

## Reconfiguring race after slavery: the stories the slave-owners told

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Catherine Hall gave this year's [Birmingham Centre for Modern and Contemporary History \(/research/activity/moderncontemporary/index.aspx\)](http://research/activity/moderncontemporary/index.aspx) Annual Lecture on Tuesday 30 April 2013.

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Her major research project '[Legacies of British Slave-Ownership \(https://bhamalumni.org/NetCommunity/page.redir?target=http%3a%2f%2fwww.ucl.ac.uk%2fibs&srcid=34187&srctid=1&erid=7194426&trid=d7bd30a8-f5ad-44b1-ac23-f67176ec4ed3\)](https://bhamalumni.org/NetCommunity/page.redir?target=http%3a%2f%2fwww.ucl.ac.uk%2fibs&srcid=34187&srctid=1&erid=7194426&trid=d7bd30a8-f5ad-44b1-ac23-f67176ec4ed3)' set out to examine the impact of slavery in the formation of modern Britain. It documented the nineteenth-century Britons who either owned slaves or benefited financially from slavery and explored the different legacies of slave-ownership, using a census of slave-owners created in the 1830s by the Slave Compensation Commission to manage the distribution of the then-enormous sum of £20m paid as compensation to slave-owners on the abolition of colonial slavery.

The project created a publicly-accessible online Encyclopedia of British Slave-Owners, which will act as a hub for regional efforts to show how communities in Britain were linked to slavery.

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