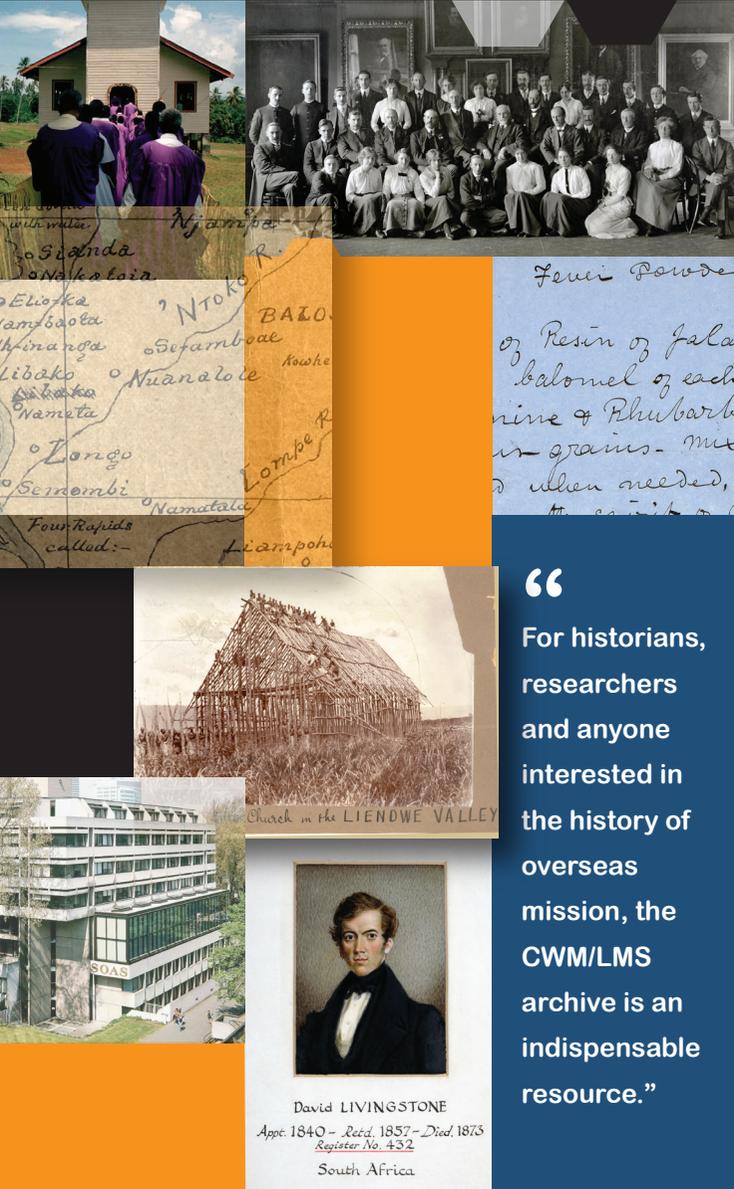


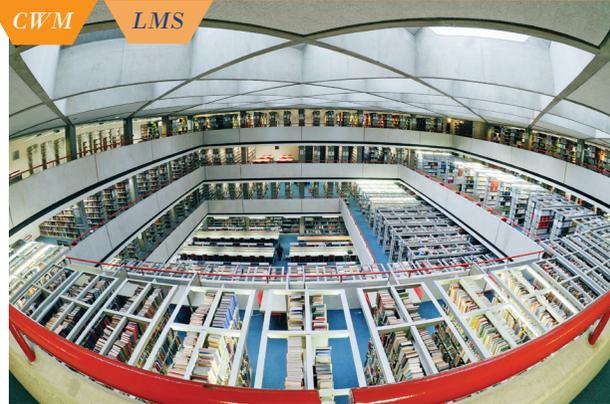
## The Collections



“  
 For historians,  
 researchers  
 and anyone  
 interested in  
 the history of  
 overseas  
 mission, the  
 CWM/LMS  
 archive is an  
 indispensable  
 resource.”



David LIVINGSTONE  
 Appt. 1840 - Recd. 1857 - Died, 1873  
 Register No. 432  
 South Africa



SOAS Library



"Madagascar in the archives", focus group at SOAS Library, October 2013



Saturday night 'Street Pastors', Oxford, UK, 2010



The youth choir leads the procession from the Moffat Church (in background) to the print room' [Moffat Mission Station, Kuruman, South Africa]. No date.

Housed at SOAS Library, University of London, since 1973, the archives of the Council for World Mission are a unique historical resource for the study of the global spread of the Christian faith over the last 200 years, used by academic researchers, family historians, churches and communities from around the world.

Documenting the work of European missionaries in many parts of Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Caribbean, records in the archive span the whole history of the organisation - from the foundation of the London Missionary Society

London Missionary Society flag

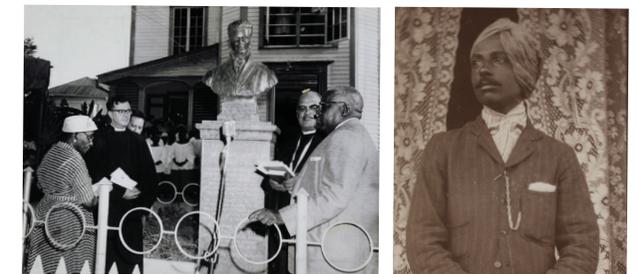


in 1795, to the creation of the Council for World Mission in 1977 and include its records into the present day. As such, they trace the transition from a traditional missionary society of the colonial period, through the growth of independent churches, to CWM's postcolonial model of partnership of churches in mission where missionaries go 'from everywhere to everywhere'.

The archive incorporates records of the Council's predecessor bodies - the London Missionary Society (1795-1966), the Commonwealth (formerly Colonial) Missionary Society (1836-1966) and the English Presbyterian Mission (1843-1972).



(L) Nurse at the Red Cross Hospital, Changsha, Hunan, China, c.1940s  
 (R) Khama, Chief of the Bamangwato [baNgwato], 1872-1923, Bechuanaland Protectorate [later Botswana], and London Missionary Society Treasurer, Sir Albert Spicer, at Khama's capital, Serowe, 1907.



(L) Unveiling a bust of the missionary, John Smith, at Smith Memorial Congregational Church, Guyana, c.1960  
 (R) Teacher, Jammalamadugu, Andhra Pradesh, India, c.1910

# Accessing the Archives

enquiry

visit

The Council for World Mission archives are available for consultation in the Special Collections Reading Room, SOAS Library. Please contact SOAS to arrange a visit or make a research enquiry.

contact



SOAS Library building

**Email:** [docenquiry@soas.ac.uk](mailto:docenquiry@soas.ac.uk)  
**Phone:** +44 (0)20 7898 4180  
**Postal address:**  
 Archives and Special Collections  
 SOAS Library  
 Thornhaugh Street  
 Russell Square  
 London, WC1H 0XG, UK

Details of services offered by Archives and Special Collections, SOAS Library, can be found at:

<http://www.soas.ac.uk/library/archives/services>

Catalogue records for the CWM archives are available on the SOAS Archive Catalogue at:

<http://archives.soas.ac.uk/CalmView>

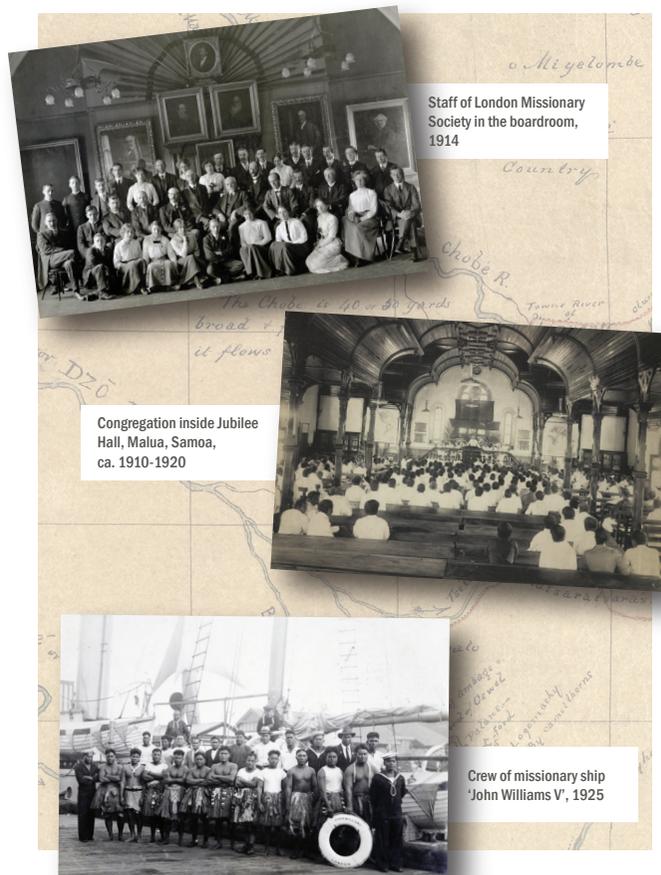
More information about the Council for World Mission can be found at: <http://www.cwmission.org>

# Missionary Archives

people

places

Missionaries were meticulous record-keepers, and their archives are full of observations about the places and peoples that they encountered. They comment on mission work in light of the social, cultural, political and economic landscapes of the regions in which they worked. That gives their records broad historical significance and interest.



Staff of London Missionary Society in the boardroom, 1914

Congregation inside Jubilee Hall, Malua, Samoa, ca. 1910-1920

Crew of missionary ship 'John Williams V', 1925

# Collection Highlights

reports

maps

films

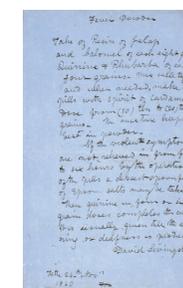


Image from Album of 'Company' paintings of occupations and festivals, Southern India, c.1830s-1840s

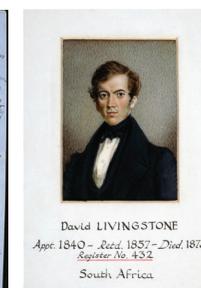
The collections comprise a wealth of printed and primary source material, such as correspondence, reports, minutes, journals, maps, photographs and films.

**Highlights include:**

- Original handwritten letters and reports from missionaries, indigenous converts and co-workers
- Personal papers of key individuals in the missionary movement of the 19th and 20th centuries, including letters and maps by David Livingstone
- A collection of early miniature portraits
- Thousands of photographs, slides, filmstrips and digitised film footage (1930s-1970s)
- A reference library comprising over 13,000 published books and pamphlets, including periodicals, magazines, reports, translations and resources written for children



(L-R) Livingstone's recipe for 'Fever Powder', 1860, Miniature portrait of David Livingstone, c.1840, CWM leaflet, 1977



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