

Online archive assembles writings of Charles Darwin

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CAMBRIDGE, England — Charles Darwin's work has evolved again. Now it's available in an online archive that launched this month.

Creators of www.darwin-online.org.uk say the Internet trove is only half complete.

But it already includes manuscripts, notebooks and other material, much of which comes from the Darwin Archive at

Cambridge University.

"Most of the materials provided are appearing online for the first time," said project director John van Wyhe, a researcher at Christ's College, Cambridge.

These include the first edition of the "Journal of Researches" (1839) (or "Voyage of the Beagle"), "The Zoology of the Voyage of HMS Beagle" (1838-43) and "The Descent of Man" (1871). The archive has multiple

editions of "On the Origin of Species."

The notebook in which Darwin recorded his thoughts on seeing the Galapagos Islands in the Pacific — where he made many of the observations that formed his theory of natural selection — was stolen in the early 1980s and is still missing. But the text, transcribed from microfilm, is available in the online archive.