



Scott
Polar
Research
Institute

**Royal
Geographical
Society**
with IBG



Arts & Humanities
Research Council

AHRC CDP Science Museums and Archives Consortium

Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge

FULLY-FUNDED AHRC DOCTORAL STUDENTSHIP

Instruments of scientific governance? Historical geographies of Halley Bay, 1956-present

Applications are invited for an AHRC-funded studentship at the University of Cambridge, Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) and Royal Society. The PhD studentship is one of a number of awards being made by the AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Partnership with the Science Museums and Archives Consortium. The project is full-time, funded for three years and begins in October 2019. It will be supervised by Dr Richard Powell (Scott Polar Research Institute and Department of Geography, University of Cambridge), Dr Catherine Souch (RGS-IBG) and Keith Moore (Royal Society), with technical training support from Charlotte Connelly (Polar Museum, Cambridge).

The Studentship

This project aims to provide an account of the emergence of scientific governance in Antarctica, by focusing on the Halley Bay research station. Halley Bay was established by the Royal Society in 1956, in preparation for the International Geophysical Year (IGY), 1957-58, and became a critical centre for observations in global science, including for the discovery of the ozone hole in the 1980s, until its temporary closure in 2017. The histories of Halley Bay have never been fully investigated, and yet they involve many important actors in British post-war science and international governance.

This project will involve research across a range of collections and archives. The Royal Geographical Society (with IBG) holds papers relating to the planning of Antarctic expeditions, including those to Halley Bay. The Royal Society has recently catalogued their extensive holdings of papers, films, scientific instruments and other equipment related to the establishment of the station at Halley Bay. The Scott Polar Research Institute (SPRI) houses objects from the Royal Society IGY expedition, and photographs and a range of papers from the 1950s and 1960s. The extensive archives of the Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research (SCAR), which was founded in tandem with the IGY, and the British Antarctic Survey (BAS), are also held in Cambridge. There may also be the possibility of fieldwork at relevant sites, with the support of the UK Antarctic Heritage Trust, as part of the project. The student will have a degree of freedom to shape the project to their own interests and specialism, given the wealth of



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material available, and we anticipate that a number of innovative connections between collections will emerge from the research.

How to Apply

Applicants should have a high 2.1 undergraduate degree (or equivalent) in Geography, History of Science, History, Museum Studies, Film/Media Studies, International Relations, Anthropology, English/Comparative Literature or another cognate discipline, and will normally also possess a Masters degree or equivalent research training. Applicants will also need to satisfy the University of Cambridge's academic eligibility requirements and the AHRC eligibility requirements (see AHRC Research and Training Grant Funding Guides: <https://ahrc.ukri.org/skills/phdstudents/post-graduate-funding-training/training-grants-and-training-grant-funding-guides/>).

Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae (two pages), a short statement outlining relevant experience and interest in the project (500 words), an example of recent academic writing (e.g. MPhil/MSc chapter or essay) and the names and contact details of two academic referees to: **Richard Powell**, Scott Polar Research Institute, University of Cambridge, Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1ER (richard.powell@spri.cam.ac.uk) no later than **31 May 2019**.

Interviews for short-listed candidates will take place on **10 June 2019** in Cambridge. Further information on other RGS-IBG and Royal Society studentships can be found at: <https://www.rgs.org/about/our-collections/collaborative-research-on-the-collections/>. Further information on the AHRC Collaborative Doctoral Partnerships can be found at: <http://www.ahrc-cdp.org/>. For other questions or queries, please contact Richard Powell.