Digital Research Aids

Research aids for conducting provenance research into colonial collections

The research aids are constantly under construction and therefore subject to changes.

On March 20, 2025, an initial presentation of the digital research aids took place at Spui25 in Amsterdam. You can watch a recording of the event via the Spui25 website.

On this page you can find various research aids that can assist you in doing (provenance) research on colonial collections. The research aids contain information about conducting research on objects that were acquired in a colonial context and which are currently part of museum collections in the Netherlands. Besides a brief description of the subject, the research aids provide specific research tips and references to relevant source material.

We are curious about your thoughts on the digital research aids. Therefore, we have created a questionnaire. The form allows you to provide any feedback or additional information.

Provenance research into colonial collections

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- _see also: [Select and delineate](niveau1/English/SelectAndD
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- *see also: Doing research*
- *see also: Sources*
- *see also: Reporting*
- *see also: The Dutch restitution policy*

Topics

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- _see also: [Persons](published/niveau2/English/Persons_20250
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- *see also: Museums and collection holding institutions*
- *see also: Civil servants in colonised territories*
- *see also: The trade in objects from a colonial context*
- *see also: Army and navy personnel in colonised territories*
- *see also: Scientific research in colonised territories*
- *see also: Christian missionaries in colonised territories*

Locations

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- _see also: [Aruba, Bonaire and Curaçao](niveau2/English/Arub
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- *see also: Saba, Sint Eustatius and Sint Maarten*

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