

GRACIOUS  
Please your Majesty,  
the President, Council,  
leave to approach your Majesty  
the grievous loss which your  
ed through the death of our rever  
ing whose beneficent reign the science  
n of which her Majesty granted the Soc  
made immense progress.  
with gratitude the leading part which you  
Prince Consort, took in securing the extensi  
n this country, and especially the great  
the foundation, in the year 1845, of the  
ince developed into the Royal College of  
ame the President.  
respectfully to congratulate your Majesty  
e, and most heartily to wish your Maj  
us reign.  
re to express the hope that your reign  
n the science we represent not less  
characterised the reign of her late Ma  
to practically univers

that chemists be urged  
s extension.

emists, the Committee do  
ronouncement on  
stem of

... having the  
... of Council be cons  
... that each member be allowed to int  
... to the meetings of the Society, with  
... of the members introducing them  
... in a book, to be prepared for  
... that such names shall be subm  
... to the sanction of the meeting, by the Chairm  
... for the carrying—  
... That if any paper be sent to the Society, when  
... author may wish to publish in any journal, or  
... consulting, in such publications, he specifying  
... paper was read before the Chemical Society  
... the date of such meeting, & that the Soc  
... shall publish such commun  
... proceedings, or transactions—  
11<sup>th</sup> March 1842

# The Historical Collection

## A new digital archive

<http://rsc.li/historical>



# Unlock chemistry's past... and help to shape its future

Founded in 1841 as the Chemical Society, the Royal Society of Chemistry is one of the oldest and most eminent chemical societies in the world. In our collections, thousands of books, journals, letters, notes and pamphlets contain a valuable and fascinating chronicle of chemical science from the 16th century to the present day.

**The Historical Collection** is a digital archive designed to make these significant scientific records widely available. Featuring over 380,000 pages of scientific history, it allows easy access to documents that have shaped our understanding of chemistry, and helps to pinpoint the moments when key ideas first began to develop.

It's a unique resource, and a significant addition to any science library.

**Gunpowder through the ages**  
From the 16th century to the 20th, the Nathan Collection includes a proclamation by Charles II for 'the effectual prosecution of His Majesties Commission for Providing and Making of Salt-peter and Gun-powder'.

**Roscoe's legacy**  
The Roscoe Collection was donated in 1906, and consists of items on alchemy and early chemistry. The oldest is 'De Secretis Mulierum', a compendium of medicinal knowledge from 1505.

### A digital bookcase

The Davy Bookcase and its contents were donated to the Royal Institute of Chemistry in 1919 by George Holloway, a former member. It contains items that were formerly the property of Sir Humphrey Davy, John Davy and Lady Davy.

## A summary of the digital collection

The Collection is split into two parts. In Part 1, publications including copies of *Chemistry in Britain* from the 1960s sit alongside annual reports and proceedings from the separate societies that later merged to form the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Part 2 is an absorbing collection of historical material, featuring manuscripts of lectures given by Sir Henry Roscoe, papers and diaries belonging to Sir Frederick Abel and letters between some of the leading scientists of the 19th century.

### Part 1

#### Society Publications (1949–2012)

- *Chemistry in Britain* (1965–2003)
- *Education in Chemistry* (1964–2012)
- Royal Institute of Chemistry Lectures, Monographs and Reports (1949–1967)
- Monographs for Teachers (1962–1993) – published by a mix of Chemical Society, Royal Institute of Chemistry & Royal Society of Chemistry
- Chemical Society & Royal Society of Chemistry Annual Reports (1963–2012)
- Royal Institute of Chemistry Annual Reports (1960–1980)

#### Society Minutes (1841–1966)

- Lists of Officers and Fellows of the Chemical Society (1843–1953)
- Chemical Society Council Minutes (1841–1966)
- Institute of Chemistry Council Minutes (1876–1944)
- Royal Institute of Chemistry Council Minutes (1944–1966)
- Institute of Chemistry Committee Minutes (1877–1944)
- Royal Institute of Chemistry Committee Minutes (1944–1947)

### Part 2

#### Historical Books and Papers (1505 - 1991)

- The Roscoe Collection (1505–1870)
- The Nathan Collection
- The Main Collection
- The Sir Frederick Abel Papers (1853–1902)
- The Davy Bookcase (1652–1873)

#### Add the Historical Collection to your archives

**Flexible packages:** Parts 1 and 2 of the Collection are available to buy separately, or invest in the whole Collection at a discount.

### Want to know more about the Historical Collection?

Contact your Account Manager or email [sales@rsc.org](mailto:sales@rsc.org)

**At the coal face**  
The Davy Lamp was just one of the many important scientific discoveries Sir Humphrey Davy made during his life. Invented in 1815, the lamp allowed miners to work safely in the presence of flammable gases.





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