Annual Report of the Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology

14 February 1928.

The Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology beg leave to present to the University the Annual Report on the Museum of Archaeology and of Ethnology.

MUSEUM AND LIBRARY

In the Maudslay Hall a representative archaeological series from the collection bequeathed by the late Professor Sir William Ridgeway was arranged in the Recent Accession Case and remained on view until the end of the year. The west wall of the hall, which forms the back of the cases containing Early Iron Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxon pottery, has been distempered; this gave an opportunity for the pottery to be removed and cleaned. Miss O’Reilly has re-arranged the Early Iron Age collection, the specimens having been cleaned and re-mounted. The Anglo-Saxon series from the Cambridge Antiquarian Society’s excavations at Little Wilbraham and Burwell have been put on view.

The Curator has completed the arrangement of the mediaeval collections so far as space permits. Mr Bird has begun to arrange the Primitive Currency collection in the wall cases constructed during the year in the passage leading from the Maudslay to the Babington Hall.

The Curator has begun the re-arrangement of the African collections in the Babington Hall. Three new cases have already been purchased for the better display of the Roscoe and other collections, some of which have not been on exhibition before. Mr Horace Beck, F.S.A., kindly spent a fortnight during the Long Vacation in identifying the beads in the collection, and in dating and cataloguing those from Egypt; he discovered the predynastic series to be unusually rich.

In the Andrews Gallery the Curator has re-arranged the Eskimo collections. This became necessary owing to the large number of specimens, both archaeological and ethnographical, registered during the year. These were received from the Cambridge University Expedition to East Greenland (1926), from the bequest of Sir William Ridgeway, from Dr Haddon, and by exchange with the National Museum of Denmark. Dr Therkel Mathiassen, of the National Museum of Denmark, spent several days identifying the collection made by the Expedition to East Greenland. Nine hanging cases have been made in the Museum, and a table-case for the window has been purchased for the exhibition of these new specimens. Four other hanging cases have been made for American specimens and placed on the wall.

In the Bevan Hall, Colonel F. Hayter has spent two months cataloguing and re-arranging the Australian collections. A new case and an extension of the existing one are in course of construction to enable him to complete the final arrangement. Four hanging cases have been made for the preservation and exhibition of specimens of special value from Polynesia.

The Honorary Keeper of the Stone Implements, Mr M. C. Burkitt, reports continued activity in his department. A number of valuable European specimens, both palaeolithic and neolithic, have been added to the Museum collections. The African collections have also been substantially increased. During the summer Mr Burkitt undertook an archaeological tour through much of the Union of South Africa and Southern Rhodesia at the invitation of the University of Cape Town.

He was enabled to collect a great number of exceedingly interesting specimens, which have been added to the other African collections in the Museum. Mr Macrae, a former Tripos student, presented to the Museum the results of his cave exploration in Northern Rhodesia. These additions have involved a complete re-arrangement of the African stone collections, which have now been stored in the new show-case in the Babington Hall, pending the acquisition of a second show-case in which they will be displayed. A show-case in the Andrews Gallery has been allotted for a display of prehistoric pottery. There are now exhibited typical early series from Mesopotamia, Thessaly and Crete, as well as a number of specimens from the Vardar valley. A store-case with show-case above has been devoted to the East Anglian Stone Age.

Dr Haddon, Honorary Keeper of the New Guinea Collections, with the assistance of Miss Julia Webber, has begun a study of the decorated bamboo tobacco pipes from New Guinea in the Museum. The late Professor Sir William Ridgeway’s bequest, received in the autumn of 1926 too late to be catalogued that year, has enriched the archaeological side of the Museum in many ways. The bequest contains many stone implements from East Anglia, Scotland, Ireland, China, Japan and the Near East; local and Irish specimens of the Bronze Age, the Early Iron Age, the Roman and Anglo-Saxon Periods; also a fine series of Italian brooches which fill many gaps in the Museum collections.

His ethnographical collection contains a very important series of primitive currency, on which Professor Ridgeway was an acknowledged authority, and many other specimens of which descriptions or illustrations appear in his published works.
The important collection from South-West Bay, Malekula, New Hebrides, made by the late Mr A. B. Deacon, was received in the late autumn and forms a most valuable addition to the Museum collections from that part of the island. A welcome gift was received from Mr C. B. Humphreys of a large collection, specially made by him for the Museum, from New Britain and New Guinea, which fills many gaps in the existing collections.

The results of the excavations made in Poland in 1926 were received this summer and have been partly catalogued. During the month of May the Curator co-operated with the National Museum of Budapest in excavations in Hungary the results of which will appear in next year’s Report, as well as the notice of an important collection from Hungary presented by Sir John Ramsden, Bart.

The Curator wishes to draw attention to the fact that the space both for exhibition and for storage of specimens is now so limited that he has had to refuse two valuable collections from those parts of the East which are most poorly represented in the Museum.

Mr Ralph Griffin, Honorary Keeper of the Collection of Monumental Brass Rubbings, reports: “During the year there have been acquired rubbings of brasses hitherto unrepresented in the Collection and also improved rubbings of such as were unsatisfactory. For the use of students it is important to have rubbings showing every detail and where parts are lost the indent where such parts have been. In an ordinary collection this is not necessary, so that many rubbings are made which, good so far as they go, are useless for this collection; as also are any which are cut out and mounted, because they are no evidence of the exact relation of the parts. It has been necessary therefore to reject many rubbings offered to us. Nevertheless, our wants are steadily diminishing and we have now rubbings of all the known brasses in Cheshire, Cumberland, Notts, and Westmorland. Leicestershire is nearly complete, and our wants in Dorsetshire and Durham are now not numerous. The Dean of Durham as an old Cambridge man was good enough to give us every help in getting rubbings in the Cathedral of everything that now remains there, as also of the matrices of lost brasses, including the enormous and very fine matrix of the early brass of Bishop Beaumont, 1333, one of the largest in the kingdom. Thanks are again due to Mr Benson, Mr Humphreys and Mr Ruck as well as to Mr de Fraine and his helpers who have attended to the patching and general arrangement of the collection.”

**Library.** Miss E. S. Fegan, Honorary Librarian of the Museum, has continued her valuable services in arranging and cataloguing the books and pamphlets.

**Lantern Slide Collection.** The Museum is greatly indebted to Dr A. C. Haddon for giving his collection of more than 8000 lantern slides.

The importance of the Museum to the Borough and neighbourhood has again been illustrated by visits made by members of local societies, classes from local schools, and an increasing number of the general public. Many eminent archaeologists and ethnologists from different parts of the world have visited the Museum and have spent a considerable time working in it. The Curator had the pleasure of entertaining over 100 members of the Royal Archaeological Institute on July 20, during its summer meeting in Cambridge this year. On March 10 a visit was paid to the Museum by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society.

**Accounts.** See Cambridge University Reporter, 26 November 1927, p. 145, under the heading of Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology.

**Appendix I**

**List of Accessions from 1 January to 31 December 1927**

**Donations**

- Armitage, Mr B. W. F.: Valuable collection of ethnographical specimens, Solomon Islands and New Guinea (27. 1585—1597).
- Baldry, Mr R. H.: Stone platter and stone chips, North-West Peru (27. 1642).
- Bloom, Mr C.: Iron shield-boss and spear head, Oakington, Cambs. (27. 1621).
- British School of Archaeology in Egypt: Pottery fragments, stone implements, etc., Badari, Upper Egypt; pottery fragments, stone tools, grinding stones, etc., Fayum, Egypt (27. 1502—1521); Hint sickles, pots, lamp, needle, etc., Gorar, Palestine (27. 1984—1994).
- Burkitt, Mr M. C.: Valuable archaeological collection of stone implements, etc., from a number of sites, South Africa.
Hudson, Rev. W. H.: Miao man's gown and woman's skirt, embroidered, China (27. 1622—1623); cross-bow, China (27. 1651); gilded wooden figure, Tibet; bamboo quiver and arrows, China; Miao pipes, Yunnan, China (27. 1690—1692).

Högel, the Baron A. von: A number of ethnographical specimens formerly on deposit (27. 1464—1453); bronze keyring, Roman Period, Cambridge (27. 1696).


Hutchinson, Mr. R. IV.: Pottery fragments, Bronze Age, Macedonia (27. 1840—1842).

Jackson, Mr. H.: Fire piston of buffalo-horn, Southern Shan States, Burma (27. 1614).

Jennings, Mr. J.: Knife and fork, c. 1700 a.d., England (27. 1548); comfit-box, XVII Century, England (27. 1553); purse-ring, XIX Century, bronze key, XIII or XIV Century; bone cross-bow ratchet, XVI Century, England (27. 1615—1619).

Lesson, Mr. T. J.: Brass measuring-pot, Borneo; wooden tool, England (27. 1652—1653); two enamelled brooches, Asia; two glazed tiles, Persia; stone tile, Europe (27. 2023—2025).

Joyce, Mr. T. A.: Zuni hunting-charm in bag, New Mexico, U.S.A. (27. 2026).

Kendrick, Mrs. H.: Chipped tools, Campagnian type, Courmayeur, France (27. 1544—1545).

Konyen, Mr. A. S.: Pygmy implements and worked stones, Australia; rough implements, New Zealand; stone implements, Tasmania (27. 1800—1806).

Leigh-Smith, Prof. F.: Iron spearhead, Ceylon (27. 1674).

Leiberte, C. T. B.: Two bronze weights, China (27. 1431); pottery fragment, Mediaeval, Old West River, Cambs. (27. 1687); cast-iron plaque with head of Christ, England (27. 2027); three flint flakes, Burwell, Cambs. (27. 2031).

Lister, Mr. G.: Brass money-weight, Burwell, Cambs. (27. 1653).

Lively, Mr. H.: Stone implements, beads, etc., Patagonia (27. 1643—1650).

Lowerson, Mr. B.: Pottery fragments, Mediaeval, Houghton, Hunts.; pottery fragments and iron key, Hartford, Hunts. (27. 1684—1685).

Lumsden, Miss M.: Women's costumes and ornaments, Yunnan, China (27. 1794—1799).

Macrae, Mr. F.: Stone tools, animal bones, etc. from excavations near Mumbwa, Northern Rhodesia (27. 1595—1611).

Minnis, Prof. E. H.: Carved wooden head with original paint, XV Century, Norfolk (27. 1838).

Murray, Miss M. A.: Pottery fragments, Neolithic and Bronze Age, Malta (27. 1939—1942).

O'Reilly, Miss M. M.: 3rd Brass coin of Maximinus, Roman Period, Cambridge (27. 1688).

Peck, Mr. E. S.: 4 Silver pennies minted at Cambridge, Ethelred II and Edward the Confessor (27. 1554—1557).

Pratt, Mr. L. D.: Beaker and other pottery fragments, Bronze Age; pottery fragments, Roman Period, dredged from R. Wissey near Stoke Ferry, Norfolk (27. 1255—1266).

Preston, Mr. J.: Scaper, Wiltshire; flint arrow-heads, Oxfordshire; flint arrow-head, Mildenhall, Suffolk; coups de poing and flates, Romney, Hampshire (27. 1559—1542).

Reid, Mr. Cooper: Photographs of Bushman painting, South Africa; six ground stone implements and musical instrument, Pae, Burma (27. 1843—1845).

Ridgeway, the late Professor Sir William: A large and extremely valuable archaeological and ethnographical collection, including: a selection of primitive currency from all parts of the world (27. 1—186); ethnographical series from New Zealand (27. 190. 1—XII. 198); other parts of the Pacific (27. 199—219); America, including a number of old Eskimo carvings in ivory (27. 220—274); Africa (27. 275—449); Australia (27. 450—465); ornaments, amulets, etc. from Europe (27. 466—193); stone implements from Cambs. and Suffolk (27. 494—522); other parts of England, Ireland, Scotland, Denmark, France, China, and Japan and the Near East (27. 523—591); objects of the Bronze Age from Cambs., Suffolk and Ireland (27. 592—624); objects of the Early Iron Age, Roman and Anglo-Saxon Periods from Cambs. and Suffolk (27. 625—699); brooches and pins of the Christian Period, Ireland (27. 700—714); bronze brooches, etc., Early Iron Age, Italy (27. 720—737); brooches, etc., Roman Period,
Europe (27. 738—745); beads, scarabs and amulets of predynastic and dynastic date, Egypt (27. 746—733; 27. 1016—1052); cylindrical and cone seals, Asia (27. 784—817); series of masks, ornaments, etc., Japan (27. 818—838); archaeological series, including fragments of incised bone, objects from early graves, a fine pottery figure of a man on horseback of the Wei Dynasty and modern amulets, etc., China (27. 839—867); objects, including early etched beads from Taxila and objects used in domestic ritual in Baroda, from Tibet, Burma and India (27. 868—922); puppets, Federated Malay States and Java (27. 923—935); weapons, Bronze Age, Palestine (27. 937—949); modern charms, including many in the form of boar’s tusk crescents, from Eastern Europe and the Near East (27. 970—1015); ornaments, etc., New Guinea (27. 1084—1075); weapons, etc., Borneo (27. 1076—1081); archaeological series, including weapons, pottery, ornaments, etc., also a few modern ornaments, from Smyrna, Ephesus and other sites in Asia Minor (27. 1110—1192); miscellaneous series, including three armorial pendants and an early seal, Camb., Suffolk, Ireland and Scotland (27. 1194—1221).

Rogers, Mr. F.: Ethnographical Series from Northern Uganda (27. 1522—1529).
Rogers, Dr. G. F.: Slate models of tools, Egypt; priest’s robe and four shadow-show puppets, Bali, Dutch East Indies; bronze weights and woman’s belt, Burma (27. 1497—1501).
Roscoe, Canon J.: Battle-axe, Usagara Hills, East Africa (27. 1543).
Russell, Mr. A. B.: Head-dresses, arrows, etc., Bauchi Province, Northern Nigeria (27. 1978—1983).

Sandars, Mr. C. G.: Two female dolls; gilt forehead ornament and several lacquered brass figures of deities, India (27. 1847—1856).
Sherwin, Rev. V. H.: Pearl-shell pendant, North-Western Australia (27. 1807).
Strickland, Mr. F. A. G.: Collection of objects mostly of modern domestic use, including vessels, tools, dress, toys, models, Japan; toy lizard and palm-leaf hat, Siam (27. 1960—1977; 2157—2170).
Tebbutt, Mr. C. F.: Fragments of Beakers and other pottery, Bronze Age, dredged from R. Wissey near Stoke Ferry, Norfolk (27. 1267—1276).
Theobald, Mr. A. E.: Flint tools, Algiers (27. 1612—1613).
Tipping, Mrs.: Flint scraper, Kelling Heath, Norfolk (27. 1277).
Watney, Mr. B.: Witch-doctor’s outfit, Northern Uganda (27. 2143).
Willman, Miss: Coupes de poing and other stone implements, South Africa (27. 1531—1537; 2080; 2137—2140).
Wills, Captain: Shoes of Emu feathers, Australia (27. 1673).

Presented by some friends of the Museum: The von Hügel collection from Tonga, including a series of clubs unique in the great variety of carved designs, many showing conventionalised men and animals, and a series of the very rare baskets from that island (27. 1375—1425).
By exchange with the National Museum of Denmark, Copenhagen: A valuable archaeological series from Eskimo sites in East and West Greenland, Smith Sound, and Alaska (27. 1726—1794).
Purchased: Wooden club, British Guiana (27. 1689); wooden fishing-boat, Massim District, New Guinea (27. 2029).

DEPOSITS
Hope, Lady: Mediaeval tile with lion’s head (27. d.1).
Russell, Mr. A. B.: Iron spear and war axe, Bauchi province, Northern Nigeria (27. d.2—3).

APPENDIX II

LIBRARY REPORT FOR 1927

The Library begins to show the beneficial results of a grant for books and binding. 49 volumes have been added by purchase during the year, and it has been possible to continue binding, keeping up to date with the most used periodicals, and gradually bringing others into better condition. Gifts of books and pamphlets have been received from the following: Mr. E. A. B. Barnard, Mr. H. H. Brindley, Mr. E. J. Burrow, Mr. S. Cowles, Mrs Cunnington, Miss Edleston, Mr. I. H. N. Evans, Mr. R. Griffin, Dr. A. C. Haddon, Mr. T. C. Hodson, Lady Hope, Mr. J. Harnell, Madras Government Press, Professor E. H. Minns, Miss M. M. O’Reilly, Mr. N. T. Porter, Dr. G. F. Rogers, Royal Society of Arts, Dr. Hugh Scott, Mr. F. J. Sebley, Mr. F. Turville-Petre, Mrs Venn, the Rev. R. W. Whitson, the Curator, the Librarian.

In addition to the specimens bequeathed by Sir William Ridgeway to the Museum, the library received a very generous gift of over 200 vols. and many pamphlets and photographs from Mrs Venn.

25 January 1928.