

‘Your Caribbean Heritage’
An ongoing project at The National Archives of the UK



Letters and reports from the governors of former British colonies in the Caribbean, dating from the 17th century to the 1960s, contain a wealth of information about the islands and mainland territories and their peoples. They cover many topics, including the transatlantic slave trade, struggles against slavery and colonialism, political conflicts and developments, trade unionism, and the role of West Indian soldiers in the First World War and other conflicts. Many have been described in our online catalogue (available at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/catalogue) and this work is being continued by volunteers, many of whom have Caribbean ancestry. Would you like to help?

Volunteers will start with documents dating from the late 19th and early 20th centuries, but once some initial experience is gained from these, you can move onto an earlier period. As a Volunteer you shall be dealing with original documents that must be handled with care and you will be entering information from the documents into Word templates which, after checking, will be uploaded into The National Archives catalogue accessible via our website. The cataloguing of this material will be of lasting value to present and future researchers. Our project co-ordinators will show you everything you need to know in order to catalogue the material and are available for ongoing guidance and advice should you require it. If you are interested in volunteering for this project please contact The Volunteers Team at volunteer@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk

alternatively you can phone us on (020)88763444

An exhibition has been created to showcase some of these documents. **Caribbean Histories Revealed** is an online exhibition giving an overview of the history of the British Caribbean as gained from the records. It explores the movement of people, Caribbean identities, slavery and negotiating freedom, society and welfare, the Caribbean and the wider world, and twentieth century transitions. It can be seen at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/caribbeanhistory.

The National Archives