

**Local History Collection in the Government
Sponsored Public Libraries in 24 Parganas (South):
A Critical Review**

**SYNOPSIS OF THE THESIS SUBMITTED FOR THE DEGREE OF
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY (ARTS)
OF
JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY**

BY

SUDESHNA MOITRA

DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

JADAVPUR UNIVERSITY

KOLKATA – 700032

WEST BENGAL, INDIA

2021

1. Introduction

Peoples' quests for knowing the 'unknown' exist for time immemorial. Transmission of knowledge occurred through many of the ways since the historical past. There was a time knowledge was transmitted in oral form only since no method of writing was discovered then. With time, human civilization continued to strive for better methods of communication which ultimately led to the discovery of writing methods. When human civilization discovered the convenient way of transmitting knowledge through graphic records, writing methods started to take their final shapes. As knowledge has thus been started to get accumulated the form of graphic records, people started thinking about its preservation and conservation for the future. Thus the concept of 'library' came into existence where wisdom and knowledge of great thinkers have been stored for the benefit of future generations (Chakrabarti & Banerjee, 2016). With the passage of time and evolution of human society, the concept of 'library' has also been evolved and libraries have become inseparable parts of society. For the sake of the community, the concept of 'Public Library' had emerged where common people can get access to knowledge resources and satisfy their knowledge thirst. With time public library (PL) becomes the centre for cultural awakening, aesthetic appreciation, and promoting literacy as well as supporting lifelong and universal education for the common masses. PLs have doors freely open to everyone at any point where inquisitive people can get the touch of wisdom and satisfy their knowledge craving.

From the very beginning, very few associations and organizations started working in favour of libraries, library professionals, and library users across the globe. International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) is leading among them which was founded in Scotland in 1927 with the aims to "promote high standards of provision and delivery of library and information services" and to "encourage widespread understanding of the value of good

library & information services” all over the world. This Federation collaborated with UNESCO in formulating its vision and mission towards the development and success of PLs across the world, thus ‘IFLA-UNESCO Public Library Manifesto’ was created in 1949 in Paris and afterwards ratified in 1994. In the recent past, IFLA celebrated the 25th Anniversary of the publication of ‘IFLA-UNESCO Public Library Manifesto’ in November 2019.

The ‘Public Library’ as defined by the IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Manifesto (1994) is “the local gateway to knowledge provides a basic condition for lifelong learning, independent decision-making and cultural development of the individual and social groups”. It is also stated in the Manifesto that “promoting awareness of cultural heritage”, “favouring cultural diversity” and “supporting the oral tradition” are some of the key missions of the PL. It is a ‘democratic’ institution that provides access to knowledge and information for common people regardless of their age, sex, race, caste, religion, nationality, language, or social status. Not only promoting universal education, but public libraries also work as the ‘cultural hub’ for every community where the common people can have instant access to any information related to their locality. The PL became the only place where people can strongly relate themselves to their cultural flavour and fluency. It is also believed that promoting cultural progress is perhaps the most significant aspect of today’s PL services. PLs are situated in diverse regions which may be culturally, socially, economically, or geographically similar or dissimilar, having similar or different cultural constituents and backgrounds. It is one of the major goals of PLs to become successful vectors and repositories of the indigenous or local cultural history of respective regions or localities. This local cultural storage may contain pictures, paintings, photographs, artworks, audio-visual materials, and also documentary sources. PLs of every region should make such provisions that common people of that locality will get the opportunity to touch their

own cultural, social, economic history of evolution. Collective memories which pass orally through generations after generations needed to be stored and preserved. These describe the past experiences of a community that enlighten the future. In studying the history of a nation, or a community, or a local place, these local history materials (LHMs) have an immensely crucial role to play. In this regard, a thorough investigation is essential to investigate the present scenario of local history collections (LHCs) in PLs to assess how far they are successfully doing their duties as conservators and propagators of local cultural heritage in the community.

2. Statement of the problem

The statement of the problem is undermentioned:

Local History Collection in the Government Sponsored Public Libraries in 24 Parganas (South): A Critical Review

3. Research questions

The research problem gave rise to some research questions which were resolved during the study. The research questions are as follows:

- I. Do Government sponsored PLs in the district of 24 Parganas (South) have sufficient collections of LHMs?

- II. Do they play a crucial role in helping community people to find out their cultural roots and identity?
- III. What is the real scenario of the existing local history collections in Government sponsored PLs of 24 Parganas (South)?
- IV. What are the administrative shortfalls to develop the same?
- V. What are the major problems faced by these PLs of the district to develop new LHCs, or to maintain an existing one?
- VI. What are the attitudes of local community users as well as library personnel towards the significance of local history (LH)?
- VII. How far the users are satisfied with the existing LHCs of these PLs? What are their specific demands and personal opinions in developing new collections of LHMs?

4. Objectives of the study

The primary objective of the present study is to review critically the LHCs in the district of 24 Parganas (South) in West Bengal. However, the other objectives of the study are:

- i. To find out the actual scenario of local history information resources present in the Government sponsored PLs of the district.
- ii. To compare the existing collections of the PLs on local historical facts of their respective locations.

- iii. To find out the present situation of PLs' LHCs in terms of their existing resources, diversity, organization, infrastructure, and physical facilities, services, manpower, automation, difficulties, user's demand for local history, publicity for local history, awareness of library staff and users, and such other pertinent and significant parameters.
- iv. To assess users' interest and need for local history information and how far they are satisfied with the existing collections and services of PLs of the district.
- v. To evaluate the effectiveness of the findings crucial for formulating a sustainable blueprint for local history collection development in PLs of the district.
- vi. To identify the key issues from the findings which are the major causing factors for the creation of the gap between ideal and reality.
- vii. To propose a generalized model appropriate for developing an effective local history collection in PLs of the district.

5. Scope and limitations

The present study is primarily confined to the Government sponsored PLs of the district of 24 Parganas (South) of West Bengal. There are a total of one hundred and fifty-six Government sponsored PLs in the district (data obtained from the official website of West Bengal PL Network, Department of Mass Education Extension & Library Services, Government of West Bengal), among which a total of twenty-six libraries have been selected keeping in view the time constraint of the investigation. The sphere of the present study includes one district library (DL), ten subdivisional libraries (SDLs), nine town libraries (TLs), and six century-old rural libraries

(RLs). The ten SDLs consist of four upgraded TLs which are century-old in age and six upgraded TLs which do not cross century according to their year of establishment. Among the nine TLs four are century-old. The remaining six libraries are simply ‘rural’ libraries that crossed centuries by their respective years of establishment. The purpose of selecting the DL, SDLs and TLs is their considerably large collections; which is obvious due to their administrative categories. Century-old libraries have been selected keeping in view their ages which carry witness of time, thus some significant LHCs are expected for obvious reasons.

The investigation is divided into two major sections covering library personnel’s organizational points of view and users’ points of view towards local history. The first section focuses on the geographical and administrative locations of libraries, their age (according to the year of establishments), general infrastructure, collection, circulation, membership details, library personnel records, general administration, and automation. However the major focus in this section has been set on the presence of LHCs, variety of LHMs, compatible infrastructure, and physical facilities, related services to users, recording users’ demands, librarians’ or staff requirements for necessary setup for local history, difficulties faced, and local history publicity measures. The second section focuses on library users’ personal information and their library orientation. However, the prime focus has been set on their interest, awareness and basic knowledge, preferences, satisfaction level about local history, specific demands for related infrastructural facilities, collections and services, library staff behaviour and cooperation, shortfalls of collections and services, and requirements for publicity of LHCs.

6. Review of literature

PL plays a crucial role in preservation and promotion of local cultural heritage. Many significant studies showed that immensely valuable local cultural heritages have unique importance that reflects collective memory and experiences of any community, as part of the society (Harden, 2001; Gorman, 2007; Robinson, 2011; Smart, 2017). LHMs are indispensable components of LHCs in PLs. Some attempts have been made at international and national levels to identify significant LHMs that can be collected and preserved by PLs for the sake of posterity (Petty, 1981; Pearson, 1988; Cooke, 1996; Maxted, 1998; Partridge, 2001; Chattopadhyay, 2011). With time, the use of computers and incorporation of new technologies increased the responsibility of PLs to manage precious LHCs including oral history and genealogy in smarter ways and with much ease (Martin & Heath, 1994; Kappel, 1996; Bundy, 1999; Samantaray & Samantaray, 2014, Deshpandey, 2017).

From the existing literary output, not many studies have been found in the Indian context, particularly the government initiatives at state and district levels. This particular study throws light on what is the present status of local historical resources in govt. sponsored PLs in a regional context, library personnel and users' perspectives on this matter, and will identify how proper local history collection can be developed and maintained in libraries within available infrastructural resources involving community people

7 Methodology

7.1 Phases of the study

In the first phase, a literature review has been done by consulting various literature at the national and international levels with special emphasis on local history collection development in PLs. The researcher tried for a thorough study that represents retrospective as well as current situations in India and other parts of the world.

In the second phase, a pilot survey was conducted in the district library, two subdivisional libraries, two town libraries, and four rural libraries to take an idea about the basic awareness and knowledge of PLs for local history, the existing collections, if any, and the future plans. After the survey, the final sampling has been done. Every library was visited at least twice for interviews and the collection of data. In the field study, other than Librarians, available library staff were also asked about the LHCs, services, and community people's demands. Users available in the library during field visits were approached to respond to the questionnaire. Observations were documented properly (Moitra & Dutta, 2019).

In the third phase, all the collected data were gathered and analyzed critically. The findings were written in report form. Finally, the thesis has been written incorporating all the observations, findings, and necessary recommendations for further developments.

7.2 Population sample

The population sample consists of 26 Government sponsored PLs in the district of 24 Parganas (South). This sample further comprises 1 (one) district library, 10 (ten) subdivisional libraries, 9 (nine) town libraries, and 6 (six) century-old rural libraries. The samples are selected after consulting the list of Government sponsored PLs of the 24 Parganas (South) district, provided by the Department of Mass Education Extension & Library Services, Government of West Bengal. The sample population is representative of all the subdivisions of the district. Library related general administrative and infrastructural data, local history related specific data are collected from Librarians or Library-in Charges (in absence of Librarian). These data were analyzed to find out library personnel's perspectives (Moitra & Dutta, 2019).

For the analysis of users' perspectives, a total of 228 users were approached randomly for the responses. Among them, 26 users refused to respond and 202 users ultimately responded. General information about the users was collected from them. Among them, a total of 127 were found to have interest, inclination, and basic awareness about local history. So, local history related specific data has been collected from these 127 users.

7.3 Questionnaire

Two sets of structured questionnaires have been designed to collect data from the Librarians or Library-in-Charges and library users. Structured questionnaires help a researcher to collect specific data from the target population within a specific time limit. It is important to stick to the

specific subject and objectives of the investigation; these factors are carefully considered in framing questionnaires.

7.4 Data collection

Required data have been collected through carefully constructed two sets of questionnaires.

The first set is designed for Librarians or Library-in-Charges to collect data and information about the PLs. This set is further subdivided into two sections viz., the first section asks questions about general administrative and infrastructural facts and the second section contains questions regarding LHCs and services of libraries.

The second set is designed for user communities coming to use the library resources. This set is further subdivided into two sections viz., the first section is designed to collect users' personal information and their general awareness about PLs. The second section contains questions to collect data and information about users' specific interests and awareness regarding local history studies.

7.5 Research methods

The Survey method is adopted to obtain data in structured questionnaire formats from the chosen sample. Every library is visited personally and library personnel were approached to respond to the specific questionnaires. Users coming to use library reading rooms were also approached to

fill up the specific questionnaires. The libraries are surveyed thoroughly to take an idea about their present physical conditions and service status.

7.6 Tools and techniques

Following tools and techniques have been employed to collect data from all categories of respondents:

7.6.1 Interview

Library personnel and library users were interviewed in a semi-structured way to obtain data regarding the general administration and organizations of the libraries, as well as regarding specific collections and services related to local history. Library personnel were also interviewed informally without a questionnaire to record their gross experiences, for further review.

7.6.2 Observation

During the surveys, observation techniques were also employed for a critical review of the present scenario of the library. Official records, unofficial data kept by library personnel, relevant documents, etc. whichever was produced, observed to ascertain the present conditions.

7.7 Information sources used

Several primary and secondary sources of information are used by the researcher. Documentary and non-documentary sources, viz. annual reports, various record books of libraries, Government orders, annual reports of the Department of Mass Education Extension & Library Services, Government of West Bengal, photographs, illustrations, etc. have been consulted. Electronic information sources like website content are also used several times for relevant purposes. Human and institutional sources are also consulted several times according to necessities.

7.8 Data analysis

Collected data have been tabulated and analyzed keeping in view the objectives of the study. Data are represented with the help of tables and charts with apposite interpretations. Some recommendations have been suggested after careful analysis of data so that sustainable developments can be achieved by libraries.

8. Significance

The significant role of PLs in protecting the community's history and traditional culture is acknowledged since long back. PLs always play a pivotal role in the collection, preservation, maintenance, and propagation of the traditional culture of local communities having historical values, for the sake of posterity. Every PL should carry an exhaustive representation of the local historical and cultural inheritance of the locality or area or region in where it is situated.

Collection and management of local historical information sources which represent various communities' evolutionary course, require special methods, equipment, and dedicated attitude of the library staff. In the proposed research work, the researcher tries to find out the present scenario of LHCs in Government sponsored PLs of the district of 24 Parganas (South); their development, related services, users' attitudes, etc. have also been incorporated under the study. Several recommendations have been given as suggestive measures for improvement after investigation and minute observations. The researcher also tried to propose a model of how a well-organized local history section can be created in a PL with minimal effective changes in available infrastructure. This proposed model has been prepared based on research outcomes and can be adopted as a generalized model for the PLs of the district.

9. Observation and findings

- Most of the PLs, particularly the DL and SDLs have some LH collections related to their respective localities. Some TLs and very few century-old RLs and PULs have appropriate LH collections.
- LH collections mostly include books; very few libraries have such other materials as local magazines, local newsprints, letters, photographs, sculptures, maps, paintings, etc.
- Except for the DL, LH materials are unorganized, without proper display area and very poorly kept without any preservation means.
- Large numbers of library personnel are unaware of the importance of LH collections in PLs. That is why LH related services mostly include only 'lending' of LH books.

- None of the PLs has enough resources viz. adequate manpower, funding, staff training, infrastructural supports, preservation and restoration facilities to build proper LH collections or maintain existing ones. It creates long term unwillingness and reluctance among library personnel.
- The majority of the libraries reported the indifference of local people towards LH of their localities. Very few libraries adopt basic publicity measures to make local people aware of their LH collections
- Though a good number of users showed interest in LH of their respective own localities, they are not aptly satisfied with related services in PLs.
- Most of them demanded more varieties in LH materials, separate LH section in library with sufficient illumination, dedicated computers with Internet connection etc.
- Many users showed interest in the oral history of respective localities, but none of the PLs has such a significant oral history resource.
- Ignorance and reluctance of library personnel create in general, apathy among users to come with LH information need.
- Users require improved extension services in PLs.
- The majority of the users think proper publicity can make libraries' LH collections more popular among local people.
- Users also think local people should be included in the LH collection development drive in local PLs.

- A huge gap was found in library personnel's and users' perspectives towards LH collection and services in PLs of the district.
- A generalized model has been developed regarding the collection, organization, dissemination, and preservation of LH materials involving local community people. This proposed model has been prepared based on research outcomes and can be adopted as a generalized model for the PLs of the district.

10. Organization of the study

The present research work has been analyzed, organized, and presented in the following chapters:

Chapter 1 is the introductory chapter containing the introduction proper, the significance of the study, statement of the research problem, scope and limitations of the work, objectives of the study, hypotheses formulated for the research, review of literature, methodologies adopted, and organization of the study for better clarification of the entire research work.

Chapter 2 presents an overview of the district of 24 Parganas (South). It describes the district's history; administrative setup; geographies like location, boundaries, the Sundarbans, climate, physiography, rivers, soil, floral and faunal diversities; people and the land like demography, languages and dialects, cultural profile, documentary legends, religion, education, industry, occupation, and economy, an attempt to provide the district's impression.

Chapter 3 describes the concept of the PL, its aims, objectives, and functions, etc. It describes the roles played by PLs on society, culture, and education, viz. on literacy, neo-literacy, and

adult education. An attempt has been made to trace the historical development of PLs in India, West Bengal as well as in the district of 24 Parganas (South); present administrative scheme of PLs in West Bengal; roles of various committees and commissions appointed by the Government of India from time to time. The chapter also illustrates the impact of important bills and acts of the country and the West Bengal Public Libraries Act, the role of the Raja Rammohun Roy Library Foundation (RRRLF) in the library development of the country, and the state.

Chapter 4 deals with various aspects of local history, viz. the concept, definition, problems, and value. The chapter describes various types of LHMs, the significance of oral history, and genealogical sources of information. The chapter throws light on the inseparable relationship between LH and PLs in a locality, along with a detailed scenario of LHCs in PLs of the district in comparison to significant local historical facts of the respective localities.

Chapter 5 presents the actual condition of LHCs and services in the district of 24 Parganas (South). The ground reality has been interpreted in terms of their location, establishment, infrastructure, and physical facilities, membership details, library usage, general and LHCs, general and LH-oriented specific services, extension activities, internal administration, organization, and diversities of LHCs, users' local history-related information demands, difficulties in LH collection development, awareness and cooperation of library staff, publicity measures undertaken in favour of LHCs, LH awareness of library staff and users, etc. This chapter also reveals users' perspectives in terms of users' satisfaction, expectations, preferences, demand, awareness, etc. regarding LHCs and services in PLs of the district.

Chapter 6 contains the findings of the study, major detrimental factors responsible for the creation of a gap between the expectations and the reality; this chapter also contains some recommendations as suggestions towards improvements and sustainable development.

Chapter 7 presents a generalized model suitable for planning an effective and viable LH section in PLs of 24 Parganas (South). This chapter also provides an insight into the plan of work towards saving local history, preservation of precious materials, and developing LH awareness among the community people to come forward for its documentation and conservation for posterity.

Chapter 8 contains the concluding section of the whole research work.

11 Style of References

Citations of in-text and bibliographical references are done according to the guidelines given by the American Psychological Association (APA) in the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association* (6th ed.), 2010.

Bibliography

1. Acevedo, O. (2005). Providing and promoting public library services to a culturally diverse New South Wales. *APLIS*, 18(2), 61-70.
2. Agboola, O.S., & Bolanle, A.H. (2013). Provision and use of community-based library and information services: A case study of Asa local government area, Kwara State, Nigeria. *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal)*, February, 1-14. Retrieved from <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/libphilprac/849>
3. Bijali, A., & Khan, S.C. (2018). Marketing of local history collection of public libraries in the age of IT. *International Journal of Information Dissemination and Technology*, 8 (2), 96-98. doi: 10.5958/2249-5576.2018.00020.1
4. Blake, L., & Stallings, E.T. (1997). Arranging roots: Classification and subject headings for genealogical collections. *LRTS*, 41(4), 335-346. doi: 10.5860/lrts.41n4.335
5. Bundy, A. (1999). Local studies in Australian public libraries: progress and potential. *Australasian Public Libraries and Information Services*, 12(4), 168-177.
6. Campbell, D.W. (1979). Black genealogy and the public library: A bibliography. *Public Libraries*, 19(1), 101-109.
7. Carvalho, J. (1988). Organizing a local history collection in a small public library. *Public Library Quarterly*, 8(1-2), 36-40.
8. Chakrabarti, B., & Banerjee, S. (2016). *The public library*. Kolkata: The World Press.
9. Chattopadhyay, T. (2011). Local history collection: an important source of information. *SRELS Journal of Information Management*, 48(6), 695-702.

10. Cooke, G.W. (1996). Local history planning for the local library. *New Jersey Libraries*, 29(1), 26-30.
11. Cooke, S. (1992). Local studies and the multicultural community. *Local Studies Librarian*, 11(1), 3-5. Retrieved from: <http://search.proquest.com/docview/57297346?accountid=16284>
12. Deshpande, A. (2017). Past, present, and oral history. *Economic and Political Weekly*, LII (29), 38-43.
13. Elwelem, V.O., Okafor, V.N., & Ukwoma, S.C. (2011). Preservation of cultural heritage: the strategic role of the library and information science professionals in South East Nigeria. *Library Philosophy and Practice (e-Journal)*, September, 562-575. Retrieved from <http://digitalcommons.enl.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1593&context=libphilprac>
14. Fellows, R. (1985). Local history and genealogy collection development. *APLLA Bulletin*, 49(3), 61-79.
15. Fladby, R. (1987). The role of public libraries in research into local history in Norway. *Scandinavian Public Library Quarterly*, 20(1), 100-109.
16. Forsyth, E. (2019). Collecting community stories: local studies collection and what they can tell you about the community. *M/C Journal*, 22(3). doi: <http://doi.org/10.5204/mcj.1523>
17. Girvan, M. (1985). Art and design in the local history collection. *Art Libraries Journal*, 10(2), 82-89.

18. Gorman, M. (2007). The wrong path and the right path: the role of libraries in access to, and preservation of, cultural heritage. *New Library World*, 108(11/12), 479-489. doi: 10.1108/03074800710838236
19. Government of West Bengal (2015). Annual Report of the Directorate of Library Services. Department of Mass Education Extension & Library Services. Kolkata.
20. Grele, R.J. (1987). On using oral history collections: an introduction. *The Journal of American History*, 74(2), 570-578.
21. Hall, B.M. (1987). Social relevance and local studies libraries. *Local Studies Librarian*, 6(1), 945-947.
22. Harden, J.J. (2001). Outreach: not out of reach or gardening tips for growing a local history repository from the ground up. *Colorado Libraries*, 27(4), 19-22.
23. Harrison, K.C. (1995). Old county maps and their makers. *Library Review*, 44(4), 36-41.
24. Huang, H.I. (2000). Representing a unique local history. *Journal of Educational Media and Library Sciences*, 37(4), 358-366.
25. IFLA/UNESCO Public Library Manifesto (1994). Available from <http://www.ifla.org/publications/iflaunesco-public-library-manifesto-1994>
26. Kappel, J. (1996). Local collections in Hungary: problems and solutions of collection development. *Local Studies Librarian*, 1 (2), 7-10.
27. Kargbo, J.A. (2007). Libraries and local history collections in Sierra Leone. *Library Review*, 56(7), 563-572. doi: <https://doi.org/10.1108/00242530710775962>
28. Kargbo, J.A. (2008). Oral traditions and libraries. *Library Review*, 57(6), 442-448. doi: 10.1108/00242530810886715
29. Kojima, T. (1987). Local materials in public libraries. *Library Journal*, 81(4), 100-109.

30. Lal, J. (2018). The role of public libraries in socio-cultural development in rural areas in India. *Library Progress (International)*, 38(2), 299-313. doi: 10.5958/2320-317X.2018.00032.6. Retrieved from https://bpasjournals.com/admin/upload/dynamic2/17-Lib-79-2018%20_Review_%20P299-313.pdf
31. Leonard, A., & Ngula, A.K. (2013, September). The role of community libraries in the society: The case of Maxwilili community library. Paper presented at the Namibia Library Symposium, Windhoek, Namibia. Retrieved from https://www.researchgate.net/publication/318130005_The_role_of_community_libraries_in_the_society_The_case_of_Maxwilili_community_library
32. Maity, D. (2018). Public library development and its use as a part of culture in West Bengal: an analysis. *Library Philosophy and Practice*, November, 1-10.
33. Martin, M., & Heath, A. (1994). Mainstreaming local studies: integration and automating intellectual access and collection. *Australasian Public Libraries and Information Services*, 7(1), 29-44.
34. Maxted, I. (1998). Local studies libraries as rare book collection. *Local Studies Librarian*, 17(1), 2-7.
35. McKether, W., & Melissa, J. (2011). Doing more with less: how a library expanded its oral history collection. *Behavioral and Social Sciences Librarian*, 30(3), 142-153.
36. Moitra, S., & Dutta, C. (2019). Local history collection in public libraries of South 24 Parganas: A study. *SRELS Journal of Information Management*, 56(1), 36-44. doi: 10.17821/srels/2019.

37. Moran, B.B. (1985). Popular culture and library education. *Journal of Education for library and information science*, 26(1), 25-32.
38. Nichols, M. (2012). Fostering family and local history in libraries: the Hawkesbury experience. *Australasian Public Libraries and Information Services*, 25(2), 66-70.
39. Nilson, T., & Thorell, K. (Eds.). (2018). *Cultural heritage preservation: The past, the present and the future*. Halmstad: Halmstad University Press. ISBN: 978-91-87045-94-3
40. Odiase, J. (1978). Local collection in public libraries: Bendel State Library experience. *Bendel Library Journal*, 1(2), 7-13.
41. Ogiwara, S. (2007). A study of the relationship between public libraries and local residents: an analysis of the mission and objectives of public library: the commentary notes. *Journal of the Japan Society of Library and Information Science*, 53(4), 193-215.
42. Palmer, J.W. (1983). Public libraries as oral history centers: an evaluation. *Collection Building*, 5(3), 29-38. doi: 10.1108/eb023118
43. Panum, P.J. & That, R.A. (1998). Finding your roots using maps. *Colorado Libraries*, 24(2), 22-26.
44. Partridge, J. (2001). Friends of local history groups. *Australasian Public Libraries and Information Services*, 14(2), 36-45.
45. Paul, D. (1989). The expansion of local history: its impact on libraries. *Library Review*, 38(1), 34-43. doi: 10.1108/00242539410134138
46. Pearson, G. (1988). The development and role of local history collections in Australian public libraries. *Australasian Public Libraries and Information Services*, 1(1), 263-271.
47. Petty, M.J. (1981). The role of the local studies library. *Local Historian*, 14(8), 358-366.

48. Phillips, A. (1998). Preserving the nation's collections of rare local materials: towards a coalition. *Local Studies Librarian*, 17(1), 8-17.
49. Portelli, A. (1981). The peculiarities of oral history. *History Workshop Journal*, 12(1), 96-107. doi: 10.1093/hwj/12.1.96
50. Raju, A.A.N. (1985). Need for the development of local history collection at the district central libraries in Andhra Pradesh. *Herald of Library Science*, 24(4), 183-189.
51. Robinson, L. (2011). Library and cultural service convergence: a case study of the City of Wanneroo, Western Australia. *APLIS*, 24(4), 160-166.
52. Samantaray, M., & Samantaray, P. (2014). Collection development in libraries: challenges and solutions for library professionals. *Pearl – A Journal of Library and Information Science*, 8(1), 53-64.
53. Samuel, R. (1976). Local history and oral history. *History Workshop*, 1, 191-208. Retrieved from: <http://www.jstor.com/stable/4288044>
54. Smart, C.A. (2017). Preserving cultural products. *IFLA Journal*, 43(4), 348-360. doi: 10.1177/0340035217732074
55. University of Illinois (2017). Libraries and archives and the preservation of intangible cultural heritage: defining a research agenda. Retrieved from <http://www.ideals.illinois.edu/bitstream/handle/2142/97228/PICH.WhitePaper.pdf>
56. Urbaniak, T. (2012). The public library and intangible cultural heritage: the storyteller-in-residence program of the Cape Breton Regional Library. *Journal of Library Innovation*, 3(2), 33-42.

57. Weisman B.R. (2014). Oral Sources and oral history. In C. Smith (Ed.), *Encyclopedia of global Archaeology* (pp. 5584-5591). New York: Springer. doi: https://doi.org/10.1007/978-1-4419-0465-2_1401
58. White, G. (2000). Message in a bottle: community memory in the local studies collection. *Australasian Public Libraries and Information Services*, 13(3), 96-101.
59. Wolf, J. (1942). The tools and technique of genealogical research. *Indiana Magazine of History*, 38(1), 93-105. Retrieved from <http://www.jstor.org/stable/27787300>
60. Wood, M. (2004). The local collections at Durham University Library. *Local Studies Librarian*, 23(1), 2-4.