

Caribbean History and Culture, 1535-1920: Imprints from the Library Company of Philadelphia

The largest and most significant collection of its kind



Quick Facts

Covers the diverse history of Caribbean islands over a span of nearly 400 years

More than 1,200 books, pamphlets, almanacs, broadsides and ephemera, both from and about this region

Expertly compiled by the curators of the extraordinary *Afro-American Imprints* collection

"A one-of-a-kind resource for students and scholars of Caribbean studies.... Atlantic World, hemispheric studies, and print culture are just a few of the fields that will be enriched by this collection."

— Krystal Appiah, Curator of African American History, Library Company of Philadelphia

Overview

Created from the renowned holdings of the Library Company of Philadelphia, *Caribbean History and Culture, 1535-1920*, is the largest and most significant collection of its kind. More than 1,200 fully cataloged and searchable books, pamphlets, almanacs, broadsides and ephemera cover the history of this broad region from the 16th century to the early 20th century.

New research and teaching opportunities

Major subject areas covered include Atlantic Studies, Diaspora Studies, Economic Studies, History of Medicine, Ethnicity and Gender Studies, Latin America and Slavery. Based on the Library Company collection that itself was an ambitious attempt to gather all printed information about this area and its history, works of all kinds are included: multi-volume histories of the region, letters, diaries, trial records, confessions, ship logs, military reports, government documents and much more. The geographical focus of these materials is all of the islands of the Caribbean Sea, widely referred to as the West Indies, though many works also deal with nearby islands technically not part of the Caribbean chain. Also included are rare works that cover both Caribbean islands and neighboring areas such as Florida, Mexico and Brazil. In addition, due to the nature of the Atlantic slave trade, some works also cover Africa, especially the West African coastal nations that played a key role in the transportation of the enslaved to the New World.

The places of publication of these 1,200-plus works include primarily England, France, Spain, the Netherlands and the United States, though there are works published in the Caribbean itself as well as other European countries. Most of the works are in English, approximately 250 are in French, and a small number are in the other languages of other Colonial powers that controlled parts of the Caribbean.

About the Library Company of Philadelphia

The Library Company of Philadelphia is an independent research library specializing in American history and culture from the 17th through the 19th centuries. Founded in 1731 by Benjamin Franklin, the Library Company is America's oldest cultural institution.

An Archive of Americana® collection

Caribbean History and Culture, 1535-1920, is integrated into *America's Historical Imprints* for seamless searching with *African History and Culture, 1540-1921*; *Black Authors, 1556-1922*; *Early American Imprints, 1639-1819*; and related collections.



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