



The Salvation Army's overseas settlements and colonies, 1890-1939 - ESRC DTP Collaborative Studentship in the Midlands Graduate School

University of Leicester and Salvation Army International Heritage Centre

The Midlands Graduate School is an accredited Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Doctoral Training Partnership (DTP), with the first intake of students to begin in October 2017.

One of 14 such partnerships in the UK, the Midlands Graduate School is a collaboration between the University of Warwick, Aston University, University of Birmingham, University of Leicester, Loughborough University and the University of Nottingham.

The University of Leicester as part of the Midlands Graduate School is now inviting applications for an ESRC Doctoral Studentship in association with our collaborative partner, the Salvation Army Heritage Centre, London, to commence in October 2017.

The metropolitan and imperial dimensions of The Salvation Army's work came together in founder William Booth's *In Darkest England and the Way Out* (1890), a three-stage plan to 'save' the poorest 10% of Britain's population. The plan hinged on their progressive movement from 'City Colony' to 'Farm Colony' and then to the 'Colony Over-Sea'. The City Colony was the term applied to the metropolitan shelters run by The Salvation Army after 1891. The Farm Colony was to engage men in agricultural training and moral rehabilitation so that they would become 'capable, industrious citizens.' The 'Colony Over-Sea' sought to establish closely regulated settlements specifically for the 'submerged tenth', and pathways of migration open to all. Concurrently, the Salvation Army was engaged in the establishment of Indigenous and 'native' farms and colonies overseas.

This project aims to produce an innovative PhD on this history, framed within the larger economic and social histories of Britain and Empire, poverty, welfare, social reform, and emigration. The PhD student will also create new 'subject guides' to archives for the Salvation Army International Heritage Centre; and oversee a range of knowledge exchange activities (workshop, exhibition, social media, popular history) which will enhance public understanding of the Salvation Army's global history and archival collections.

Application Process

To be considered for this PhD, please complete the Collaborative Studentship application form [available online here](#) and along with two references and a 2,500-3,000 word sample of your written work (BA essay, chapter from MA thesis etc.) email this to Louise Taylor esrcdtp@le.ac.uk

Application deadline: 17 February 2017

Midlands Graduate School ESRC DTP

Our ESRC studentships cover fees and maintenance stipend and extensive support for research training, as well as research activity support grants. Support is available only to successful applicants who fulfil eligibility criteria. To check your eligibility, visit:

http://www2.warwick.ac.uk/fac/cross_fac/mgsdtp/studentships/eligibility/

Full details of the academic content of this studentship can be found below.

Informal enquiries about the research or School of History, Politics and International Relations prior to application can be directed to Professor Clare Anderson ca26@le.ac.uk. Any questions about The Salvation Army International Heritage Centre and its holdings can be directed to Steven Spencer steven.spencer@salvationarmy.org.uk.

Interviews will be held at the University of Leicester on 27 February 2017.

The Salvation Army's overseas settlements and colonies, 1890-1939

The project: From the end of the 19th century to WWII, The Salvation Army was a global organisation in two key respects. First, it was the largest voluntary migration society in the British Isles, organising the emigration of 250,000 people from Britain to Canada, New Zealand and Australia. Second, it established land and farm colonies for these migrants, as well as Indigenous and 'native' people, in the white settler colonies and in the USA, Southern Rhodesia, South Africa, and British India. The overall aims of this collaborative studentship are: (1) to produce innovative academic knowledge about this history, framed within the larger economic and social histories of Britain and Empire, poverty, welfare and social reform, and emigration; (2) to make a wider intellectual impact by connecting metropolitan to imperial history, and re-theorizing governance, and governmentality, in the British Empire; (3) to create new 'subject guides' to archives for the Salvation Army International Heritage Centre; and (4) to engage in knowledge exchange activities (workshop, exhibition, social media, popular history) which will enhance public understanding. These aims engage with the strategic plans of both the ESRC and University of Leicester, by promoting innovative partnerships in research, taking an internationalised approach to scholarship, and seeking impact in all areas of academic work.

The metropolitan and imperial dimensions of The Salvation Army's work came together in founder William Booth's *In Darkest England and the Way Out* (1890), a three-stage plan to 'save' the poorest 10% of Britain's population. The plan hinged on their progressive movement from 'City Colony' to 'Farm Colony' and then to the 'Colony Over-Sea'. The City Colony was the term applied to the metropolitan shelters run by The Salvation Army after 1891. The Farm Colony was to engage men in agricultural training and moral rehabilitation so that they would become 'capable, industrious citizens.' The 'Colony Over-Sea' sought to establish closely regulated settlements specifically for the 'submerged tenth', and pathways of migration open to all. Concurrently, the Salvation Army was engaged in the establishment of Indigenous and 'native' farms and colonies, for instance in British India and Southern Rhodesia.

There has been some (limited) academic work on The Salvation Army's metropolitan city and farm

colonies, but almost no research has been done on either the creation of the 'Colony Over-Sea' or its associated migration. Likewise, though academic work has engaged with some of the Salvation Army's settlements for colonized peoples (notably for so-called 'criminal tribes' in India), there is little or no work on others. This project will fill these significant gaps in the historiography, and present a transformative vision of the connection between poverty and social reform in Britain and its Empire, as well as the nature of imperial governance and governmentality in the colonies.

The **key research question** is: Why and how did the Salvation Army set up colonies 'Over-Sea' during the period 1890-1939? Sub-questions include: What were their key goals, and were they achieved? How were they governed? Who migrated and/ or lived in them – men, women and/or children? What kind of work did they do? What was the nature of education, family formation, religious and cultural life? How did they relate to neighbouring communities, as well as to other Christian emigration agencies and missionary societies?

Methodology and techniques to be employed: The student will begin with an interdisciplinary literature review, straddling the economic and social history of Britain, Empire, poverty and welfare, social reform, colonialism, evangelical Christianity, and migration. This will enable them to identify their own historical interests, as well as key gaps in the historiography.

They will next conduct a review of relevant material in the Salvation Army archives. This will lead them to choose three case studies from the overseas contexts identified above, and thus to refine the project's key research question and sub-questions. These will form the comparative indicators that will cut across the case studies, and thus lend the academic work overall coherence.

They will then collect the relevant material for their chosen case studies in the Salvation Army archives. This will include contemporary publications (books, pamphlets, biographies, periodicals), personal papers, territorial records, annual reports, photographs, and yearbooks. The student will triangulate this material with related sources from other UK and overseas repositories (e.g. parliamentary papers, The National Archives Colonial Office records, and where relevant and possible archives in the chosen case study countries). As the student's interests develop, they will continue to develop their literature review, as necessary, including both theoretically as well as through the acquisition of specialist knowledge on case study sites. They will further refine their work through conference presentation and peer review of an article submitted for publication.

Partnership activities and outcomes

The student will:

- Carry out comprehensive research into the scope and content of the Heritage Centre's archival holdings on international colonies and settlements. They will produce a Subject Guide on the relevant sources, an index of relevant articles in Salvation Army periodicals and enhanced catalogue descriptions for the records held from these settlements. These will all be freely available online via <http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/international-heritage-centre>
- Organise a joint academic/ public workshop between the Heritage Centre and the University of Leicester, with a view to promoting knowledge exchange between academics and the general public.
- Write content for the Salvation Army's blog (<http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/history/our-blog>) and periodicals, such as *Salvationist*

(<http://www.salvationarmy.org.uk/salvationist>)

- Write and submit an article for consideration for publication in the popular magazine *History Today* (circulation = 21,000).
- Curate both an online exhibition (via www.omeka.net) and a travelling display for the Salvation Army's various exhibition spaces (e.g. International Heritage Centre, William Booth Birthplace Museum, Hadleigh Farm, Strawberry Field), as well as at the University of Leicester. Where possible it will tour relevant sites overseas (e.g. in the Andaman Islands).