

Mathematics at the Meridian

The History of Mathematics at Greenwich

Greenwich has been a centre for scientific computing since the foundation of the Royal Observatory in 1675. Early Astronomers Royal gathered astronomical data with the purpose of enabling navigators to compute their longitude at sea. Nevil Maskelyne in the eighteenth century organised the work of computing tables for the Nautical Almanac, anticipating later methods used in safety-critical computing systems. The nineteenth century saw influential critiques of Charles Babbage's mechanical calculating engines, and in the twentieth century Leslie Comrie and others pioneered the automation of computation. The arrival of the Royal Naval College in 1873 and the University of Greenwich in 1999 has brought more mathematicians and different kinds of mathematics to Greenwich. In the twenty-first century, computational mathematics has found many new applications. **Mathematics at the Meridian: The History of Mathematics at Greenwich** presents an account of the mathematicians who worked at Greenwich and their achievements.

Features

- Presents a scholarly but accessible history of mathematics at Greenwich, from the seventeenth century to the present day, with each chapter written by an expert in the field
- Will appeal to astronomical and naval historians, as well as historians of mathematics and scientific computing

Front Cover Image: Unknown Artist, View of Greenwich Hospital after 1750 [c1934], Tate Archive, © Tate



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