Case studies
The Montreal Park case study went live on 6 March. Written by Research Fellow Kate Smith, this case study focuses on the Amherst family during their return to Britain and examines the important role house-building projects played in re-establishing their sense of familial belonging once home from empire. To read the case study visit: http://blogs.ucl.ac.uk/eicah/montreal-park-kent-case-study/.

Objects, Families, Homes Conference
Registration is now open for the Objects, Families, Homes conference – visit http://blogs.ucl.ac.uk/eicah/objects-families-homes-conference/. The conference will mark the end of The East India Company at Home project and will take place in the Roberts Building at UCL (opposite Waterstones, Gower Street) on 11 and 12 July 2014. Registration fees for the conference include lunch, coffees and teas and a drinks reception on 11 July. Full price registration is £60, while the charge for the unwaged/students/retired is £20. Places will be allocated on a first come first served basis so please register as soon as possible to avoid disappointment!

Out and about
On 27 February, Margot and Kate presented a paper entitled ‘Exchange and Empire: The East India Company Comes Home’ as part of the History Seminar series at the University of Sheffield.

As part of the Gerald Aylmer Seminar on 28 February, Margot Finn spoke on ‘Who owns history?: Public and private in the East India Company pasts’.

On 5 March, Kate and Ellen presented a paper entitled ‘Objects, Families, Homes: Reconfiguring the Georgian Home’ as part of the Eighteenth-Century History Seminar series at the University of Southampton.

On 12 March Kate and Claire Reed (Osterley Park and House, National Trust) presented a paper entitled ‘Making the East India Company at home in Osterley Park’ at the Public History Seminar, Institute of Historical Research.

Helen Clifford has been working with Helen Dorey at the Soane Museum to explore a wide range of material connected with Sir John Soane’s interests in the East India Company and Asian culture. As a result of this, and work at Warwick University on potential Collaborative Doctoral Award partnerships, Helen was invited to attend

Ellen Filor and John McAleer at the University of Southampton
and contribute to a seminar on 20 March at the Soane on ‘Working Collaboratively in Cultural Heritage’, convened by Dana Arnold of Middlesex University.

On the evening of 20 March Emile de Bruijn, Andrew Bush and Helen Clifford were delighted to celebrate the publication of Chinese Wallpaper in National Trust Houses, at the China Tang Suite at the Dorchester Hotel, London, providing the opportunity to thank the contributing team of collaborators including curators, conservators, entrepreneurs and scholars. Special thanks go to the hosts who made this venue possible. Copies of the National Trust's catalogue of a group of historic Chinese wallpapers based on the latest research and conservation can be bought from Shop.nationaltrust.org.uk. The 50-page booklet is entitled Chinese Wallpapers in National Trust Houses and includes nearly 50 colour pictures, introductory essay, location map of sites including non-NT examples and a bibliography. The booklet is also available as a PDF - http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/document-1355824589286/.

Thanks to Dr Oliver Cox of the Thames Valley Country House Partnership. Helen, Emile de Bruijn and Andrew Bush from the Chinese Wallpaper Study Group were given an introduction to Milton Manor near Abingdon. The owners were most generous in allowing access on 22 March to a fine set of Chinese papers of early date, fitting a bedroom and accompanying dressing room.

On 25 March Helen gave a talk on the project and the Aske Hall Case Study at the Brotherton Library Special Collections in Leeds, as part of the Department of History/IMS seminar series at the University of Leeds.

**Upcoming events**

On 24 April Kate will present a paper entitled ‘Nabobs No More: Returning East India Company Families’ as part of the Material and Consumer Culture strand at the European Social Science History Conference in Vienna.