Accounting history is an essential field of accounting research that continues to contribute to our knowledge of accounting and its development. The first issue of the Accounting Historians Journal was published in 1974. Professor Paul Garner wrote in that issue:

“Study and research in accounting history are open to almost everyone having an accounting bent. The eagle eyes and ears of accounting historians will find few limits to possible surprise findings and important discoveries. In other words, everyone has an opportunity to make a contribution to the filling in of unknown details. Accounting history research is somewhat similar to the search for oil, that is, information regarding accounting history is where one finds it.”

This special section aims to widen the doorway to accounting history. Doctoral students and recent graduates are unlikely to pursue historical research unless they know the resources and methods available. This special section on research methods and resources is intended to acquaint accounting scholars with the latest techniques, tried-and-true methods, and knowledge of the vast resources available for conducting historical research. Potential contributions may explore topics such as:

1. The application of historical methods such as biography, bibliometrics, prosopography, and cliometrics;
2. Literature reviews focused on historical methods employed in accounting history; and
3. Potential resources and archives that are suitable for conducting accounting research.

For some examples of the kind of manuscripts envisioned as appropriate for the special issue, authors may consult the following publications:


The deadline for submission of the final version of all manuscripts is March 31, 2025. Upon submission, all manuscripts will follow the regular review and editorial process in accordance with AHJ editorial policies.

If you have questions, please get in touch with Editor Bill Black (whblack@ung.edu), or Guest Editor John Keyser (john.keyser@case.edu).
References