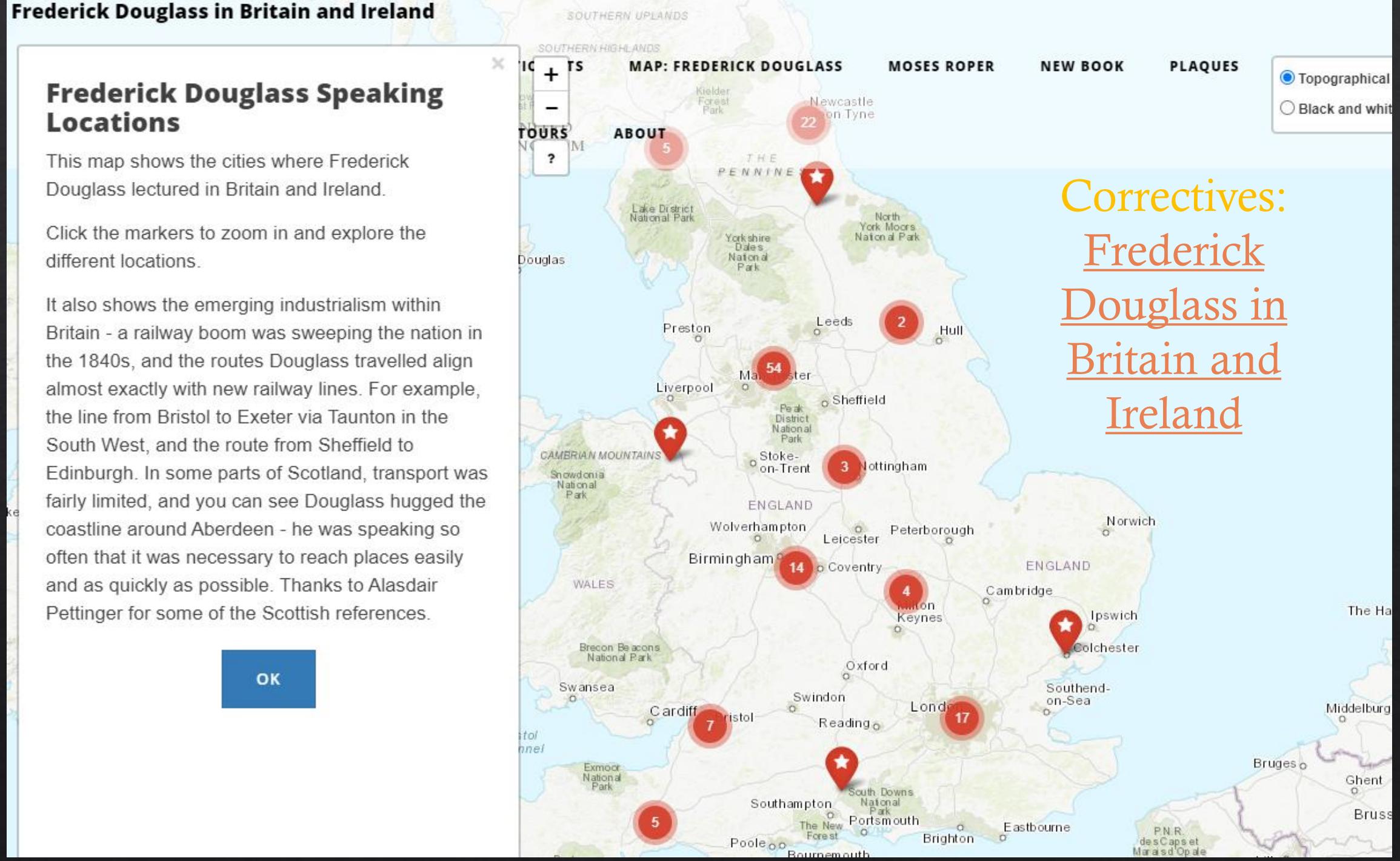
RUN AWAY from Capt. Olyphant Kinloch, a NEGRO SLAVE, a ſtout lad, well-made, ſeventeen years of age, five foot ſeven inches high, had on a dark coloured thick-ſet coat and veſt, buck ſkin breeches, a blue ſurtout coat, with a crimſon velvet collar, and done round the edges with crimſon velvet, a black velvet cape, anſwers to the name of LONDON. Any perſon apprehending the ſaid negroe ſlave, and lodging him in any of his Majeſty's goals, by applying to Mr. James Smyth, Writer to the Signet, Edinburgh, or the proprietor at Muirtown, ſhall receive TWENTY SHILLINGS STERLING, beſides their expences. He, among other things, carried off a ſilver watch, which, if he offers to ſale, it is hoped will be ſtopped for the proprietor, a fellow-ſervant's behoof.

N. B. As every perſon knows the penalty of harbouring a ſlave, any perſon that does it will be proſecute in terms of the act of Parliament.

'London', *Caledonian Mercury*, 8th June 1768

Image © The British Library Board. All Rights Reserved.

Correctives: Runaway Slaves in Britain


Frederick Douglass in Britain and Ireland
MAP: FREDERICK DOUGLASS
MOSES ROPER
NEW BOOK
PLAQUES
ABOUT
Topographical
Black and whit
Frederick Douglass Speaking Locations
This map shows the cities where Frederick Douglass lectured in Britain and Ireland.
Click the markers to zoom in and explore the different locations.
It also shows the emerging industrialism within Britain - a railway boom was sweeping the nation in the 1840s, and the routes Douglass travelled align almost exactly with new railway lines. For example, the line from Bristol to Exeter via Taunton in the South West, and the route from Sheffield to Edinburgh. In some parts of Scotland, transport was fairly limited, and you can see Douglass hugged the coastline around Aberdeen - he was speaking so often that it was necessary to reach places easily and as quickly as possible. Thanks to Alasdair Pettinger for some of the Scottish references.
OK
Correctives: Frederick Douglass in Britain and Ireland

- Can you think of other examples of historical topics, events or phenomena that database and website research might yield new insights?
- How might this week's topics link together?
- Is there potential to emulate the transcontinental, international networks of slave trade research in medieval history?

A New Research Frontier? The Global Middle Ages

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

Arts & Humanities Research Council

Defining the Global Middle Ages

Research Network

Context and Objectives | Members | Translating Cultures | Workshops | Resources



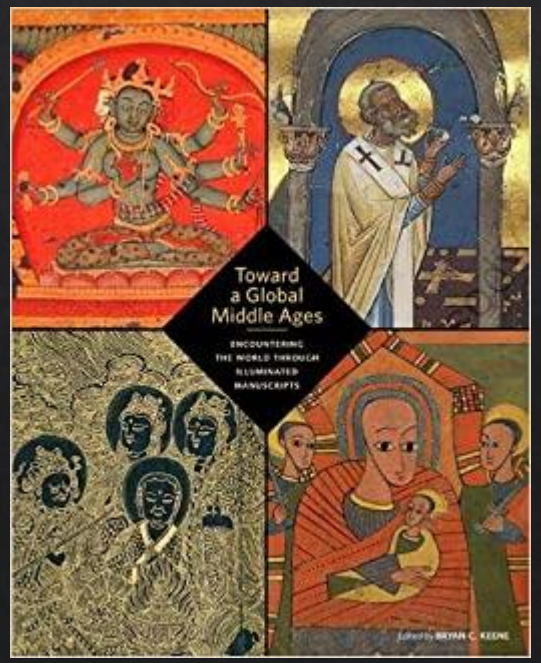
Until very recently the focus of 'global history' has been on the origins of the modern world. Yet several features associated with 'modern' and 'early modern' global history (e.g. long-distance commercial interaction, voluntary and forced migration, multi-ethnic empires, and the transmission of cultural forms) were clearly also present in the centuries before 1500. As scholarly and popular interest mounts in pre-modern forms of global history, this network organised by historians at the Universities of Oxford, Birmingham and Newcastle is devoted to an exploration of the 'Global Middle Ages'.

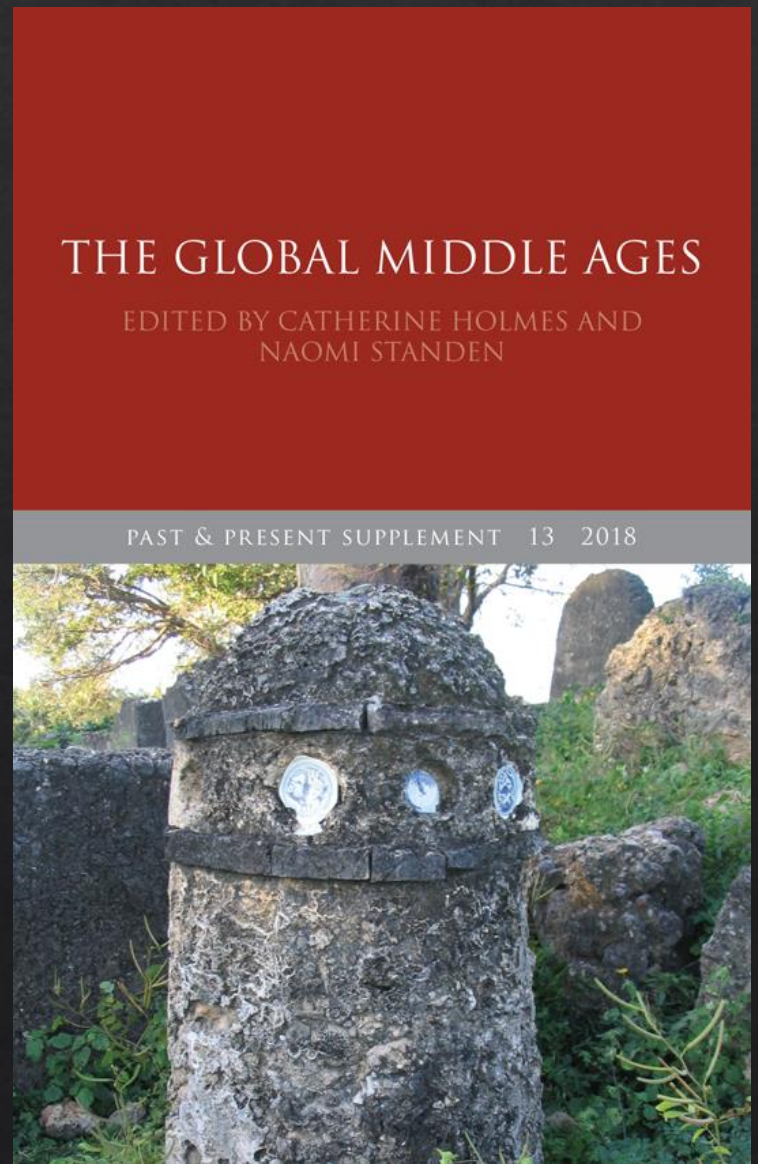
Medieval global history is a fledgling field. Medievalists have yet to establish even the most basic definitions of what 'global' means for their period. The scope of the discipline (including periodisation), methods, treatment of evidence, and the potential and limitations of adopting a global perspective remain sketchy. Eurasia dominates what discussion there is, leaving little space for Africa or the Americas. It is not clear that linking the medieval period to themes and processes in earlier or later periods of global history is productive. Unquestioning application of theories and models from other contexts may indeed occlude and distort medieval globalisms, particularly the creative tension between the local and the global.

Rather than relying on interpretative frameworks from other historical periods we want to analyse the global as it was experienced in the Middle Ages. Our network brings together scholars in history and archaeology from across the UK with expertise in different regional evidence bases and historiographies, and international visiting experts lend support to our discussions. Through a series of workshops we seek to establish just what was 'global' about the 'Middle Ages'.

A New Research Frontier? The Global Middle Ages

- Mapping and databases emphasise connectedness between outwardly disparate locations
- Opening up geographical scope of medieval history
- Potential for corrective to Eurocentrism?





International Networks

Mediterranean pottery from North Africa and what is now Turkey — tableware alongside containers for oil and wine — has been unearthed at Tintagel and other late fifth- to mid seventh-century settlements and forts along the coasts of south-west England and south Wales. These luxury goods were being imported by the British long after the Roman legions' withdrawal (c.410).

…. Strontium and oxygen isotope analysis of skeletons taken from cemeteries in south Wales reveals a minority whose early childhood — between three and seven years — had been in warmer climates. Small as this minority is, it corroborates the pottery evidence and points to journeying between the western British and the Byzantine world — and not only by men trading: of the individuals whose early childhood had been in warmer climes, three were women and two children or adolescents.

- Jonathan Shepard, 'Networks,' *Past & Present*, 238, Supplement 13: The Global Middle Ages, (November 2018): 116–157, p. 117.