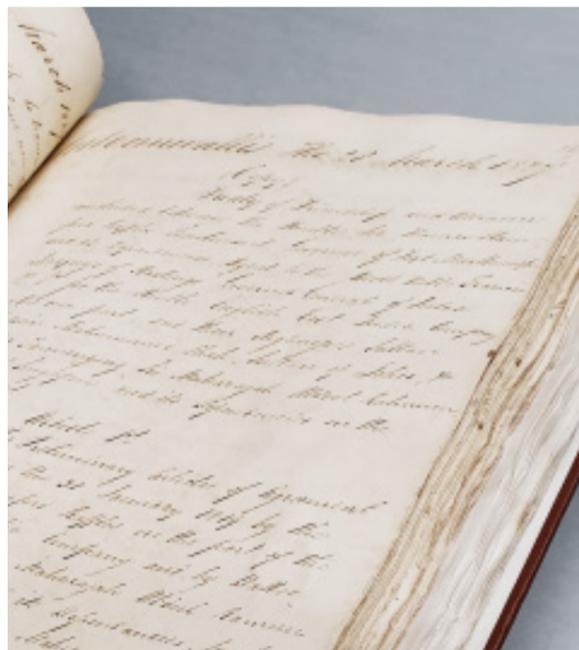


Exhibition Highlights



Scribal copy of 1819 Treaty of Friendship and Alliance (also known as the Treaty of Singapore)
Copy made in 1827
Collection of National Archives of Singapore SSR A33

This handwritten copy of the 1819 Treaty of Friendship and Alliance was signed on 6 February 1819 between Stamford Raffles, representing the British East India Company (EIC), and Singapore's Malay rulers, Sultan Husain and Temenggung Abdul Rahman.

The treaty granted the EIC the exclusive right to lease a plot of land to set up a "British factory". Following the Anglo-Dutch Treaty in 1824, a new treaty was signed between the EIC and Singapore's Malay rulers that ceded full sovereignty of the island to the EIC.



The Bute Map, c. 1820
Courtesy of The Bute Archive at Mount Stuart

Known as the Bute Map, this earliest known landward map of Singapore was likely commissioned within the first year of the establishment of a British trading post in Singapore. It provides a remarkable view of the early development of the settlement.



View From the Mouth of the Singapore River, 1830
Sketch by François-Edmond Pâris
Engraved by Sigismond Himley
Paris, 1835
Collection of National Library, Singapore

This coloured edition of an engraved print by French printer Sigismond Himley originated from an early sketch by François-Edmond Pâris, the official artist on board the French corvette *La Favorite*, which visited Singapore in 1830. This print is a valuable record of the buildings along South Boat Quay, where warehouses once lined the stone banks of the river and workers transported goods to and from the docks.



Contrafactur des Scharmutz els der Hollander wider die Portugesen in dem Flus Batusabar..., 1606
Johann Theodore and Johann Israel de Bry
Collection of National Library, Singapore

This map presents a schematic depiction of a series of battles that took place in the Johor River and the Singapore Straits in the opening days of October 1603.

It portrays the first major confrontation between the Portuguese and the Dutch for control over the Singapore Straits region and is one of the earliest depictions of Singapore's eastern shoreline.



Chart Featuring the Melaka and Singapore Straits, c. 1654
André Pereira dos Reis
Courtesy of Maritime Museum Rotterdam

This is a hand-drawn chart of the southern part of the Malay Peninsula depicting the Singapore Straits. It is ascribed to the Portuguese cartographer André Pereira dos Reis. A place called Xebandaria (Shahbandaria) - a harbour master's compound - is marked out on the island of Singapore. This place name confirms the presence of a port in 17th century Singapore prior to the arrival of the British.

National Library Building
100 Victoria Street
Singapore 188064

Operating Hours
Monday to Sunday
10.00am - 9.00pm
(except public holidays)



The information stated in this brochure is correct at the time of printing. The National Library, Singapore reserves the right to make changes to the programmes without prior notice.

On Paper

Singapore Before 1867



About the Exhibition

On Paper: Singapore Before 1867 features over 150 paper-based artefacts that tell the story of Singapore's early history - from a 17th-century Portuguese navigational chart that points to the existence of a Shahbandar (harbour master) on Singapore island to the key document that established

the Straits Settlements as a Crown Colony of Britain on 1 April 1867.

Through carefully preserved records from the collections of the National Library, National Archives of Singapore and overseas institutions, **On Paper** presents a rare treat to all who are interested in our nation's past.

From now until
22 March 2020

Level 10, Gallery
National Library Building

Guided Tours

Join our curator- or docent-led tours and discover fascinating stories from Singapore's rich history.

Curator's Tours

23 Jan, 20 Feb, 19 Mar 2020
Time: 7.00pm - 8.00pm

Meeting point: Level 10, Gallery entrance

Free admission. Tours will be conducted in English.
Register at www.nlb.gov.sg/golibrary

Public Tours

English | 2.00pm - 3.00pm

周末导览

华语讲解 | 下午3时至4时

Meeting point: Level 10, Gallery entrance
集合地点: 于国家图书馆大厦10楼展厅门口

Led by docents. Free admission. First-come, first-served basis.
由义务导览员带领。入场免费, 人数有限, 先到先得。

4, 5, 11, 12, 18 & 19 Jan 2020

1月 4/5/11/12/18/19日

8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 23 & 29 Feb 2020

2月 8/9/15/16/22/23/29日

1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 21 & 22 Mar 2020

3月 1/7/8/14/15/21/22日

Private Tours

Interested schools or organisations can email visitnls@nlb.gov.sg for more details on private tours.
Book early to secure a tour slot!

Programmes



Photo: Lianhe Zaobao

[Encore] On Paper: A Special Maps Tour

10 Jan & 13 Mar 2020 (Conducted in English)
21 Feb 2020 (Conducted in Mandarin)
7.00pm - 8.00pm
Level 10, Gallery Entrance
(Meeting point)

A reprisal of his specially curated tour of **On Paper**, join Mok Ly Yng as he highlights a selection of historical maps of Singapore.

These maps include the Mao Kun Map (commonly known as the Zheng He Navigational Map), which dates back to the 1620s and is the only known map that uses the name 'Temasek'; an original copy of the first map showing the true shape and size of Singapore produced by Captain James Franklin of the Bengal Cavalry in 1822; and an 1868 map that features the detailed distribution of gambier plantations across the island.

Thomson's Maps of Singapore

16 Jan 2020 | 7.00pm - 8.00pm
Level 5, Possibility Room

John Turnbull Thomson (1821 - 1884) served as Government Surveyor of the Straits Settlements from 1841 to 1853. He made numerous contributions to Singapore during his 12 years on the island, such as producing maps of early Singapore and the design and construction of buildings and public infrastructure.

In this presentation, Mok Ly Yng will review Thomson's mapping work in Singapore chronologically, highlighting selected items and maps. Mok will also examine the legacy of Thomson's surveys and maps.

Mok Ly Yng is a map research consultant with more than 20 years' experience in the field. He has worked in the Singapore Armed Forces Mapping Unit as well as the National Archives of Singapore. He has provided mapping consultancy to several map exhibitions, books and heritage projects and has given numerous talks.



Wilkes Expedition: The Remarkable Story of the Last All-Sail Naval Squadron to Circumnavigate the World and its Stop in Singapore

18 Jan 2020 | 11.00am - 12.30pm
Level 5, Possibility Room

Join Dr Vidya Schalk as she takes us on the extraordinary journey of the Wilkes Expedition, the last all-sail powered naval squadron to circumnavigate the globe from 1838 to 1842. The expedition visited Singapore in 1842 and along the way picked up rare Malay and Bugis manuscripts among other documents, including several letters addressed to William Farquhar.

Dr Vidya Schalk is trained as a research scientist and has a unique background that combines science, art and history. Besides being a docent at various museums in Singapore, including the Asian Civilisations Museum, National Museum of Singapore, STPI and National Gallery, Vidya also teaches at Nanyang Technological University, Singapore. Her interest in scientific explorations has led her to research 19th century naval expeditions.

Flip to find out more



From now until 22 Mar 2020
Level 1, Lobby, National Library Building

Curiosity explores one of Singapore's most iconic and historical districts - Raffles Place. **Curiosity** presents photographs, books, building plans, archival footage as well as oral history records that explore the evolution of and memories associated with the city's commercial centre.



From now until 24 Mar 2020
Various Public Libraries
Learn more from www.exhibitions.nlb.gov.sg

The earliest records of Singapore's existence can be found in maps and charts dating as far back as the 1400s. However, as early map makers were often unfamiliar with the region, misspellings and misidentifications abounded, resulting in much confusion as to Singapore's precise location and proper name. **An island by any other name...** explores the various incarnations and names of Singapore on early maps from the collection of the National Library.

Organised by:



Moving People and the Making of the Colonial Malay World, 1784-1871

15 Feb 2020 | 11.00am - 12.00pm
Level 5, Possibility Room

Join Assistant Professor Koh Keng We as he examines mobility in the making of the colonial Malay world, and explores the paper trail behind the mapping of people movements to reframe the historiography of the region beyond nation and colony.

Koh Keng We is an assistant professor at the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Nanyang Technological University. While at Seoul National University, he was the head of its Southeast Asia programme in the Department of Asian Languages and Civilization (2013-2014) and assistant professor in the Department of Asian History (2011-2014).



Archives Unlocked: Highlights of the Straits Settlements Records Exhibits

18 Feb 2020 | 7.00pm - 8.00pm
Level 3, Oldham Theatre
National Archives of Singapore

Join archivists Christabel Khoo and Fiona Tan as they share highlights from the Straits Settlements Records currently on display at the exhibition.

Christabel Khoo is an assistant archivist with the Records Management department. She worked on the selection of records for **On Paper**, and previously oversaw the Citizen Archivist Project, where these handwritten manuscripts continue to engage new researchers today.

Fiona Tan is an archivist with the Archives Reading Room, where she oversees the provision of reference services to the public. She particularly enjoys discussing with users how to conduct research into this 170-volume set of handwritten manuscript records from the Straits Settlements.



Exclusive Giveaways

Stand a chance to win a limited copy of the publication *On Paper: Singapore Before 1867* and/or exclusive jigsaw puzzle sets, only available at the National Library!

Follow us on any of our social media platforms to find out about our latest giveaways.

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The information in this brochure is not exhaustive. For more information on our current and new programmes, please visit www.exhibitions.nlb.gov.sg

Admission to programmes is free and open to all unless otherwise stated. Seats are limited on a first-come, first-served basis.

Please register at www.nlb.gov.sg/golibrary

Unless otherwise stated, all programmes will be held at the National Library Building (100 Victoria Street, Singapore 188064).