



# Data Atlas Collection Unit


The Collection Unit as the Integral  
Component in Development of a  
Data Atlas of Complex Cultural  
Heritage Landscapes

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# About the Sloane Lab

**SLOANE**  
**LAB**



**'THE SLOANE LAB':**  
**LOOKING BACK TO BUILD SHARED COLLECTIONS**  
UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON & TU DARMSTADT



**'UNPATH'D WATERS':**  
**MARINE AND MARITIME COLLECTIONS IN THE UK**  
HISTORIC ENGLAND



**TOWARDS**  
**A NATIONAL**  
**COLLECTION**

**UK**  
**RI**



Arts and  
Humanities  
Research Council

**DISCOVERY PROJECTS**



**'THE CONGRUENCE ENGINE':**  
**DIGITAL TOOLS FOR NEW COLLECTIONS-BASED**  
**INDUSTRIAL HISTORIES**  
SCIENCE MUSEUM GROUP



**OUR HERITAGE, OUR STORIES:**  
**LINKING AND SEARCHING**  
**COMMUNITY-GENERATED DIGITAL CONTENT TO**  
**DEVELOP THE PEOPLE'S NATIONAL COLLECTION**  
UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW



**TRANSFORMING COLLECTIONS:**  
**REIMAGINING ART, IDENTITY AND NATION**  
UNIVERSITY OF ARTS LONDON

# Sloane's Collections



**Hans Sloane** (1660–1753), British physician, naturalist and collector

Collected **70,000+ objects**, now scattered among multiple institutions

One of the founding collections of the **British Museum, Natural History Museum** and **British Library**

<http://sloanelab.org>

The origins of the collection connect to the Transatlantic Slave Trade and African enslavement

# Bringing together different collections

SLOANE  
LAB

N  
O  
W

NATURAL  
HISTORY  
MUSEUM

The British  
Museum

BRITISH  
LIBRARY

**Data Portal**

Home Datasets Search Contact About

Normal view Darwin Core view

Back to results Download View as JSON Contact record curator

**BM000594032**

**Classification**

|                       |                          |   |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| Scientific name       | Mopha marginata DC.      | T |
| Author                | DC.                      | T |
| Order                 | Magnoliales              | T |
| Family                | Magnolaceae              | T |
| Genus                 | Mopha                    | T |
| Species               | marginata                | T |
| Higher classification | Magnoliales, Magnolaceae | T |

**Location**

|                  |                        |   |
|------------------|------------------------|---|
| Country          | Jamaica                | T |
| Continent        | North America          | T |
| Island group     | West Indies            | T |
| Higher geography | North America, Jamaica | T |

**drum**

Object Type  
drum

Museum number  
Am.SL.Misc.1368

Description  
Drum (Aperturmal) goblet shaped open drum with a hollow pedestal, the main body made of wood (Cordia africana), with six wood pegs (Baphia nitida), a skin head (pear or antelope?) and cord made of two main vegetable fibres (Cissampelos ficiolia and Phapial - among others - which is around the head of the drum and attached to the pegs; there is a coating on the...

Back to results

**SLOANE PRINTED BOOKS**

Modify search New search Latest results list

Full record display

Shelfmark: 443.8.3  
Author: SLOANE  
Title: A Voy with  
with intro  
Publication: 2 vol.  
Identified by: Black  
Probably from Sloane's

2 of 38

Accessibility | Contact | Do  
All text is in British Library's

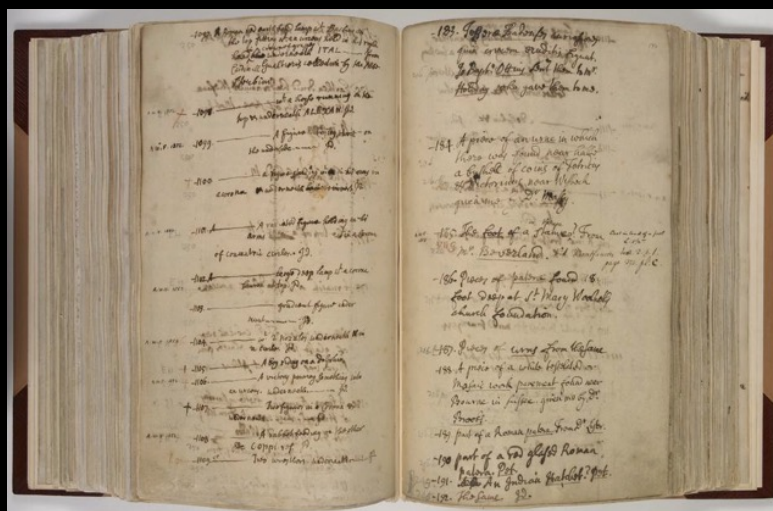
**CATALOGUE OF ILLUMINATED MANUSCRIPTS**

About | Simple search | Manuscript search | Advanced search | Virtual exhibitions | Glossaries | Contact us | Main

**Detailed record for Sloane 1977**

|             |             |            |  |
|-------------|-------------|------------|--|
| print       | ff. 1-46v   | Author     | Roger Frugardi of Salerno<br>Chirurgia                                   |
| home        |             | Title      |  |
| site search |             | Author     | Mattheus Platearius, translated into French<br>Circa instans             |
| back        | ff. 48-135v | Title      |  |
| search tips | ff. 136-144 | Origin     | France, N. (Amiens)  |
|             |             | Date       | 1st quarter of the 14th century  |
|             |             | Language   | French   |
|             |             | Script     | Gothic   |
|             |             | Decoration | 16 full-page miniatures in three registers in colours and with some gold |

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Sloane's *annotated*  
handwritten catalogues

# Overarching Goals



- **Aggregate** multiple records from different sources
- Develop a common **data model** for all records
- **Integrate** the records into a single **knowledge base**
- Ensure **interoperability** with existing standards
- Enable **multivocality**



## Mapping Collections

Acquisition

Transformation over time

Growth



## Interdisciplinary Relevance

Collections as Data

Dynamic Movement of  
Objects

Nuanced examination

Fluidity and circulation

## Understanding the Data Environment

- Being able to answer questions such as:
  - What resources are available?  
**Awareness**
  - What is relevant for the Sloane Lab?  
**Filtering**
  - How should we prioritise potential resources for ingestion to our Knowledge Base? **Prioritisation**
- Data Atlas was developed to provide these answers







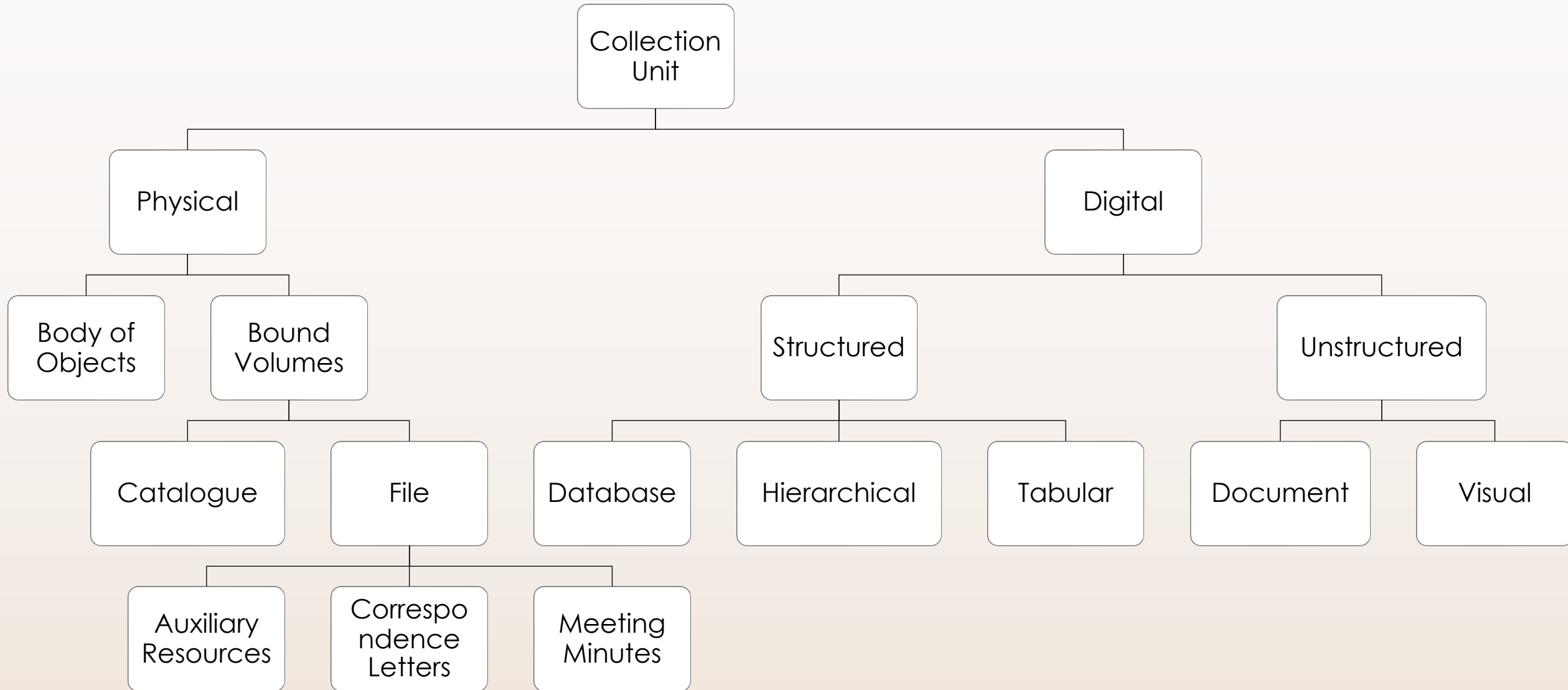
# The Collection Unit

A non-abstract, physical or digital distinct entity considered as a **cohesive item of a curatorial or collection activity** characterised by specific attributes that are instantiated for physical and digital items



- Size
- Location
- Degree of digitisation
- Transcription type
- Availability / accessibility
- Metadata schema
- Programmable access

# The Collection Unit



### Sloane Manuscript Catalogues

#### BRITISH LIBRARY

##### Bound Volumes

| Sloane Manuscript Catalogues     | Imaged                  | Machine Readable         | Text Encoded       | Digital Location   | Physical Location |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Sloane MS 3995: 'A catalogue of  |                         |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 A : Catalogues    |                         |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 B: Manuscripts    | → B/W JPEG <sup>4</sup> | → 3pl keyed <sup>4</sup> | → TEI <sup>4</sup> | → DOI <sup>7</sup> | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 C I: Books, etc.  | → B/W JPEG              |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 C II: Books etc.  | → B/W JPEG              |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 C III: Books etc. | → B/W JPEG              |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 C IV: Books etc.  | → B/W JPEG              |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 C V: Books etc.   | → B/W JPEG              |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 C VI: Books etc.  | → B/W JPEG              | → 3pl keyed <sup>4</sup> | → TEI <sup>4</sup> | → DOI <sup>7</sup> | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 C VII: Books etc. | → B/W JPEG              |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 C VIII:           | → B/W JPEG              |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 D I: Index to MS  | → B/W JPEG              |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Sloane MS 3972 D II: Index to    | → B/W JPEG              |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Lindenus renovates (Medical) I:  |                         |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Lindenus renovates (Medical) II  |                         |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Lindenus renovates (Medical) III |                         |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Lindenus renovates (Medical) IV  |                         |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Lindenus renovates (Medical) V   |                         |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Lindenus renovates               |                         |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Lindenus renovates               |                         |                          |                    |                    | BL                |
| Lindenus renovates               |                         |                          |                    |                    | BL                |

Level of digitisation

##### Group of Objects

|   |            |        |   |                   |
|---|------------|--------|---|-------------------|
| Collected Manuscripts                     | Catalogued |        |   |                   |
| <sup>13</sup> SL MSS 1-4100 (Manuscripts) | ✓          |        |   |                   |
| Books & Manuscripts collected by Sloane   | Catalogued | Photos | Digital Location                        | Physical Location |
| Printed Books                             | ✓          |        |   | BL                |
| Sloane Renaissance Manuscripts            | ✓          | → JPEG | → <a href="https://sea">https://sea</a> | BL                |
| Other Books & Manuscripts collected       | ✓          |        |   | BL                |
| Other Catalogues                          | Catalogued | Photos | Digital Location                        | Physical Location |
| Printed Books Catalogue                   | ✓          | → JPEG | → <a href="https://ww">https://ww</a>   | BL                |
| Sloane Correspondence                     | Catalogued |        |   | Physical Location |
| Sloane Letters MSS 4036-4069              | ✓          |        |   | BL                |
| Sloane Letters MSS 4075-4078              | ✓          |        |   | BL                |

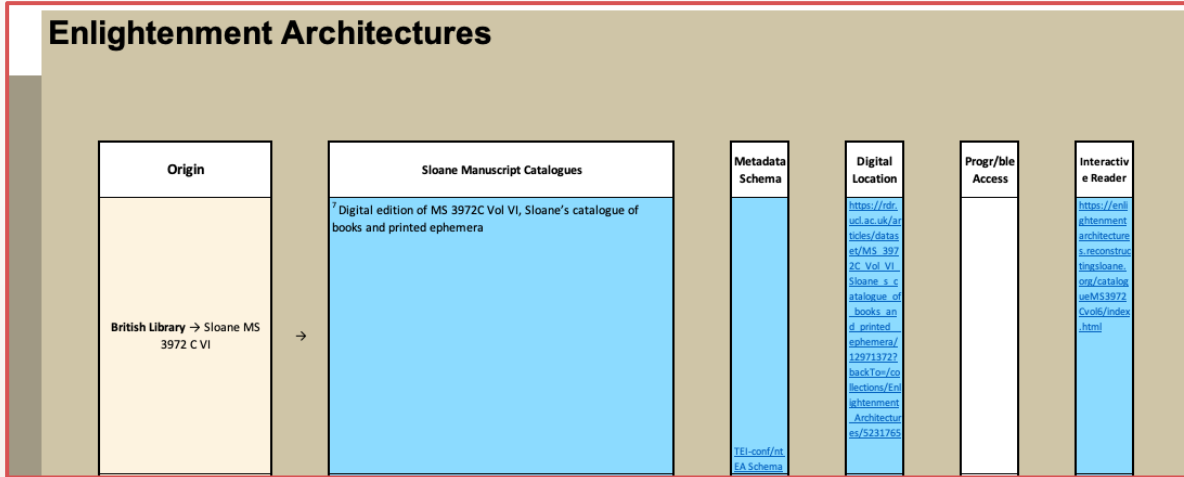
See "Sloane Letters" component

### Objects

# Sloane MS 3972 B: Manuscripts



## Data Atlas



## UCL Research Repository

← MS 3972C Vol VI Sloane's catalogue of books and printed ephemera

Cite Download (1.93 MB) Share Embed + Collect

Dataset posted on 2020-09-18, 11:08 authored by Alexandra Ortolja-Baird, [Julianne Nyhan](#), Kim Sloan, Victoria Pickering, Martha Fleming

USAGE METRICS

1414 views 190 downloads 0 citations

CATEGORIES

- Digital heritage

This resource has been designed for free consultation in association with the Sloane Consortium of UK national institutions which hold the original manuscript catalogue documents and related collections of Sir Hans Sloane. All content is reproducible as long as the source is indicated by referencing the DOI of the publication and the name of the institutional owner of the original catalogue manuscript—in this case The British Library. An article outlining the research considerations and decision making processes guiding the marking up of the Sloane collection catalogues in the framework of the Enlightenment Architectures project can be found at Ortolja-Baird, A., Pickering, V., Nyhan, J., Sloan, K. and Fleming, M., 2019. 'Digital Humanities in the Memory Institution: The Challenges of Encoding Sir Hans Sloane's Early Modern Catalogues of His Collections.' *Open Library of Humanities*, 5(1), p.44. DOI: <http://doi.org/10.16995/olh.409> The raw transcriptions from digital images of the original manuscripts were commissioned by the Enlightenment Architectures project from the AEL Data company. These transcriptions were then fully compared, checked and corrected against the original documents by the research team that is also responsible for the complete TEI markup of the transcriptions. The interactive, scholarly edition of the resource is here: <https://enlightenmentarchitectures.reconstructingsloane.org/catalogueMS3972Cvol6/>

## Enlightenment Architectures

The screenshot shows the digital manuscript viewer interface for MS 3972 C Vol. VI. The interface includes a search bar, a magnifier tool, and a list of entries. The main display area shows a digital image of a manuscript page with handwritten text. The right-hand side of the interface displays a list of entries, including:

- 1971.
- A-441. P. 253 Luz a los vivos, y escarmiento en los muertos. Por Don Juan de Palafox y Mendoza. Madrid 169 1661 .ol.arta Pastoral. Ib. . Direcciones Pastorales. Ib. 1658.
- A-442. P. 252. jussd Excellencias de San Petro Principe de los Apostoles vicario universal de Giesu Christo . En Madrid. 1659. fo .
- A-443. P. 254 . Tomo Quarto de las obras del Don Juan de Palafox . En Madrid . 1664 . fo
- A-444. P. 255 . Tomo Quinto de las obras del medesimo &c. En Madrid. 1665. fo .
- A-445. A. 650. rimeria parte de las Demostraciones Catolicas y principios, en qui se funda la verdad de la nuestra Christiana Religion. Por el Padre Juan Baptista Fernandez . En Lozana . por Mathias Mayr

# Sloane Correspondence



## Sloane Letters

| Origin   | Digitised Letters written to and from Sloane            | Metadata Schema | Digital Location  | Progr/ble Access |
|--|---|-----------------|---|------------------|
| British Library → Sloane Letters MSS 4036-4069 | , as well as several letters from each of the following |                 | <a href="https://sloaneletters.com">https://sloaneletters.com</a> |                  |
| British Library → Sloane Letters MSS 4075-4078 |   |                 | <a href="https://sloaneletters.com">https://sloaneletters.com</a> |                  |

## The Sloane Letters Project

The Sloane Letters Project

## Data Atlas

### Home

## Welcome to The Sloane Letters Project

A pilot of this project, [Sir Hans Sloane's Correspondence Online](#), was first launched at the University of Saskatchewan in 2010 to coincide with the 350th anniversary of Sir Hans Sloane's birth. The project was renamed *The Sloane Letters Project* when it moved to this site in 2016.

The correspondence of Sir Hans Sloane was first digitised for this site in 2016. The Sloane Letters Project when it moved to project was renamed *The Sloane*



### Random Letter

Author:  
Recipient:

Read more- [Letter 0538](#)

### Latest Statistics

Pages digitised

**4,545** Document summaries

**4,242** summaries document

Pages digitised

# Sloane Herbarium



## Data Atlas

| Algae, Fungi and Plants: 263 Sloane Herbarium volumes |   | Imaged | Physical Location |
|---|---|--------|-------------------|
| Other (250 volumes)                                   |   | X      | NHM               |
| Sloane's Jamaican material (8 vols)                   | → | ✓      | NHM               |
| Mark Catesby material (2 vols)                        | → | ✓      | NHM               |
| Engelbert Kaempfer material (1 vol)                   | → | ✓      | NHM               |
| John Bartram material (2 vols)                        |   | X      | NHM               |

## Physical Location

Data Atlas Collection Unit



## Online Database

**Data Portal**

Home > Data > Specimens from Sloane's...

License: License not specified

Recent query DOIs: 10.5519/qd.ksl33ypz, 10.5519/qd.esoe71iv

**Specimens from Sloane's voyage to Jamaica**

Hans Sloane was a seventeenth-century doctor and collector. He amassed a vast amount of material that eventually formed the basis of the British Museum. In 1881, Sloane's botanical collections were transferred to the newly established Natural History Museum.

A biography of Sloane can be found here: <https://www.nhm.ac.uk/discover/hans-sloane-physician-collector-botanist.html>

In 1687, Sloane went to Jamaica as the personal physician of the Duke of Albemarle, the newly appointed governor of the island. The first seven volumes of Sloane's Herbarium contain the specimens collected during his voyage to Jamaica (1687-1689). They are the first plant specimens to be brought back to England from the region. The specimens were used in preparing the illustrations and text for his 'Voyage to the Islands Madera, Barbados, Nieves, S. Christophers, and Jamaica'.

**Data and Resources**

Sloane Herbarium (1279 records)

View Download

|                     |           |
|---------------------|-----------|
| <b>Barcode:</b>     | 000589007 |
| <b>Sort Number:</b> | 908       |
| <b>Volume:</b>      | 5         |
| <b>PageNumber:</b>  | 7x        |
| <b>Country:</b>     | Jamaica   |
| <b>Collector:</b>   | Sloane    |

**Images**

## Evolving Data Tools

- Enhancing the accessibility & understanding of cultural heritage

## Collection Unit

- A concept that bridges the gap between physical and digital entities, offering a cohesive and structured approach to classification

## Interactive Data Atlas version

- Enable dynamic representation of dispersed collections
- Enriched views for features, linking and dynamic update



# Thank you / Q&A

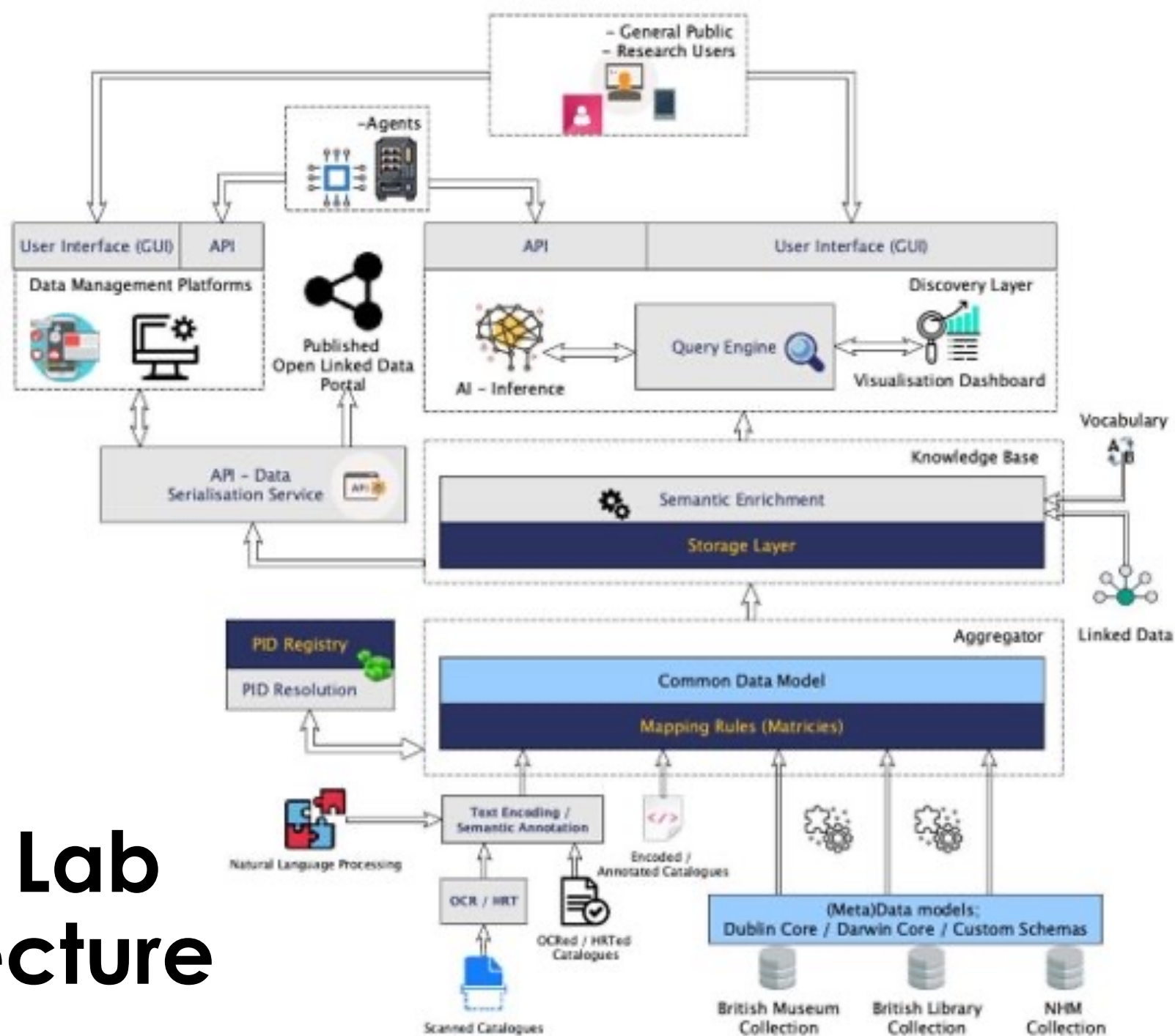
***Data Atlas Collection Unit: The Collection Unit as the Integral Component in Development of a Data Atlas of Complex Cultural Heritage Landscapes***

a.vlachidis@ucl.ac.uk

<https://SloaneLab.org>







# Sloane Lab Architecture

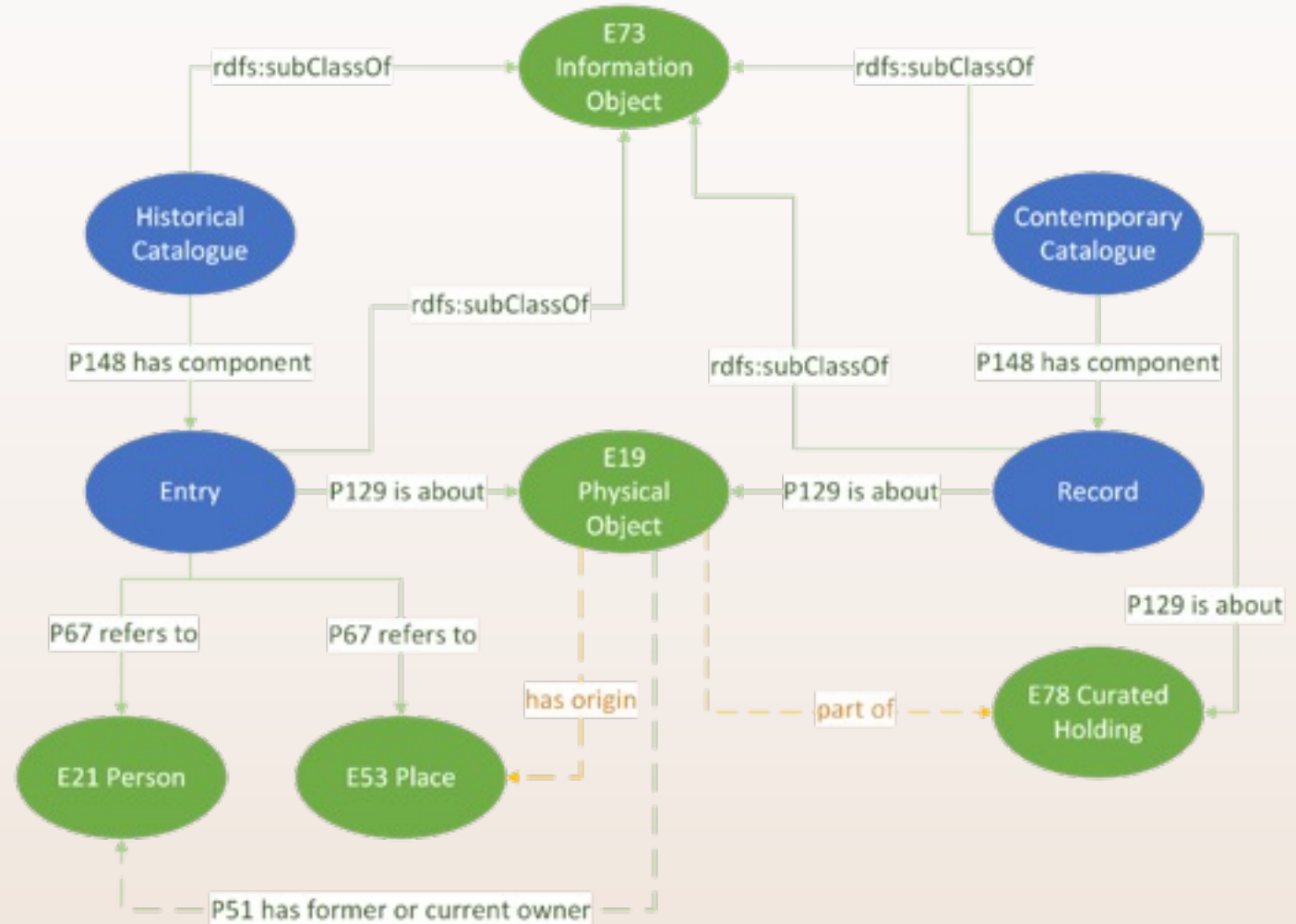
# Data Model

A **general data model** to represent diverse collections

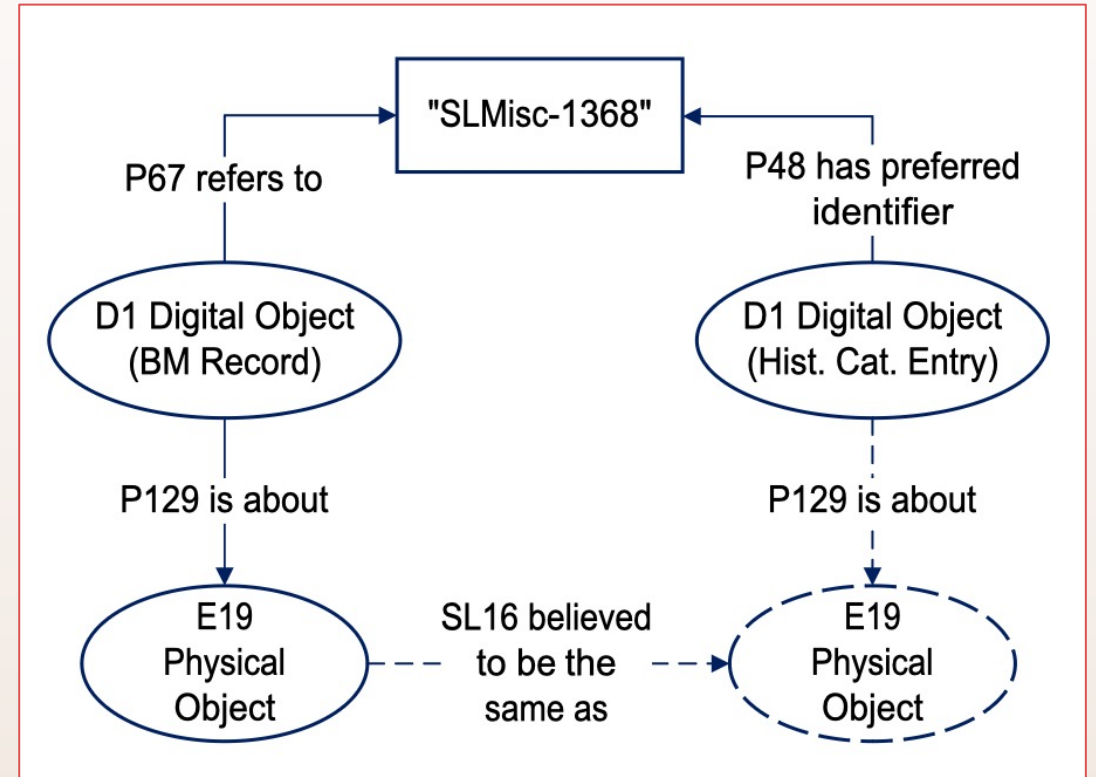
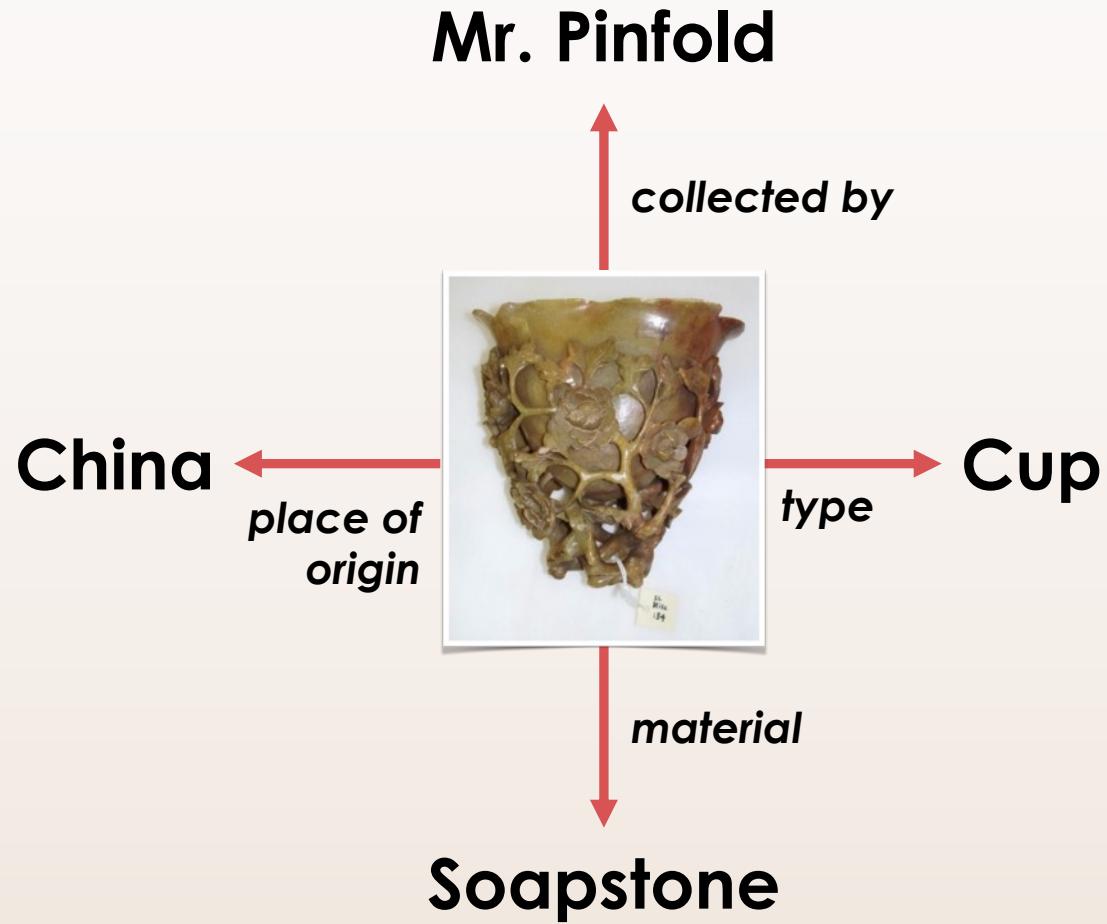
Based on the **CIDOC CRM** ontology

Core entities: **information object** (e.g. catalogue), physical object, person, place, time

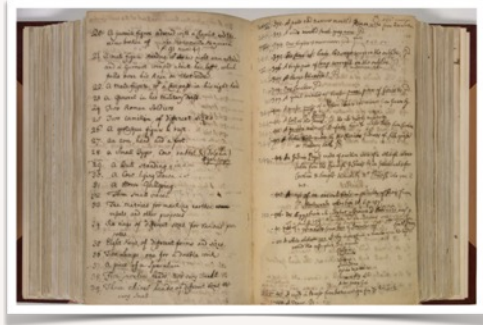
Centred on the **record** instead of the **object**, to support multiple perspectives over the same object (**multivocality**)



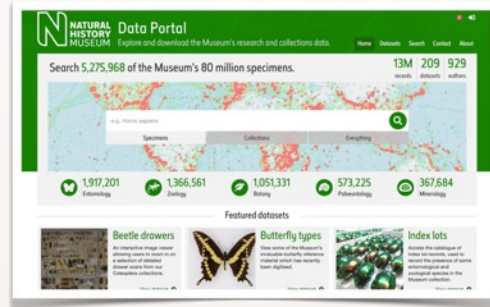
# Object vs. Record



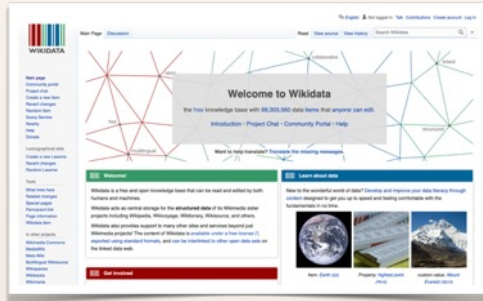
# Sloane Lab Knowledge Base



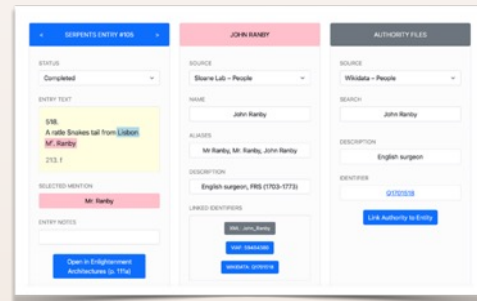
Historical Catalogues



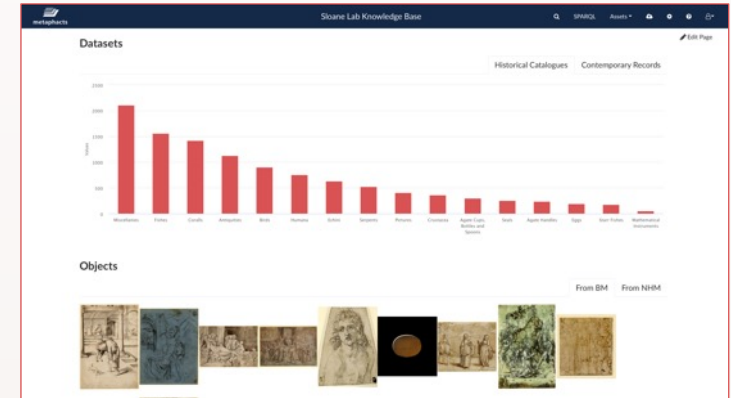
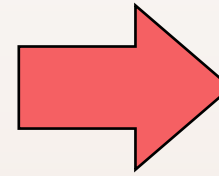
Contemporary Records



External Sources



Newly Annotated Data



**Sloane Lab Knowledge Base**

**BM Object A\_SLMisc-184**  
URL: [https://sloanelab.org/E31/10m\\_dataset/A\\_SLMisc-184](https://sloanelab.org/E31/10m_dataset/A_SLMisc-184)  
Type: E31\_Physical\_Object

**Description**  
BM Object A\_SLMisc-184  
**Object Type**  
cup

**Related People**  
Mr. Pinfold

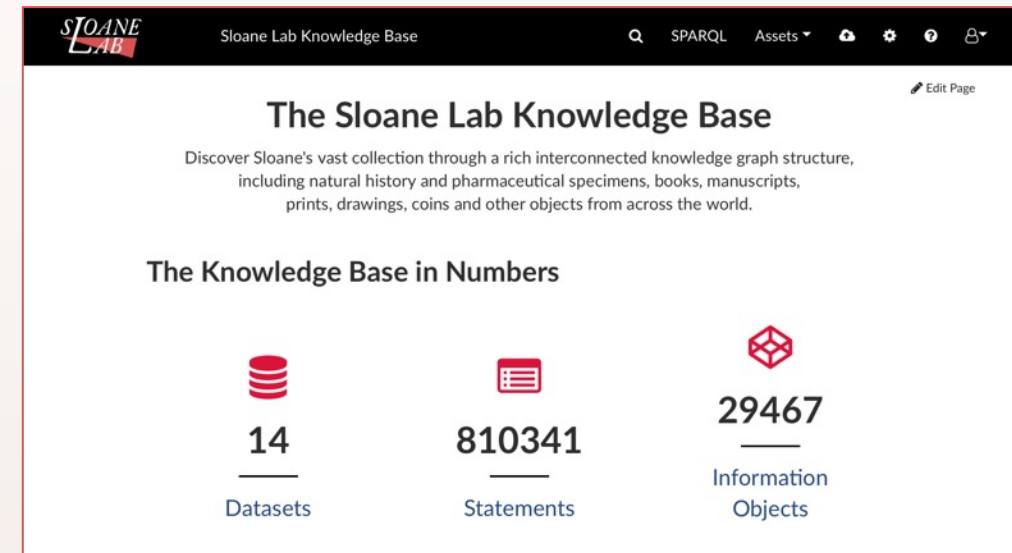
**Historical Description**  
Cup, surrounded with an openwork lattice of flowers. Made of soapstone or steatite.

**Related Places**

**Helped by**  
British Museum  
**Dataset**  
BM Dataset  
**Record**  
BM Record A\_SLMisc-184

## A rich environment for data discovery and query

- Keyword Search
- Structured Search
- Constant Search
- SPARQL endpoint
- Page Rich (Linked Data) View
- Statements View
- Graph View



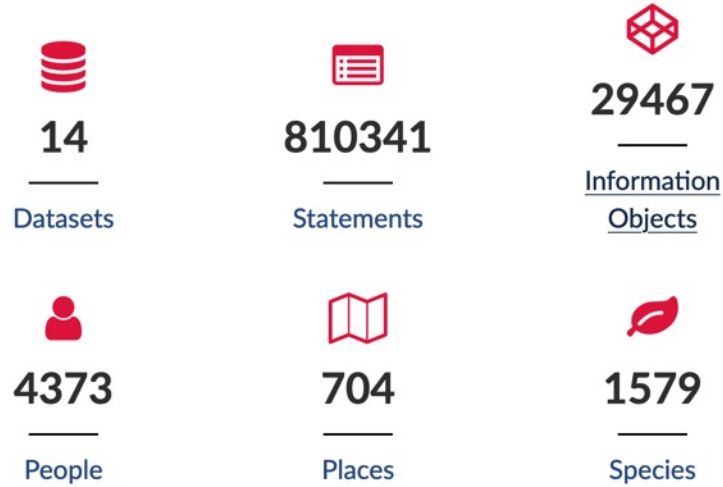
# Sloane Lab Knowledge Base



Sloane Lab Knowledge Base

SPARQL Assets

## The Knowledge Base in Numbers

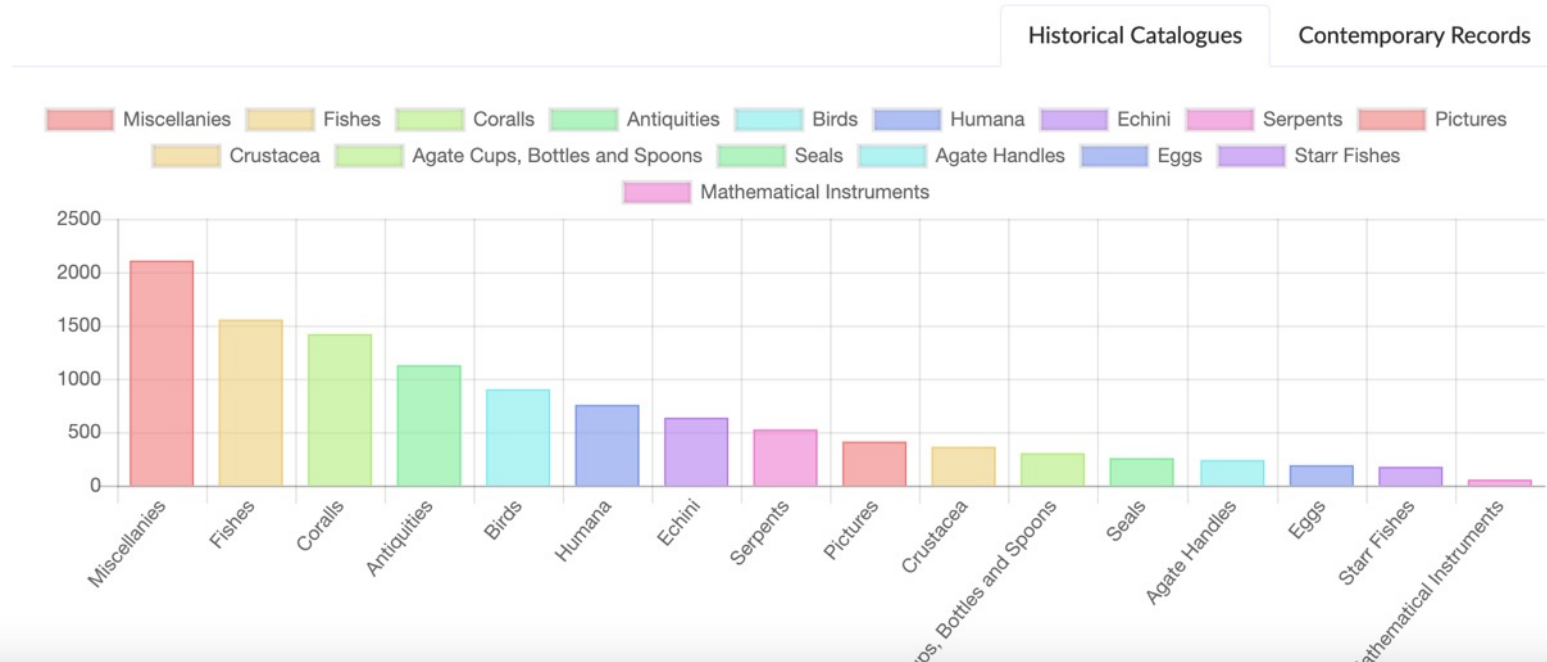


29,000+ records, 800,000+ statements

## Datasets in the Knowledge Base

16 historical catalogues from 3 manuscripts

11 contemporary datasets from NHM and BM

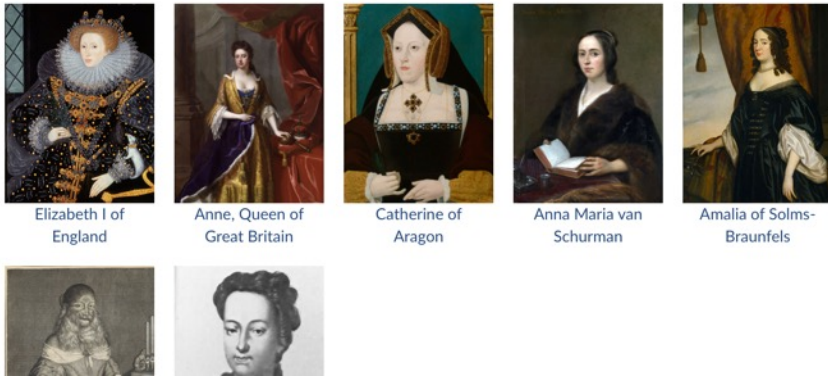


# Visualisations

## People of the Sloane Collections

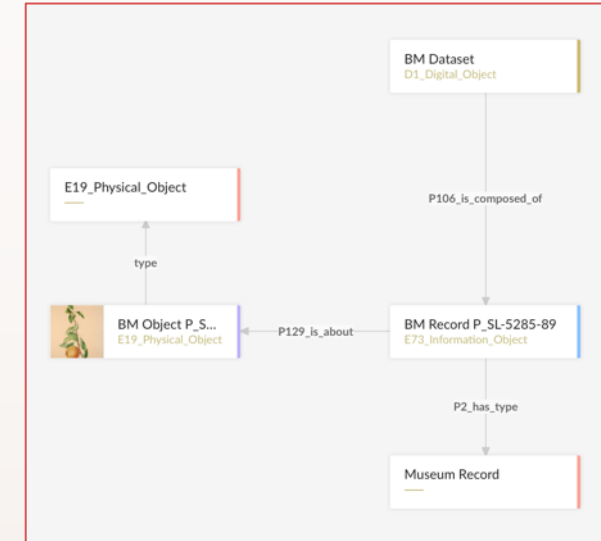
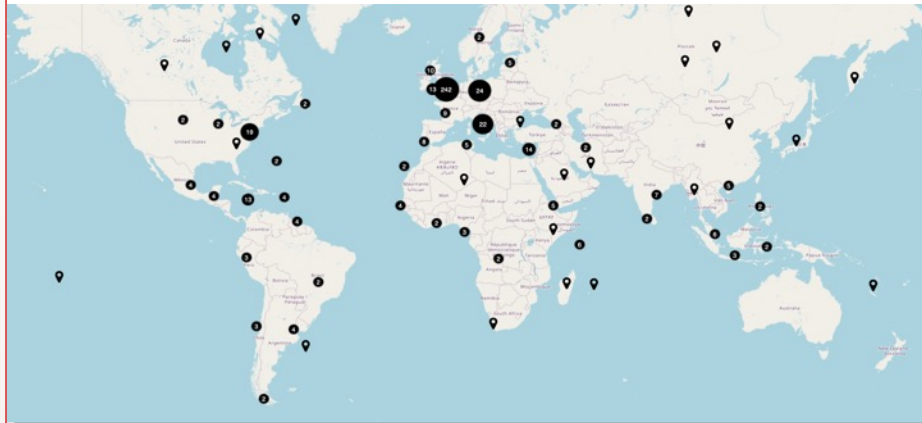
Most Mentioned People   Women   Enslaved People   Historical Catalogue Statistics

Contemporary Catalogue Statistics



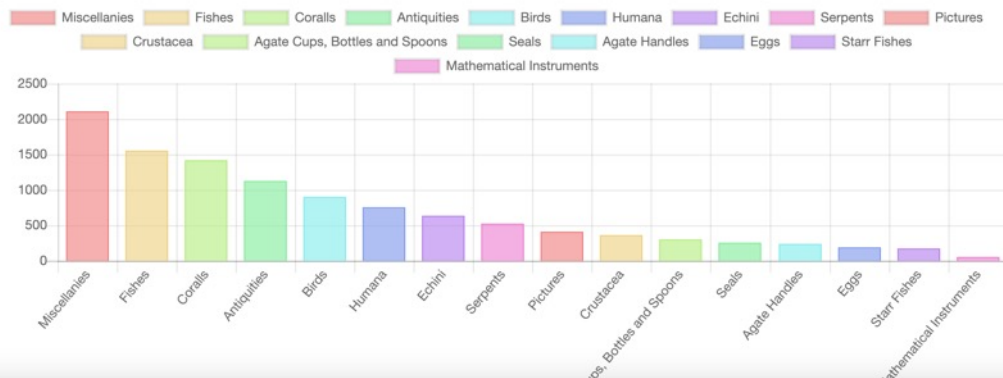
## Places in the Sloane Collections

Map   Places   Statistics



## Datasets in the Knowledge Base

Historical Catalogues   Contemporary Records



## Objects in the Knowledge Base

From BM   From NHM

