

Collections development policy

1/8/2015 – 1/8/2018

Name of museum: Manchester Museum, University of Manchester, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9PL

Name of governing body: Board of Governors of the University of Manchester

Date on which this policy was approved by governing body: draft approved by the Board of Governors: 13th November 2014, amended 1/8/2015.

Date at which this policy is due for review: 3 years from the date of approval by the Board of Governors

Policy statement

This policy applies to material which the museum owns and has accessioned into the collection or intends to own and accession into the collection. The acquisition, management and disposal of collections will be guided by:

- the Museum's statement of purpose
- the legal basis on which the collections are held
- the public benefit derived from the effective use and management of the collections
- an assessment of the needs of the Museum's collections
- the collections held by other museums and organisations collecting in the same or related geographic areas or subject fields.

1.1. Museum's statement of purpose

As a university museum, the Manchester Museum uses its international collection of human and natural history for enjoyment and inspiration, working with people from all backgrounds to provoke debate and reflection about the past, present and future of the earth and its inhabitants.

Our **Vision** is that the Museum is ideally placed to encourage people to engage with some of the major issues of our time:

1. Promoting understanding between cultures

One of our major challenges is that ignorance and misunderstanding can lead to intolerance and conflict. We will work to increase mutual understanding between cultures today, by placing them in a rounded context, and we will promote understanding of cultures of the past by showing their richness and influence.

2. Developing a sustainable world

Through the collections of both natural and human-made objects, the Museum can engage people in some of the major issues facing us in terms climate change and habitat loss. It is no longer sufficient for the Museum to show the world as classified and unchanging: we must show it as dynamic and shaped by past and contemporary forces, many of them human-made.

In doing this, we will position ourselves as one of the leading university museums in the world, known for our innovative and campaigning approach.

1.2. The governing body will ensure that both acquisition and disposal are carried out openly and with transparency.

1.3. By definition, the museum has a long-term purpose and holds collections in trust for the benefit of the public in relation to its stated objectives. The governing body therefore accepts the principle that sound curatorial reasons must be established before consideration is given to any acquisition to the collection, or the disposal of any items in the museum's collection.

1.4. Acquisitions outside the current stated policy will only be made in exceptional circumstances.

1.5. The museum recognises its responsibility, when acquiring additions to its collections, to ensure that care of collections, documentation arrangements and use of collections will meet the requirements of the Museum Accreditation Standard. This includes using SPECTRUM primary procedures for collections management. It will take into account

limitations on collecting imposed by such factors as staffing, storage and care of collection arrangements.

1.6. The museum will undertake due diligence and make every effort not to acquire, whether by purchase, gift, bequest or exchange, any object or specimen unless the governing body or responsible officer is satisfied that the museum can acquire a valid title to the item in question.

1.7. The museum will not undertake disposal motivated principally by financial reasons.

2. An overview of current collections

The Manchester Museum's collections are multidisciplinary and include humanities and natural sciences subject areas. In 1997 the collections were Designated as being of national and international importance by the then Museums and Galleries Commission. The development begins in the 1820s with the formation of the Manchester Society for the Promotion of Natural History. The collections of the Manchester Geological and Mining Society were transferred in 1850. Following the decline of the Society, the collections were transferred to Owens College (now The University of Manchester) in 1867. A museum was built in 1885 to house these collections. The humanities collections began to be added in the late 1890s. A new extension was built for the archaeology and Egyptology collections in 1912, and another for the Ethnology (now Anthropology) collection in 1927. In 1977 the Museum took over the former Dental School for use as administration offices. Between 2000 and 2003 the Museum benefited from a major capital development project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the University, which allowed for a redisplay of the galleries as well as new facilities for visitors and the collections.

The collections have been developed mainly through donation, bequest and field collecting or research by staff in both the Museum and the wider University. Collecting activity was highest during the late 19th and early 20th centuries although collecting has continued at lower levels in all collecting areas since that time.

The Museum has had associations with a number of leading figures. Its existence is due to Thomas Henry Huxley, who advised the Manchester Society for the Promotion of Natural History that its collection should be passed to Owens College. The first curator was Huxley's acolyte William Boyd Dawkins. The Museum has always attracted Directors and Curators of high calibre. The collections similarly are of extremely high calibre, and contain material at least equal to that in National museums. Particularly important acquisitions are mentioned under point 3 below.

3. An overview of current collections

The collections are divided into the following collecting areas:

Designated collections

3.1 Archaeology

The collection consists of material from British and European prehistory, Roman Britain, the Middle Ages and more recent periods, Greek and Roman antiquities from the Mediterranean, and objects from the near East, and Africa. There are approximately 50,000 items. Particular strengths include British collections from the prehistoric to the early Medieval period; Mediterranean collections from Bronze Age Crete to the Etruscans; Greek and Roman vases and glass; ancient Near Eastern material including archives from excavations supported by the Museum.

3.2 Archery

The collection consists of material from the worldwide history of archery, mostly derived from the collection of Ingo Simon. There are just over 4,000 items. It is one of the most comprehensive collections in the UK. The bulk of the collection is based on a single bequest from Ingo Simon. Particular strengths include crossbows, composite bows, English bows, Japanese archery, and a field collection of Brazilian archery collected in the 1960s.

3.3 Living Cultures

The collection consists of ethnographic material from non-European cultures.. There are almost 18,000 objects from Asia, Africa, Americas and Pacific (including Australia and New Zealand). Particular strengths include Peruvian and Honduran pre-Columbian pottery; Japanese netsuke, lacquer and metalware; Native North American Plains clothing pre-1850; Indigenous Australian material from Groote Eylandt; Mursi material from Ethiopia; pottery and masks from Nigeria. Of importance is the collection of South Pacific objects donated by Charles Heape.

3.4 Botany

The collection consists of material from all families and groups of plants and is worldwide in scope. There are approximately $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million specimens of which 5,000 are type specimens. Particular strengths include flowering plants (major named collections are the Charles Bailey herbarium of British and European plants, the Cosmo Melvill Collection of world plants and the Leo Grindon Collection of cultivated plants), liverworts, mosses, ferns, lichens, algae, and fungi.

3.5 Egyptology

The collection consists of material from pre-Dynastic to Roman Period Egypt. There are approximately 18,000 items. These were acquired mainly from the late 19th Century and early 20th Century excavations carried out by Sir William Flinders Petrie, the British School of Archaeology in Egypt, the Egypt Exploration Society and the Liverpool Institute of Archaeology. Particular strengths include domestic objects from Kahun and Gurob; Roman period mummy portraits from Hawara; the complete 'Tomb of the Two Brothers'; objects from Tell el-Amarna. Most material derives from donations originating from Jesse Haworth.

3.6 Entomology

The collection consists of material from all orders of insect and is worldwide in scope. There are approximately 2.8 million specimens of mainly dried insects; approximately 1.8 million specimens are non-British and there are about 12,000 type specimens. Particular strengths include the collection of British insects; tropical Lepidoptera (butterflies and moths); Coleoptera (beetles) and earwigs. Major donors include CW Lloyd, CH Schill, Spaeth and HR Last.

3.7 Earth sciences

The collection consists of rocks, minerals and fossils and is worldwide in scope. There are approximately 18,000 mineral specimens, 10,000 petrology specimens and 75,000 fossils; there are 3 mineral type specimens and 500 type fossils. Particular strengths among rocks and minerals include British and Irish minerals; 19th Century collection of David Forbes, and 20th Century collection of H.F. Harwood. Particular strengths include plant and invertebrate fossils from the Carboniferous; Buckman collection of Jurassic ammonites; Boyd Dawkins Pleistocene cave fossils.

3.8 Numismatics

The collection consists of coins and banknotes, tokens and medals and is worldwide in scope. There are approximately 76,000 items, including a small collection of tokens and war medals. Particular strengths include Greek, Roman and Byzantine coins; Chinese coins; Indian coins from the Moghuls to the East India Company; European coins from the 17th to 19th Centuries. Major donations came from H Raby, R Spencer, A Güterbock and WS Ogden.

3.9 Zoology

The collection includes most groups of animals and is worldwide in scope. There are 939,927 specimens; there are approximately 5,000 type specimens. Particular strengths include the Henry Dresser collection of world birds; molluscs, including specimens from A Lincolne, LW Stratton, RD Darbshire, JC Melvill and many others; corals; AW Waters' collection of Bryozoa; E Halkyard foraminifera collection.

Non-Designated collections

3.10 Handling material

While the Museum has a long history of making good-quality collections available for use in educational sessions and public events, and we make a clear attempt to do so wherever possible, we recognise that some material is not robust enough to withstand regular use. To encourage the fullest access to collections for public enjoyment and benefit, we regularly acquire small numbers of specimens that are used in ways that would not be appropriate for accessioned material, mostly taxidermied animals that are used for handling, and resin casts of skulls that are used for educational sessions. We also have numbers of specimens of shells, rocks and minerals that are not accessioned in order for them to be usable in the fullest range of educational sessions and public events.

3.11 Archives

The Museum holds a small archive, including photographs and printed ephemera, relating to its own history and development, including previous exhibitions. Archives relating to individual collections are retained with those collections. There are no plans to add to this archive unless such material becomes available through gift or transfer from elsewhere. The Museum recognises the primary responsibility of the University Archive and will defer to that when appropriate (archives relating to the running of the Museum were transferred to the University Archive in 2013). The Museum will be guided by the *Code of Practice on Archives for Museums in the United Kingdom* (3rd ed., 2002).

3.12 Digital collections

The Museum holds many digital surrogates of collections and other digital images. Those that relate to objects and events included in the Museum's Collections Management System are managed through that system. A wide range of images are available on a variety of media, notably Flickr.

3.13 Exhibition and Display

There is a small collection of material, mainly photographic, which has been commissioned by the Museum for display purposes and which it is not appropriate to maintain within the main collections. This collection will only be developed in association with ongoing exhibition development.

3.14 Vivarium

The collection consists of live animals and is divided into three distinct parts, education, research and display. There are 270 specimens covering 40 species. The research collection has been developed as a captive-breeding programme for endangered species. The specimens come mainly from South and Central America, but there are small numbers from Australia, Africa and Asia. Particular strengths include neo-tropical frogs.

More detailed descriptions of the collections can be found in Appendix 1. All the collections can be searched on the Museum's website (www.manchester.ac.uk/museum).

4. Themes and priorities for future collecting

All Designated collecting areas are open for potential development. The Museum will actively manage and develop its collection in an ethical, transparent and consultative manner to ensure its usability and usefulness meet the mission of The University of Manchester and the supporting mission of The Manchester Museum. To achieve this, the Museum will only acquire items for which there is an identifiable use in research, learning or public engagement. Furthermore the Museum will not acquire any items for which legal and valid¹ title cannot be transferred. Collecting is anticipated to take place in the following collecting modes:

- Discipline-based collecting, which enriches the collection for the purposes of research, learning or public engagement. All geographical areas will be considered.
- Thematic collecting, which combines collections development with public engagement, collecting in a cross-disciplinary way, and incorporating views and opinions of people as part of the collecting process. Collections will be housed within existing subject areas for practical purposes (eg. relating to the materiality of collections), but linked (through digital means) to maintain linkages and coherence.

5. Themes and priorities for rationalisation and disposal

5.1 The museum recognises that the principles on which priorities for rationalisation and disposal are determined will be through a formal review process that identifies which collections are included and excluded from the review. The outcome of review and any subsequent rationalisation will not reduce the quality or significance of the collection and will result in a more useable, well managed collection.

5.2 The procedures used will meet professional standards. The process will be documented, open and transparent. There will be clear communication with key stakeholders about the outcomes and the process.

Collections that do not fit within the traditional collecting areas, which are poor quality, or which have poor-quality information associated with them will be priorities for rationalisation, transfer and/or disposal. All disposals will be carried out in line with the MA 'Disposals Toolkit'. In the first instance, collections will be offered to local museums or to museums farther afield with cognate collections.

6. Limitations on collecting

6.1 The museum recognises its responsibility to work within the parameters of the Museum Association Code of Ethics when considering acquisition and disposal.

¹ **Legal title** is defined in ICOM's *Code of Ethics* as the "legal right to ownership of property in the country concerned. In certain countries this may be a conferred right and insufficient to meet the requirements of a due diligence search."
(<http://icom.museum/ethics.html#glossary>)

Valid title is defined in ICOM's *Code of Ethics* as the "indisputable right to ownership of property, supported by full provenance of the item from discovery or production." (<http://icom.museum/ethics.html#glossary>)

The museum recognises its responsibility, in acquiring additions to its collections, to ensure that care of collections, documentation arrangements and use of collections will meet the requirements of the Accreditation Standard. It will take into account limitations on collecting imposed by such factors as staffing, storage and care of collection arrangements.

7. Collecting policies of other museums

7.1 The museum will take account of the collecting policies of other museums and other organisations collecting in the same or related areas or subject fields. It will consult with these organisations where conflicts of interest may arise or to define areas of specialism, in order to avoid unnecessary duplication and waste of resources.

7.2 Specific reference is made to the following museum(s)/organisation(s):

Museum of Science and Industry (MOSI), Manchester
Whitworth Art Gallery
Manchester City Galleries
University of Manchester History and Heritage Group

8. Archival holdings

A small number of photographs have been accessioned as part of the main collections. These will be managed as part of those collections and to the same standard of care. In addition, the Museum contains some archival materials, including photographs, notebooks, correspondence associated with particular collections. The intention is that further acquisitions will only be made as part of acquisitions of collections themselves, and there is no intention to significantly expand our archival holdings. The archival materials will be treated as associated materials/documents, and we will aim to document them and make them available for the purposes of learning, research and enjoyment. Digitisation of archival materials will be considered alongside digitisation of collections themselves.

9. Acquisition

9.1 The policy for agreeing acquisitions is:

Small-scale acquisitions (up to 200 insects, for example) are at the discretion of Curators. More significant acquisitions, or acquisitions that are of a sensitive nature (eg. material excavated from archaeological sites) have to be approved by the Director. Curators make a recommendation to the Director, and are responsible for establishing proof of title and liaising with the Donor.

9.2 The museum will not acquire any object or specimen unless it is satisfied that the object or specimen has not been acquired in, or exported from, its country of origin (or any intermediate country in which it may have been legally owned) in violation of that country's laws. (For the purposes of this paragraph 'country of origin' includes the United Kingdom).

9.3 In accordance with the provisions of the UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, which the UK ratified with effect from November 1 2002, and the Dealing in Cultural Objects (Offences) Act 2003, the museum will reject any items that have been illicitly traded. The governing body will be guided by the national guidance on the responsible acquisition of cultural property issued by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in 2005.

10 Human remains

10.1 As the museum holds or intends to acquire human remains under 100 years old, it will obtain the necessary licence under the Human Tissue Act 2004 and any subordinate legislation from time to time in force.

10.2 As the museum holds or intends to acquire human remains from any period, it will follow the procedures in the 'Guidance for the care of human remains in museums' issued by DCMS in 2005.

11 Biological and geological material

11.1 So far as biological and geological material is concerned, the museum will not acquire by any direct or indirect means any specimen that has been collected, sold or otherwise transferred in contravention of any national or international wildlife protection or natural history conservation

law or treaty of the United Kingdom or any other country, except with the express consent of an appropriate outside authority.

12 Archaeological material

- 12.1** The museum will not acquire archaeological material (including excavated ceramics) in any case where the governing body or responsible officer has any suspicion that the circumstances of their recovery involved a failure to follow the appropriate legal procedures.
- 12.2** In England, Wales and Northern Ireland the procedures include reporting finds to the landowner or occupier of the land and to the proper authorities in the case of possible treasure (i.e. the Coroner for Treasure) as set out in the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended by the Coroners & Justice Act 2009).

13 Exceptions

13.1 Any exceptions to the above clauses will only be because the museum is:

- acting as an externally approved repository of last resort for material of local (UK) origin
- acting with the permission of authorities with the requisite jurisdiction in the country of origin

In these cases the museum will be open and transparent in the way it makes decisions and will act only with the express consent of an appropriate outside authority. The museum will document when these exceptions occur.

14 Spoliation

14.1 The museum will use the statement of principles 'Spoliation of Works of Art during the Nazi, Holocaust and World War II period', issued for non-national museums in 1999 by the Museums and Galleries Commission.

15 The Repatriation and Restitution of objects and human remains

- 15.1** The museum's governing body, acting on the advice of the museum's professional staff, if any, may take a decision to return human remains (unless covered by the 'Guidance for the care of human remains in museums' issued by DCMS in 2005), objects or specimens to a country or people of origin. The museum will take such decisions on a case by case basis; within its legal position and taking into account all ethical implications and available guidance. This will mean that the procedures described in 16.1-5 will be followed but the remaining procedures are not appropriate.
- 15.2** The disposal of human remains from museums in England, Northern Ireland and Wales will follow the procedures in the 'Guidance for the care of human remains in museums'.

16 Disposal procedures

- 16.1** All disposals will be undertaken with reference to the SPECTRUM Primary Procedures on disposal.
- 16.2** The governing body will confirm that it is legally free to dispose of an item. Agreements on disposal made with donors will also be taken into account.
- 16.3** When disposal of a museum object is being considered, the museum will establish if it was acquired with the aid of an external funding organisation. In such cases, any conditions attached to the original grant will be followed. This may include repayment of the original grant and a proportion of the proceeds if the item is disposed of by sale.
- 16.4** When disposal is motivated by curatorial reasons the procedures outlined below will be followed and the method of disposal may be by gift, sale, exchange or as a last resort - destruction.

- 16.5** The decision to dispose of material from the collections will be taken by the governing body only after full consideration of the reasons for disposal. Other factors including public benefit, the implications for the museum's collections and collections held by museums and other organisations collecting the same material or in related fields will be considered. Expert advice will be obtained and the views of stakeholders such as donors, researchers, local and source communities and others served by the museum will also be sought.
- 16.6** A decision to dispose of a specimen or object, whether by gift, exchange, sale or destruction (in the case of an item too badly damaged or deteriorated to be of any use for the purposes of the collections or for reasons of health and safety), will be the responsibility of the governing body of the museum acting on the advice of professional curatorial staff, if any, and not of the curator or manager of the collection acting alone.
- 16.7** Once a decision to dispose of material in the collection has been taken, priority will be given to retaining it within the public domain. It will therefore be offered in the first instance, by gift or sale, directly to other Accredited Museums likely to be interested in its acquisition.
- 16.8** If the material is not acquired by any Accredited museum to which it was offered as a gift or for sale, then the museum community at large will be advised of the intention to dispose of the material normally through a notice on the MA's Find an Object web listing service, an announcement in the Museums Association's Museums Journal or in other specialist publications and websites (if appropriate).
- 16.9** The announcement relating to gift or sale will indicate the number and nature of specimens or objects involved, and the basis on which the material will be transferred to another institution. Preference will be given to expressions of interest from other Accredited Museums. A period of at least two months will be allowed for an interest in acquiring the material to be expressed. At the end of this period, if no expressions of interest have been received, the museum may consider disposing of the material to other interested individuals and organisations giving priority to organisations in the public domain.
- 16.10** Any monies received by the museum governing body from the disposal of items will be applied solely and directly for the benefit of the collections. This normally means the purchase of further acquisitions. In exceptional cases, improvements relating to the care of collections in order to meet or exceed Accreditation requirements relating to the risk of damage to and deterioration of the collections may be justifiable. Any monies received in compensation for the damage, loss or destruction of items will be applied in the same way. Advice on those cases where the monies are intended to be used for the care of collections will be sought from the Arts Council England.
- 16.11** The proceeds of a sale will be allocated so it can be demonstrated that they are spent in a manner compatible with the requirements of the Accreditation standard. Money must be restricted to the long-term sustainability, use and development of the collection.
- 16.12** Full records will be kept of all decisions on disposals and the items involved and proper arrangements made for the preservation and/or transfer, as appropriate, of the documentation relating to the items concerned, including photographic records where practicable in accordance with SPECTRUM Procedure on deaccession and disposal.

Disposal by exchange

- 16.13** The nature of disposal by exchange means that the museum will not necessarily be in a position to exchange the material with another Accredited museum. The governing body will therefore ensure that issues relating to accountability and impartiality are carefully considered to avoid undue influence on its decision-making process.

- 16.13.1** In cases where the governing body wishes for sound curatorial reasons to exchange material directly with Accredited or non-Accredited museums, with other organisations or with individuals, the procedures in paragraphs 16.1-5 will apply.
- 16.13.2** If the exchange is proposed to be made with a specific Accredited museum, other Accredited museums which collect in the same or related areas will be directly notified of the proposal and their comments will be requested.
- 16.13.3** If the exchange is proposed with a non-Accredited museum, with another type of organisation or with an individual, the museum will place a notice on the MA's Find an Object web listing service, or make an announcement in the Museums Association's Museums Journal or in other specialist publications and websites (if appropriate).
- 16.13.4** Both the notification and announcement must provide information on the number and nature of the specimens or objects involved both in the museum's collection and those intended to be acquired in exchange. A period of at least two months must be allowed for comments to be received. At the end of this period, the governing body must consider the comments before a final decision on the exchange is made.

Disposal by destruction

- 16.14** If it is not possible to dispose of an object through transfer or sale, the governing body may decide to destroy it.
- 16.15** It is acceptable to destroy material of low intrinsic significance (duplicate mass-produced articles or common specimens which lack significant provenance) where no alternative method of disposal can be found.
- 16.16** Destruction is also an acceptable method of disposal in cases where an object is in extremely poor condition, has high associated health and safety risks or is part of an approved destructive testing request identified in an organisation's research policy.
- 16.17** Where necessary, specialist advice will be sought to establish the appropriate method of destruction. Health and safety risk assessments will be carried out by trained staff where required.
- 16.18** The destruction of objects should be witnessed by an appropriate member of the museum workforce. In circumstances where this is not possible, eg the destruction of controlled substances, a police certificate should be obtained and kept in the relevant object history file.

Appendix 1 – Description of the Collections

History of the collections

The Manchester Museum's collections are multidisciplinary and include Humanities and Natural Sciences. In 1997 the collections were Designated as being of national and international importance by the then Museums and Galleries Commission (now Museums, Libraries, Archives Council (MLA)).

The development begins in the 1820s with the Manchester Society of Natural History. The collections of the Manchester Geological and Mining Society were transferred in 1850. Following the decline of the Society, the collections were transferred to Owens College (now The University of Manchester) in 1867. A museum was built in 1885 to house these collections.

The Humanities collections began to be added in the late 1890s. A new extension was built for the Archaeology and Egyptology collection in 1912, and another for the Ethnology (now Anthropology) collection in 1927. In 1977 the Museum took over the former Dental School for use as administration offices. Between 2000 and 2003 the Museum benefited from a major capital development project funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and the University, which allowed for a redisplay of the galleries as well as new facilities for visitors and the collections. The collections have been developed mainly through donation, bequest and field collecting or research by staff in both the Museum and the wider University. The collections are divided into Humanities and Natural Sciences; further sub-divisions have been created on the basis of academic disciplines and the curatorial expertise of past and present staff.

All the collections can be searched on the Museum's website (www.manchester.ac.uk/museum).

1. Living Cultures

The collection consists of ethnographic material from non-European cultures and has almost 18,000 objects from Asia, Africa, Americas and Pacific (including Australia and New Zealand).

Particular strengths:

- Africa (West, East and Central Africa): masks, ritual carving, weapons and beadwork (Frank Willett, David Turton collections)
- Pacific: Weapons, tapa cloth, sacred items and basketry (Charles Heape, Peter Worsley collections)
- Americas: Inuit and Native North American carving, tools, weapons, clothing and beadwork. Peruvian Pre Columbian pottery. Modern Peruvian pottery and Honduran polychrome Mayan pottery (R.D. Darbishire, Wellcome Trust, Norman Scholes and George H. Bankes Collections)
- Asia: Japanese weapons, armour, lacquerware, metalware, netsuke and ceramics. Chinese bronzes and ceramics. Indian religious carving, basketry, weapons and metalware. (Robert Lloyd, Thomas Bellot, J.P. Mills collections)

2 Archery

The collection consists of material from the worldwide history of archery and has just over 4,000 items.

Particular strengths:

- **Composite bows** from India, Pakistan, Iran, China, Mongolia and Turkey, finely decorated, made of wood, horn, shredded sinew and animal glue
- **Samurai composite bows** and Japanese Steel-bows, longbows, quivers, stands, etc.
- **Crossbows** from Europe and Asia for hunting, poaching and target shooting from 16th century to present
- **Bows** from Africa, Pacific Islands and South America
- **Longbows** from Britain in yew and in different laminated woods, steel and fibreglass
- **Arrows** from many nations representing a wide range of design and materials.

3 Archaeology

The collection consists of material from the ancient cultures of Europe, the Mediterranean and Near East and has 50,000-plus objects. There are small collections from other regions such as Africa and Far East. The date-range is from the Palaeolithic to post-Medieval (approximately AD1650).

Particular strengths:

- **Western Asiatic** material ranging from an Assyrian carved relief to ivories, jewellery and pottery from Nimrud (Flinders Petrie Collection)

- **Mediterranean collections from the Greek and Italian world** range from the Bronze Age cultures of Crete to the Etruscans. Greek and Roman culture is well represented through painted vases, gems, terracottas, metalwork and glass (Wellcome Trust Collection)
- **British collections from prehistoric times to the early Medieval period** derive from excavations and chance finds, largely from the North West.

Other collections include:

- Haworth Collection of early Wedgwood pottery bequeathed in 1920, but on long-term loan to Manchester City Galleries
- historic photographs of archaeological sites including several thousand old lantern slides from the Manchester Geographical Society
- the Allegro Archive of around 1,500 photographs and transparencies relating to the Dead Sea Scrolls
- two loan collections: material excavated in Jerusalem 1961-1967 by Dr Dame Kathleen Kenyon, lent by the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem, and material excavated at Tell Iktanu 1987-1990 by Dr Kay Prag, lent by the British Institute at Amman.

4 Botany

The collection consists of material from all families and groups of plants and is worldwide in scope. It covers flowering plants (including cultivated), ferns, mosses, liverworts, lichens, algae and fungi. Smaller collections include the Materia Medica, timbers, fibres, fruits and seeds. There are approximately 750,000 specimens of which 5,000 are type specimens .

Particular strengths:

- **Flowering plants:** about 70% of the herbarium; British and European (Charles Bailey Collection), rest of the world (Cosmo Melvill Collection) and cultivated plants (Leo Grindon Collection)
- **Mosses** about 11% of the herbarium
- **Ferns:** about 3% of the herbarium
- **Liverworts:** about 3% of the herbarium
- **Algae and fungi:** about 3% of the herbarium
- **Lichens:** about 2% of the herbarium

5 Egyptology

The collection consists of material from pre-Dynastic to Roman Period Egypt. There are approximately 18,000 items. Much of the collection is associated with Jesse Haworth, Sir William Flinders Petrie, the British School of Archaeology in Egypt, the Egypt Exploration Society, and the Liverpool School of Archaeology.

Particular strengths:

- **Egyptian human and animal mummies**
- **Sacred and ritual Egyptian artefacts**, including an outstanding collection of portraits painted on panel and cloth
- **Everyday Egyptian tools, toys, utensils** and personal adornments from the workers' settlements of Kahun and Gurob
- **Royal Egyptian artefacts** associated with Akhenaten from Tell el-Amarna

Other collections include:

- The Riqqeh Pectoral, and other jewellery of reigns of Sesostri I, II and III.
- Painted mummy portraits from Hawara.
- Complete tomb group of 'The Two Brothers' from Rifeh.
- Predynastic and Early Dynastic material including early stone vases.

6 Entomology

The collection consists of material from all orders of insect and is worldwide in scope. There are approximately 2.5 million specimens of mainly dried insects, approximately 1.8 million specimens are non-British; there are about 12,000 type specimens.

Particular strengths:

- One of the three extant specimens of the **extinct Manchester Moth**
- **130,000 British specimens in the spirit collection**, especially aquatic insects, flies and immature stages (Brindle Collection)
- **10,500 British microscope slides**, especially aphids and lice (Britten Collection)
- Types present in British collections include **Hymenoptera** (Enock and Hincks Collections) and **Coleoptera** (Blatch, Britten, Edmonds and Johnson Collections)
- **Franz Spaeth Collection of tortoise beetles** of the world, internationally pre-eminent, with several thousand types.
- Other foreign beetle collections rich in types are **Passalidae** (Hincks and Dibb Collections), **Staphylinidae** (Last Collection), **Ptiliidae**, **Cryptophagidae** and **Latridiidae** (Johnson Collection)
- **8760 foreign earwigs**, including 520 types (Hincks and Brindle Collections)
- Worldwide collections of **moths** and **butterflies**, including birdwing butterflies (Schill and Langsdon Collections)
- **Spiders** (Crocker, Freston, Mackie, Locket and La Touche Collections).

7 Earth sciences

The collection consists of rocks, minerals and fossils and is worldwide in scope. There are approximately 18,000 mineral specimens, 9,000 petrology specimens and 75,000 fossils, including several hundred type specimens.

Particular strengths:

- British and Irish minerals
- 19th Century collection of David Forbes
- 20th Century collection of H.F. Harwood
- Zeolites from Scotland
- Irish minerals
- Worldwide mineral species (especially H.F. Harwood collection)
- **Plant and invertebrate fossils from the Carboniferous of northern England** (W.C. Williamson, J. Wilfrid Jackson, Kay-Shuttleworth, George Wild, and R.M.C.Eagar Collections)
- Sandstone slabs bearing the fossil **footprints of Triassic reptiles** from Merseyside
- **Jurassic ammonites** (S. S. Buckman Collection)
- **Pleistocene cave fossils** (William Boyd Dawkins Collection)
- **Fossil plants and fish from the Old Red Sandstone** (George H. Hickling and D.M.S. Watson Collections)
- **Invertebrate fossils of the Lower Palaeozoic of the Midlands and Wales** (David Homfray Collection).

8 Numismatics

The collection consists of coins and banknotes, tokens and medals and is worldwide in scope. There are approximately 76,000 items, including a small collection of tokens and war medals.

Particular strengths:

- **Ancient Coins:** Greek, Roman Republican and Imperial coins in silver and copper. About 1,500 coins of Roman Alexandria (Sharpe Ogden Collection). Roman and Byzantine gold coins (Raby Collection) and a series of Byzantine copper coins (J. Shaw Collection).
- **British coins:** including rare individual coins. The series of tokens includes a large run of seventeenth century pieces from Lancashire (Raby Collection), and the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries are well represented.
- **British Colonial coins:** among the collection of approximately 1,500 items there are some very rare pieces from the West Indies and the Isle of Man (Maud Lister Collection)
- **European coins:** mostly in copper, but with a good quantity of silver and a little gold (Spencer and Smith Churchill Collections). Countries well represented include France, Germany, Switzerland, Spain, Italy, Holland and Russia.
- **Oriental coins:** Haworth Collection of Indian coins dating from the Moghul invasion to the East

- India Company. There is also a good selection of Chinese, Japanese and Korean coins
- **Medallions:** mostly of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries and covers the whole of Europe. In addition, there is a large and growing collection of local material.
- **War medals:** there is a small representative collection of awards.
- **Hoard material:** the Knott Mill Hoard of late Roman coins and a large selection of coins from the Prestwich Hoard.

10 Zoology

The collection consists of all groups of animals and is worldwide in scope. There are around 500,000 specimens; there are 5,000 type specimens.

Particular strengths:

- **Mammals from all over the world** representing all major groups; full mounts and skeletal material
- **Birds from all over the world** representing all major groups, full mounts, cabinet skins, skeletal material and egg collections (Dresser Collection)
- Extensive slide collections notably of **Bryozoa** (Waters Collection), **Foraminifera** (Halkyard Collection)
- Other invertebrates, **corals** (Hickson Collection) and the fourth largest collection of **snails and other molluscs** in the UK (Darbishire, Townsend, Spence, Haddon, Hadfield, etc. Collections).