12. Archives, Libraries, and Bibliography

in the History of Meteorology Prior to 1900

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Bibliographical tools and guides are important components for promoting research in the history of meteorology and related fields. The International Commission on the History of Meteorology (http://www.colby.edu/ichm), founded in 2001 in Mexico City, hopes to assist scholars by noting materials in printed, manuscript, cartographic and electronic formats, international in scope, and culled from disciplines as diverse as medicine, geography, agriculture, economics, literature, art, and the popular press on its website. The citations below are meant to be the initial effort at presenting these resources. Suggestions and additions are most welcomed, and can be sent to the ICHM website.

Starting Points

—Organizes in a systematic manner the most fruitful sources of references to literature on meteorology, climatology, and related fields.

—Provides general resource sites, biographies, history of organizations and institutions, subject histories, online journals and museums and online exhibitions.
—Brings together a broad range of historical citations difficult to find in any one volume.

—A new edition of the *Bibliography of Meteorology*, issued as a 4 volume set in 1889-1891. Copies of the original edition are quite scarce and very fragile. Included are 16,000 references on temperature, moisture, winds and storms. Articles in each subject are arranged chronologically and in their original languages. There is a good table of contents and author index. This is the major bibliographic resource on the atmospheric sciences prior to the *Meteorological and Geo-astrophysical Abstracts* that began publication in 1950.

—Repertory of German meteorology. Achievements of Germans in writings, inventions and observations in the sphere of meteorology and terrestrial magnetism from very ancient times up to the close of the year 1881.


—Contents:

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—Valuable index to the publications of learned societies of various countries from the time of the founding of each society to 1800.

—Author index, for the entire 19th century, to 1,555 periodicals in various languages including the transactions of the European academies and other learned societies.

—A valuable but hard to find compilation, this source book documents meteorological problems from the ancient world to the early twentieth century. Extensive quotes from original sources are provided, including Aristotle, Bacon, Boyle, Hadley, Dalton, Margules, and many others. The volume ends with a topical bibliography of over eighty pages, and a thirty-two page biographical index.

**Area Resources**

—Meteorological data for Central America and Mexico during the second half of the 19th century. E-mail: eterna_primavera@hotmail.com

Climatic Research Unit, University of East Anglia. *Global land and marine surface temperature from 1856 to 1999*. (http://www.cru.uea.ac.uk/)
—The time series shows the combined record. Compiled jointly by the Climate Research Unit, UEA and the UK Met. Office

History of Meteorology in India. (http://www.imd.ernet.in/doc/history/history.htm).
—Site of the India Meteorological Department.

—Information on activities, publications, library resources, and profiles of notable meteorologists.
Congresses & Conferences

—An important overview on the development of meteorology throughout the world, as well as, historical bibliographical essays.

—The first conference held in Norwich in 1979, brought together, for the first time, climate scientists, social and economic historians, and historical geographers.

—Leading goal was to open a dialogue on the complementary research of climatologists and historians.

Library & Archival Resources

American Institute of Physics, Center for History of Physics. The International Catalog of Sources for History of Physics and Allied Sciences. (http://www.aip.org/history/icos.htm).
—A catalog of information on the locations and contents of collections of archival materials, such as unpublished correspondence and institutional records, around the world. It is an ongoing project to gather and provide computer-readable, indexed information on holdings in libraries and other institutions, and to share the data with the major online catalog, the Research Libraries Group (RLG), Research Libraries Information Network (RLIN) and Archives and Manuscripts Collections. For details on these resources see (http://www.rlg.org).

—Strong on Caribbean data

EURO-CLIMHIST. (http://www.cx.unibe.ch/hist/fru/fru-ech.htm)
—This database set up by C. Pfister at the Institute of History, University of Bern, Switzerland, comprises 600,000 data for the period from AD 750 to the beginning of the period of instrumental networks. More than 40 countries are included. All weather observations are connected with carefully made bibliographical documentation including source texts and are bound to distinct observation places.


Pfister, Christian, et al. *Geografia d’Europa: textos de suport. Documentary evidence on climate in sixteenth-century Europe.* (http://www.ub.es/medame/climaXVI.html) —The known documentary evidence from six European countries, Switzerland, Germany, the Czech Republic, ancient Hungary, Italy and Spain is presented and classified. See EURO-CLIMHIST site for additional resources that Pfister and his Institute of History, University of Bern, Switzerland have gathered on climate data.

**Meteorology & Agriculture**


**Weather Events in the Press**

Earle, W.H., ed. *Niles’ Register: Cumulative Index, 1811-1849*. Malvern, PA., Accessible Archives, Inc. 1990. —CD-ROM edition of the printed volumes of *Niles’* which provides international coverage on the impact of weather events. Articles are in English and extracted from newspapers, government reports and periodicals.

*Pennsylvania Gazette, 1728-1800.* Malvern, PA, Accessible Archives, Inc, 1995. (http://www.accessible.com). —CD-ROM full text of the most important 18th century North American newspaper. During and after Benjamin Franklin’s ownership of the paper, weather events are given much coverage. This data is also available online by subscription.