

#120 6

# Magna Charta,

Made in the Ninth Year of

**K. Henry the Third,**

And Confirmed by

**K. Edward the First,**

I N T H E

Twenty-Eighth Year of his REIGN.

With some Short, but Necessary

**PART TWO**

**Where can I get  
information about  
Magna Carta?**



**The Magna Carta Armoury**

**MAGNA  
800  
CARTA**



In response to the 2015 anniversary lots of books and resources have been produced on Magna Carta.

The issue is not where do I find out about it, as much as, how do I choose what to find out and where do I begin?

In this section we have provided a brief breakdown of where to find sources and what they contain to help you decide what to read and select first.

There is also a section on how to understand and distil, and unpick the resource material and stories that already exist.

The best place to start is <http://magnacarta800th.com/> the Magna Carta 800<sup>th</sup> was created to support the anniversary; it is not a commercial body. Through the website you can find out about the history of Magna Carta its impact and events and activities that are happening during the anniversary year. It also lists all the different bodies that have exhibitions or special activities to support the Magna Carta 800<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

In the history section:

- Information about where the battles/sieges were <http://magnacarta800th.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/11/The-Magna-Carda-cover.pdf>
- There is a useful map <http://magnacarta800th.com/history-of-the-magna-carda/magna-carda-map/>
- Information about key Magna Carta towns <http://magnacarta800th.com/history-of-the-magna-carda/the-magna-carda-towns/> this might give you ideas about who to contact for your research, or how to proceed with your own project.
- A really useful timeline <http://magnacarta800th.com/history-of-the-magna-carda/the-magna-carda-timeline/>

## The Battlefields Trust

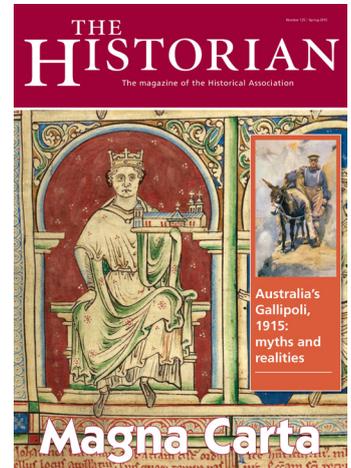
[www.battlefieldstrust.com](http://www.battlefieldstrust.com)

They are one of the organisations delivering projects on the Magna Carta – they are engaged with local history of the Magna Carta

## The Historical Association

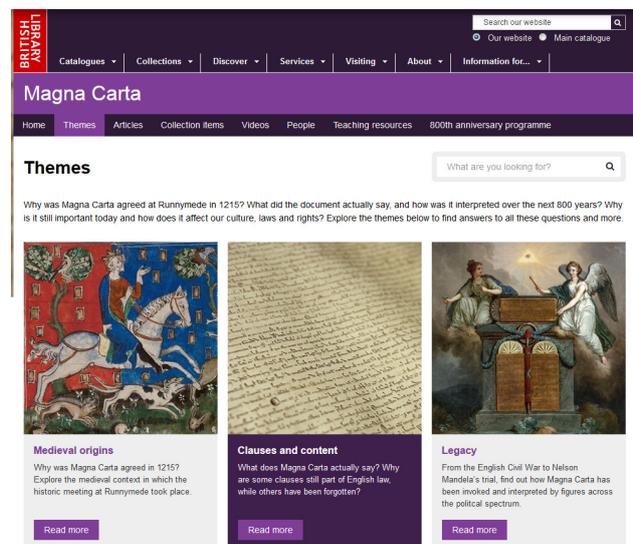
The Historical Association produced a special edition of its magazine *The Historian* on Magna Carta 800<sup>th</sup> that is available for free online:

[www.history.org.uk/resources/general\\_news\\_2434.html](http://www.history.org.uk/resources/general_news_2434.html)



## The British Library

Magna Carta: Law, Liberty, Legacy Exhibition was held during the summer of 2015, and the material is archived.





## How to understand and distil, and unpick the resource material and stories that already exist

Before starting a project it is important to read up on the history, when you have done that you may want to start to create your own timeline or chronology of facts.

By creating your own timeline you can begin to establish what information you have about your area. If the answer is simply 'there was a siege or battle' then you can start looking through your information for references to other battles or to the leaders.

Important questions to establish for moving forward and carrying out your research or approaching other people to help you to build up the local story:

- How do I know there was a siege or battle in my area?
- Where was this information found?
- What was the date of the siege/battle?
- Who was in charge of my area at the time?
- Where was the site of the siege or battle?
- Do I/we know the outcome?
- How many references have been made?

Once you know the date of your siege and who was in charge of your area you can begin to piece together bits of information using the general information found on the Magna Carta 800<sup>th</sup> Committee website. All of this can be put into your information timeline.

From this you should begin to realise where gaps of information are, and where you need to look for other information.

By creating an information timeline of your own, you will only need to keep reading different accounts of Magna Carta with a clear purpose.

The information timeline a working example:

- Magna Carta granted or sealed
- Barons disperse
- First battle with the King
- The battle with the King in my region (e.g. Yorkshire)
- Yorkshire is under the influence of:
- My area is under the influence of e.g. Baron Red (fictional) who is opposed to the King in 1214 but is reconciled to him in 1215
- December 1215 Baron Red changes sides and is against the King
- Spring 2016 Baron Red's castle near here is attacked by the King's supporters

The Timeline can be the beginning of your research project and one that could be a shared activity. Why not approach a local group or create a new one.

## Tips

Don't overstretch your timeline – better to be a sketch of information rather than absolutely everything you can find out about Magna Carta.

If you are using an internet source such as Wikipedia then check any facts or statistics against another source to make sure that it is correct.