

INFORMATION ON SERIES OF DOCUMENTS

Series	MEPO 6
Title	Metropolitan Police: Criminal Record Office: Habitual Criminals Registers and Miscellaneous Papers 1834-1959 Pieces 1-46, 53-57, 60-63, 66-70, 75, 77-92
Structure	Those pieces closed for 75 years under the Public Records Act will not be part of this licensed package. Pieces 47-52, 58, 64-65, 71-74 and 76 are therefore excluded. Piece 59 is not used. Therefore 82 papers and volumes arranged by date order. Registers of criminals as defined by sections 5-8 of the Prevention of Crimes Act 1871, with examples of Police Gazettes, Supplements 'A' and Informations (London Area) used.
Size/Scope	<p>Total: approximately. 24,250 images with about. 203,000 named individuals.</p> <p>Pieces 1-46 (pieces 11 and 24 are indexes) are Habitual Criminals Registers at time of discharge arranged by numbers of weekly releases giving the following details for each entry: Name and Aliases, Prison, Date and Place of Birth, Height, Complexion, Hair, Eyes, Marks, Offence, Place of Conviction, Place of Committal, Sentence and Date of Conviction, Date when Penal Servitude Expires or Supervision Commences, Date of Liberation, Intended Address and Occupation, Remarks. 44 volumes – an average of 375 images per piece approx. 17000 images with an average of 12 named individuals per page = approx. 198,000 named individuals.</p> <p>Pieces 53-76 and 89-92 are a mixture of weekly and bi-weekly printed Police Gazettes, Supplements 'A' and Police Informations detailing the following: Naval and Military Deserter lists, Apprehensions Sought by District – name, age, physical descriptions and reason for being sought by police, portraits and descriptions of person sought including specimens of handwriting, Details of property stolen, Lists of licence holders, supervisors, expirees who have been re-apprehended. 19 pieces Approx. 250 pages per piece = 4750 images</p> <p>Pieces 77-88 are registers of Habitual Drunkards: portraits and descriptions circulated weekly to licensed persons and secretaries of clubs. Two photographs per habitual drunkard: face on and profile. Arranged by year giving the following information on each named individual: Name and aliases, residence, Place of business or where employed, Age, Height, Build, Complexion, Hair, Eyes, Shape of nose, Shape of face, Peculiarities or marks, Profession or Occupation, Date and nature of conviction, Court at which convicted, remarks. Approx. 4 pages and 6 portraits and descriptions per weekly circular. Approx. 2,500 images and 3,750 named Habitual Drunkards.</p>
Physical Format and Condition	Mostly bound volumes with a size ranging from 280mm by 180mm to 450mm by 300mm. Printed volumes with the occasional handwritten note. Some volumes have damaged/broken bindings but most are in decent condition with minimal data loss. Piece 75 is in poor condition with torn/flaky pages leading to some data loss.

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Popularity	Between 1st January 2009 and 31 December 2009 this series of records was requested in the reading rooms at The National Archives some 91 times. In a package with other related material it is expected to be of greater interest to the public. Popularity would also be greatly increased by improved ease of access.
Copyright	To be confirmed
Research Guide	Tracing 19th and 20th Century Criminals Sources for Convicts and Prisoners
Possible areas for indexing	Full Convict Name and aliases, Date of birth, Place of birth, Date of conviction, Place of conviction