

As We Ramble ACROSS Taiwan History . . . You're Invited to Join!

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Abstract: The Archives Cross boundaries (ACROSS) website is a database portal (<http://across.archives.gov.tw>) established by the National Archives Administration (NAA) of the Republic of China (Taiwan) as a one-stop site where users can quickly search multiple databases to delve deeply into Taiwan's history.

ACROSS is the first inter-institutional platform that provides global access services that make it possible to metasearch libraries, museums, and archives. Regardless of what you would like to know about the Republic of China, be it political, economic, social or cultural in nature, or the customs or lifestyles of Taiwanese people in different periods, ACROSS will provide a satisfactory answer.

ACROSS currently features an extensive collection of about 7,000,000 valuable photographic, audio, video, and printed records dating as far back as the 14 Ming Dynasty. The website has integrated 75 databases developed by 23 libraries, museums and archives in Taiwan, and it has Web 2.0 interactive and personalized functions. With ACROSS, the general public may search for information across different databases simultaneously, saving lots of time.

ACROSS provides access to almost all the digital archives resources available in Taiwan. In the future, we hope to broaden the coverage to include records related to Taiwan that are kept in other countries. We invite you to join us, to become our partners, and find out what ACROSS has in store for you.

About the authors:

Chiu-yen Lin is Deputy Director General of National Archives Administration of the Republic of China (Taiwan). The National Archives Administration is the central archives authority-in-charge and governs matters relating to records and archives. She has devoted to the drafting and amendment of Taiwan's Archives Act and related regulations, and participated in the research and development of the records management especially in overall system, access, preservation, and electronic records issues.

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