

An Introduction to the Digital Collection of the NCL

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An Introduction to the Digital Collection of the NCL

Foreword

The National Central Library (NCL) embarked on a digital collection program in 2002 to enhance preservation and utilization of collection resources. Digitization enables not only the permanent preservation of precious collection works, but also faster and more convenient search and browsing services and other value-added services. The NCL has also been actively cooperating with libraries and information archives around the world to further expand public access to digital collection resources and services.

1 Introduction to Digital Collection

Special Collection and Historical Materials

● Rare Books

<http://rbook2.ncl.edu.tw/>

The NCL has nearly 126,000 volumes of rare books, including 153 Dunhuang scrolls, 174 Song dynasty titles, five Chin titles, 230 Yuan titles, over 6,000 Ming titles, and nearly 3,000 hand-written copies, among other precious works

As a participant in the "National Digital Archives Program," the NCL began digitally converting its rare book collection in 2002. As of 2013, about 7,729 rare books had been converted and made available for public searching via the "Ancient Books and Special Collections Resources," also available on CD-ROM.





● Bronze and Stone Rubbings

<http://rarebook.ncl.edu.tw/gold/>

The NCL collection comprises 12,910 rubbings, including 9,919 bronze and stone rubbings and 2,991 epitaph rubbings. Bronze rubbings in the collection date back to as early as the Shang dynasty, and include rubbings of sacrificial vessels, memorial inscriptions, weapons and other items; while stone rubbings include rubbings of Han dynasty engravings from steles, cliff sides and other objects.

Since 2005, over 4,250 important bronze and stone rubbings were digitalized to create a searchable "Bronze and Stone Rubbings Database."



● Manuscripts of Famous Persons

<http://manu.ncl.edu.tw/nclmanuscript/nclmanukm/>

Early works and the increasing number of manuscripts donated by famous persons and authors are invaluable first-hand sources in researching modern and contemporary issues, and the history of contemporary literature and art. Due to their

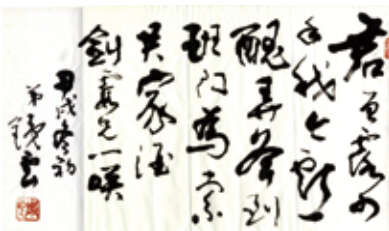


immense value, these have gradually become one of the important areas in which NCL desires to increase its holdings. Current holdings include the manuscripts, diaries, and letters of famous contemporaries from historical studies, politics, and literary circles, such as Liang Qichao, Yu Quyuán, Zheng Zhenduo, and former Directors-general Chiang Fucong and Qu Wanli. In addition the Library also has a large number of inscriptions and marginalia from common thread-bound books.

In recent years, NCL has gone to great lengths to acquire manuscripts of contemporary authors and artists, with amazing results. The Library received several large donations of manuscripts, such as Professor Wei Ziyun's research on *The Plum in the Golden Vase*, as well as letters, calligraphy, sketches, paintings, etc. by poet Zhang Mo, author Zimin, composer Li Zhonghe, and artist Liang Danfeng. Initial estimates put the number of donations at 20,000 items, with new items being received regularly.

In 2013, NCL completed construction of Contemporary Celebrities' Manuscripts database and is now working to provide full color images of these manuscripts and create metadata records of them. The database will also incorporate content from the

Images of Historical Data on Contemporary Literature system to provide more comprehensive offerings and services.





● Archaic Contracts

<http://memory.ncl.edu.tw/>

The NCL collection comprises over 2,600 archaic contracts, both private and official, dating from 1732 to the early 20th century. Included are contracts established between Han Chinese parties for sales transactions, loans, adoption and other purposes. There is also a large number of deeds signed between indigenous peoples from various parts of Taiwan, as well as contracts concerning some of the larger Han clans in Taiwan.

The NCL has digitally converted all of the archaic contracts in its collection. This data has been annotated and compiled into a database, providing an invaluable resource for research on daily life and economic development in Taiwan from the 18th to 19th century.



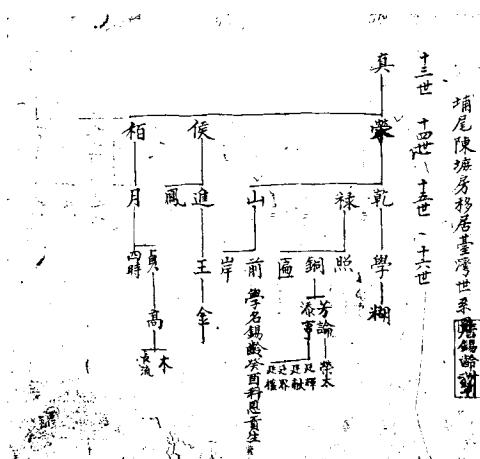


● Genealogies

<http://memory.ncl.edu.tw/>

Genealogies record the history of a family, clan and surname, and as such provide an important resource for understanding the social development, people and culture of a nation.

In 2004, the NCL began collaborating with the Genealogical Society of Utah (GSU) to copy 794 rolls of microfilm with genealogical records on Taiwan. The NCL has been digitally converting this material from 2005 to 2009. The Library has also been annotating, analyzing and compiling the digitized material into a database. The database comprised 14,075 genealogies with 940,958 pages of full-text image. This material can be freely browsed and searched online.





Books and Documents

● Official Gazettes of the Taiwan Area

<http://memory.ncl.edu.tw/>

Local documents provide an important resource for regional studies and building awareness of one's home community.

Genealogies and official gazettes are two major types of local documents. The NCL

collection includes official gazettes dating as far back as the 1680s. After World War II, the local gentry and government began to place greater importance on local records at the provincial and county levels. This interest extended into the township level after the 1970s, contributing to a significant amount of gazettes published in Taiwan.

The NCL has a rich collection of official gazettes from the Taiwan area. In 2003, the Library began to digitally convert such records dating from 1945 to the present. To date, the Library has

scanned and compiled tables of contents for over 1,159

volumes 379,000

pages of local

gazettes. This database

of information is

available to the public

for searching and

browsing.





● Pre-1949 Publications in Taiwan

<http://memory.ncl.edu.tw/>

In recent years, the NCL has intensified efforts to build up its collection of pre-1949 publications in Taiwan through acquisition, reproduction and private donations. In 2003, the library completed a "*Bibliography of Early Post-war (1945-1949) Publications in Taiwan*," with over one thousand volumes (mainly textbooks) recorded and categorized by subject (politics, society, history, and law). These resources, comprising 1,740 volumes 171,954 pages, have been digitally converted and made available online with tables of contents for each volume.





● Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan

<http://ndltd.ncl.edu.tw/>

Since 1994, the NCL has been compiling the abstracts of graduate and doctoral theses and dissertations published in Taiwan into a searchable database for readers. In March 2000, the library made this resource available for online searching and download (publications with copyright authorization only) through the Electronic Theses and Dissertations System. In June 2010, the system was renovated and renamed National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan, and on October 25 NCL formally joined the Networked Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations (NDLTD). To date it contains more than 819,000 abstracts from dissertations and theses. Digital full-text versions number 287,000, with 16,263 dissertations having full-text images. Dissertations and theses that have been granted access rights can be directly downloaded from the site. Moreover, users can search the system to find information on dissertations and theses from other NDLTD members. Currently, 100,000 users on average access the system each day, making it the most used academic research database.





● Taiwan Local Documents

<http://localdap.ncl.edu.tw/>

Local documents are records from specific places, and while preserving local culture, they are testimony to the development of the area. The National Central Library has a large selection of local documents that are valuable in preserving local histories, increasing understanding of local communities, providing educational materials, coalescing local ideas, etc. To better preserve these documents and provide remote access to them, NCL began the creation of the Image Database of Local Documents from the Taiwan Region in 2002 to digitize local documents. In 2007, search capabilities were upgraded, and the name was changed to Taiwan Local Documents Image Database. As of December 2013, the database has collected 5,523 volumes, 1,105,359 full-text images, and 5,523 metadata records. Materials collected include gazetteers and local government publications, as well as documents and images from



other agencies, such as local cultural bureau libraries, archives, cultural centers, and local historians. The database is an important asset in researching various regions in Taiwan.





Periodicals and Newspapers

● Periodicals and Newspapers in the Taiwan Area

<http://readopac.ncl.edu.tw/nclJournal/>

http://readopac.ncl.edu.tw/cgi/ncl9/m_ncl9_news

The NCL collection includes over 360 newspapers and 14,700 periodicals, including more than 5,000 with academic or research value. Between 2002 and 2013, the library digitally converted about 5,000 domestic periodicals and about 100 local newspapers.

At present, the NCL has partially or fully digitized more than 5,000 periodicals (over 24 million pages), including about 2.5 million pages of academic publications with tables of contents and





annotations. The newspaper resources of the database include over 8 million pages of digital images. The library has also integrated resources from acquired databases. The database contains 100 newspapers, including about 20 newspapers published before 1960.





Government Publications

● Government Gazettes

<http://gaz.ncl.edu.tw/>

Government gazettes are a collection of important national decrees and regulations. They are invaluable in compiling histories and listing enacted laws, fiscal measures, personnel changes, meeting minutes, etc. They also provide important information to the public in participating in formulating public policy and overseeing government action. The Library collects early government gazettes that have a high degree of historical value, as well as a rather complete collection of central and local government gazettes from 1949 onward. The Library began in January 1984 to develop an online search database. In 1994, the Library began digitizing full texts, and in 2008 it began extending its collection to include over 60 central and local government gazettes dating back to the first year of the Republic. These were included in the new Government Gazettes database. As of December 2013, the system has a total of 4,352,137 images, 1,102,660 metadata records, and 354,993 electronic full-text documents. More is continuously being added. This website, with

its simple and advanced search capabilities, title browsing, and full-text files, allows users to effectively know what new government laws, decrees, and policies have been enacted. This helps with the publicizing and circulation of government information.





● Government Statistics

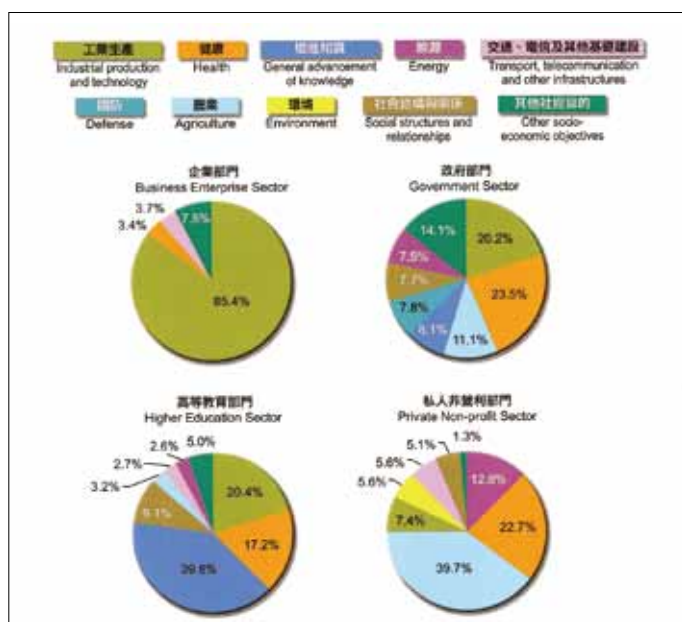
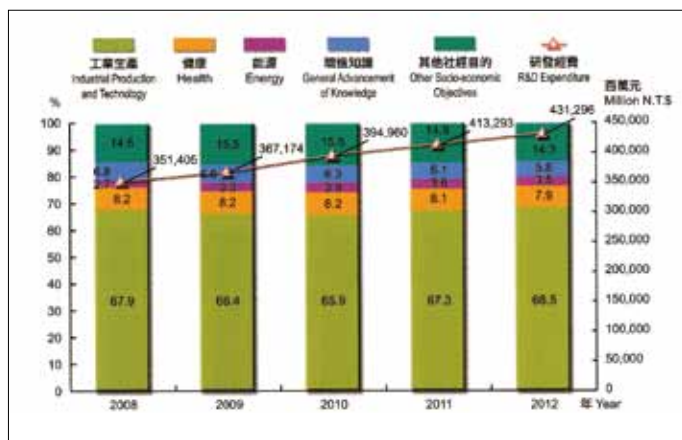
<http://stat.ncl.edu.tw/>

Statistical data is an important means of showing the effectiveness of government policies. The Library collects annual statistical reports, survey reports, and studies from all departments and divisions of the Legislative Yuan, Judicial Yuan, Control Yuan, Examination Yuan, and Executive Yuan, as well as county and city governments. In 1998, the Library began a statistical database. In 2010, the Library started scanning all materials, which resulted in an additional 600 sources on statistics. These were integrated into the current Government Statistics database, which includes data on medicine and health, traffic and shipping, education and culture, the national economy, finance, human resources, social welfare, labor-capital relations, and the environment. As of December 2013, a total of 1,872,355 pages and 526,312 metadata records have been created. More is continuously being added. The database enables users to have the newest inter-organizational data made available through simple, normal, and advanced search





options as well as browsing by date or title in image form. It also provides explanations of terms commonly used in government statistics and links to other resources to help the public make the most of this information.





● Government Publications

<http://sgp.ncl.edu.tw/>

In preserving government documents and providing resources for modern history research, NCL began digitizing annual reports,

reports, chronicles, general historical surveys, collected items, and special projects by central and local governments ranging from 1945 through the 1990. In 2009, NCL created a database called Selection of Government Publications at the NCL. As of December 2013, there were a total of



454,141 pages and 4,152 metadata records. Users can access this material via browsing by title or date, or through simple, normal, advanced searches. Full-text images can be read online, printed, or downloaded. This database effectively preserves pre-1990 government publications and makes them available to the public. It also provides publication information for related materials in the “*A Guide to Selections of Government Publications at the NCL*,” outlining the publication of government documents to aid in the collection of resources in researching contemporary history.





Illustrations and Photographs

● Photographs of 19th Century Taiwan

<http://memory.ncl.edu.tw/>

The NCL collection contains photos taken by western photographers in Taiwan during the 19th century, providing an invaluable record of the scenery and society of Taiwan in earlier times. The main source of these photographs is the following two volumes in the library collection:





- *Edouard Thomas Charton, Le Tour du Monde: Nouveau Journal des Voyages, Paris: Librairie Hachette, 1875*
- *George Leslie Mackay, From far Formosa: The Island, its People and Missions, Edinburgh: O. Anderson & Ferrier, 1896*

The NCL has scanned and web-published 37 photographs from these two volumes to open a window to Taiwan in the 19th century.



● Postcards of Taiwan in the Japanese Occupation Period

<http://memory.ncl.edu.tw/>



The NCL has more than 4,000 Taiwan-related postcards produced during the Japanese occupation period. The postcards depict a broad range of subjects, including government buildings and public facilities, portraits of daily life and customs, local industries, and the Taiwan Expo.

The postcard images of daily life focus on aboriginal communities, while the local industry photographs cover duck raising, tea farming, sugar production, orchid growing and other agricultural scenes. These images provide an important

record of life and economic development in early Taiwan.

All of the postcards in the library collection have been digitally converted and made available for public online browsing through the Taiwan Memory website.





● Class Books from the Japanese Occupation Period

<http://memory.ncl.edu.tw/>

During the 51 years of the Japanese administration of Taiwan (1895~1945) schools at all levels in Taiwan published class books recording student photographs and name lists along with school activities and histories. The NCL collection includes over 30 such publications, the oldest dating back to 1933, providing an overview of educational development in Taiwan.



All of the Japanese-era class books in the NCL collection have been digitally converted and can be viewed from the Taiwan Memory website.





● Liberty Lottery Tickets

<http://memory.ncl.edu.tw/>

Taiwan's "Liberty Lottery" ran from April 30, 1950, to December 27, 1987, with a total of 1,171 lottery ticket issues during that time. The lottery helped the government fund critical development projects during a difficult period for Taiwan, while also creating ticket selling jobs for the disadvantaged. The ticket illustrations varied with each issue and covered a range of historical and social themes. The tickets also open a window to the political, economic and cultural development of Taiwan over a nearly 40-year period

The NCL has a full collection of mint-condition Liberty Lottery tickets generously donated by collector Li Shih-lin in 1991. The tickets are preserved in the library's Special Collection and can be viewed in digital form online via the Taiwan Memory website





● Art and Cultural Posters

<http://twinfo.ncl.edu.tw/poster/>

The NCL began digitally converting its collection of art and cultural posters in 2007. These images have been compiled along with descriptions of the poster subject for online access.





The posters span a period of over 30 years and record a wide variety of art and cultural performances, exhibits, fairs, seminars and other activities. As of December 2013, a total of 9,540 images and metadata can be searched by event themes, sponsors, performers, event venues, event time, and event type. Through their content, design and means of production, the posters provide an important resource for understanding the development of art and culture in Taiwan in modern times.



AV Resources

● Digital Television News

<http://dava.ncl.edu.tw/>



Audio-visual materials are one of the most important productions of the 20th century but are not easily preserved.

NCL has many types of audio-video materials, including over 50,000 VHS tapes, cassette tapes, and vinyl records. Starting in 2002, the digitization of these materials began. In addition to digitizing its own audio-visual materials, NCL also worked with TV and radio stations to digitize and preserve historically significant audio-visual materials. Some of the most noteworthy include daily news from Taiwan Television Enterprise (TTV) from 1962 to 2011, as well as recordings of important political and economic figures from the 1910s to the 1980s (such as Dr. Sun Yat-sen, Chiang Kai-shek and other presidents). There are also recordings of interviews of foreign dignitaries, speeches of prominent people in society, and radio dramas. As of December 2013, NCL's Digital Audio

Visual Archive System had already over 458,000 metadata records, and over 500,000 streaming files. The files are accessible either onsite in NCL or over the Internet, depending on the access rights granted.





2 Digital Collection Websites



1. Ancient Books and Special Collection Resources

<http://rbook2.ncl.edu.tw/>

Content: Chinese rare books



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2. Bronze and Stone Rubbings Database

<http://rarebook.ncl.edu.tw/gold/>

Content: Bronze and stone rubbings





3. Contemporary Celebrities' Manuscripts

<http://manu.ncl.edu.tw/nclmanuscriptc/nclmanukm/>

Content: Manuscripts



4. PerioPath: Index to Taiwan Periodical Literature System

<http://readopac.ncl.edu.tw/nclJournal/>

Content: Periodical



5. Taiwan Newspaper Info Web

http://readopac.ncl.edu.tw/cgi/ncl9/m_ncl9_news/

Content: Newspapers





6. National Digital Library of Theses and Dissertations in Taiwan

<http://ndltd.ncl.edu.tw/>

Content: Graduate and doctoral dissertations



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7. National Central Library Gazette Online

<http://gaz.ncl.edu.tw/>

Content: Central and local government gazettes





8. Government Statistics

<http://stat.ncl.edu.tw/>

Content: Central and local government statistics and survey reports

政府統計資訊網
Government Statistics

About Us

National Central Library has a wide range of statistics and surveys published by the government that are free high speed access. In 1996, it set up a government statistical database to facilitate readers' needs.

Content: Composed of statistical annuals, special reports, and survey reports issued by the central and local governments.

Contributing Agencies: Legislative Yuan, Judicial Yuan, Examination Yuan, Control Yuan, Executive Yuan, and their affiliated ministries and commissions, and local governments at county and municipal levels.

Topics: health care, medicine & hygiene, transportation, education & culture, national economy, banking & finance, rural industries, social welfare, labor & employment, agriculture & crimes, geographic environment, etc.

The database offers 7 search modes: quick search, basic search, & advanced search. Searches can be limited according to publication dates, publication titles, statistical reports & dispatches, new arrivals, and the latest statistical figures & titles. In order to provide better publication information, we established the Statistical Publication Guide to present a general overview of statistical & emergent data published or digital information uploaded by the government. We also provide search interface and links to 1 definitions of government statistical terms. This system provides increased public access to government statistical information.

The system has the following features:

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9. Selection of Government Publications at the NCL

<http://sgp.ncl.edu.tw/>

Content: Government publications from the 1945 to 1990

館藏政府出版物選輯
Selection of Government Publications at the NCL

館藏政府出版物選輯

本館特將1945年以來，中央及地方各級政府所出版之各項政府出版物，彙編成「館藏政府出版物選輯」，以呈現政府出版之全貌。本選輯共分五卷，分別為：第一卷：中央及地方各級政府所出版之各項政府出版物；第二卷：中央及地方各級政府所出版之各項政府出版物；第三卷：中央及地方各級政府所出版之各項政府出版物；第四卷：中央及地方各級政府所出版之各項政府出版物；第五卷：中央及地方各級政府所出版之各項政府出版物。



10. Taiwan Memory

<http://memory.ncl.edu.tw/>

Content: Pictures, photographs, books, documents, historical materials, news videos



11. Taiwan Local Documents Image Database

<http://localdap.ncl.edu.tw/>

Content: local publications and gazetteers





12. Artistic Poster from Taiwan

<http://twinfo.ncl.edu.tw/poster/>

Content: Artistic performances, exhibitions, and posters from academic events



13. Digital Audio Video Archive System

<http://dava.ncl.edu.tw/>

Content: Audio recordings of historical figures, news videos, academic talks, radio plays, local plays, documentaries, and records of performances





14. E-Publication Platform System (EPS)

<http://ebook.ncl.edu.tw/>

Content: E-book



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15. Web Archive Taiwan

<http://webarchive.ncl.edu.tw/>

Content: Archived websites of outstanding sites that have historical and cultural significance





國家圖書館

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