



Centre for the Study of the

Legacies of British Slave-ownership

www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs

Newsletter December 2018

The LBS database

Since its inception, we have continuously updated the LBS database, adding new material each day from our own work and from the contributions of hundreds of family and local historians. As we have added the material it has appeared directly on the public website at www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs.

In future, we will be moving to a new model, in which we will stabilize the database and release new information publicly in a formal series of updates. We are making this change because as the project matures it has become clear to us that researchers need the ability to specify which version of the database has been used to generate a given set of results from interrogating it. Academic scholars in particular need to be able to cite the database in references that would allow other researchers to replicate the results. The LBS team itself also intends for a period to spend more time on analysis and dissemination of results and less on the accumulation of new raw information. A continuously evolving database militates against both of these.

As of Monday 31 December 2018, therefore, we will freeze the public database in its then state, as the LBS Database 2018. Our aim subsequently is to issue updates each year, usually in the January following each effective cut-off date, so that in January 2020 for example we will release LBS Database 2019, together with a commentary on the major additions made in the course of the year to 31 December 2019.

We have greatly benefited from the generosity of many individuals in contributing information to us, and we want both to maintain our existing relationships with contributors and to add new ones. We will continue to incorporate these contributions into our work, but contributors will not see the results immediately in the public database: they will instead form part of the annual updates. At the same time, as we turn to place more emphasis on our own work of analysis and on the dissemination of results, it is likely that our response-time to contributors will increase and the extent to which we can enter into detailed exchanges might diminish. We greatly appreciate the patience and understanding of our community of users and contributors as we implement these changes.

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Legacies of British Slave-ownership website. At the top, there is a navigation bar with the title 'Legacies of British Slave-ownership' and the UCL logo. Below the navigation bar, there is a main content area with a central text block and a small illustration of two men in 18th-century attire. To the right of the central text, there are four main navigation buttons: 'Search the Database', 'Browse the Estates', 'Browse the Maps', and 'Browse the Legacies'. Each button has a brief description of its function. The 'Search the Database' button includes a search input field and a 'SEARCH' button. The 'Browse the Estates' button describes exploring the ownership of plantations and estates in the British Caribbean. The 'Browse the Maps' button describes where possible, the addresses of British slave-owners and of estates in Jamaica, Barbados and Grenada have been located and mapped. The 'Browse the Legacies' button has two sub-sections: 'COMMERCIAL' (Evolution of firms receiving slave compensation and their redeployment of slave wealth into other investments) and 'CULTURAL' (The role of British slave-owners as connoisseurs and collectors, as mentioned in the text below the button).

LBS homepage: www.ucl.ac.uk/lbs



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HA Fellowship

LBS is jointly running a [Historical Association Fellowship](#) for secondary school teachers that will begin in April 2019. There are 15 places available on a three-day residential course which will be followed by an eight-week online course.

Participants will explore a range of sources and interpretations that can be used to develop meaningful and engaging approaches to teaching about the circumstances, experiences and consequences of African enslavement in the Atlantic world.

The programme is open to all secondary school history teachers with a minimum of four years' teaching experience. For more information and an application form see [here](#). The deadline for applications is Friday 1 February 2019.

The Long Song

The BBC's adaptation of [Andrea Levy's](#) award-winning novel *The Long Song* began on BBC1 at 9pm yesterday with subsequent episodes tonight and Thursday.

The Long Song is the fictional memoir of July, an enslaved woman in early nineteenth-century Jamaica, her relationships with family and slave-owners and her experiences through the Baptist War of 1831, Emancipation and beyond.



Tamara Lawrance as July

See [here](#) for more on the BBC adaptation and [here](#) for an interview with Tamara Lawrance who plays July. An adaptation of Andrea Levy's novel *Small Island* is also available for UK viewers on BBC iPlayer [here](#).

Slavery, culture and collecting

The [latest display](#) in the [London, Sugar and Slavery](#) gallery at the Museum of London Docklands highlights the connection of slavery of some of Britain's oldest cultural organisations through its focus on the slave-owner [George Hibbert](#).

The display contains a short film, as well as objects from the collection to encourage further debate around this challenging issue.