The Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology presents to the University the 112th Annual Report of the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, for the academical year 1999-2000. The Museum Committee met three times during the year, under the chairmanship of Professor P.A. Mellars.

Staff
For the year under review the established staff of the Museum was as follows:

**Director and Curator:**
D.W. Phillipson MA, PhD, FSA

**Senior Assistant Curator (British archaeology):**
C.R. Chippindale MA, PhD, MIFA, FSA

**Senior Assistant Curator (anthropology):**
A.C. Herle BA, MPhil.

**Senior Assistant Curator (World archaeology):**
R.B. Boast BA, MA, PhD

**Administrative Secretary (part-time):**
M. Quayson BA

**Secretary (part-time):**
J. Falkner (until 29 February 2000)
C. Pilkington (from 2 May 2000)

**Museum Assistant:**
J. Osbourn

**Head Attendant:**
M. Miller *Attendants (part-time):*
B. Cashin (from 20 September 2000)
W. Craig J. Norman
R. Turner (until 30 August 2000)

**Honorary Assistant Curator (America archaeology):**
M.H. Harris AB, MA

**Honorary Keeper (organology):**
L.E.R. Picken MA, PhD, Sc.D, FBA

The following assistant staff of the Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology held specific Museum responsibilities:

**Head of Workshop:**
M. Buckley

**Workshop Assistant:**
S. Hames (from 25 October 1999)

**Photographer:**
G.J. Owen ABIPP ARPS
Additional non-established staff, noted in the relevant sections below, were employed on a project basis.

As in previous years, the Museum has relied extensively on the valued volunteer services of Mrs Harris. Mr T. Hoare has also assisted on many occasions with the management of the archives and of the anthropological and photographic collections. It is no exaggeration that, without such volunteer assistance, the Museum’s ability to care for its collections would be very seriously diminished.

Administration

Ms Herle took sabbatical leave during the Easter Term.

There were two changes among the established staff of the Museum. Following a period of ill-health, Mrs Falkner retired in February; the Board extends to her its thanks and best wishes. Mrs Caroline Pilkington was appointed part-time Museum Secretary in May. The University was able to provide funds for the provision of secretarial services during the period of Mrs Falkner’s illness and prior to the appointment of Mrs Pilkington. Dr Richard Turner resigned as part-time Gallery Attendant in August and Mrs Bettina Cashin was appointed in his place.

The Board is disappointed to note that no action has yet been taken by the University in recognition of the Museum’s need for increased staff and resources, noted in last year’s Report.

An important development during the year was the appointment by the University’s Joint Museums Committee of an Outreach Officer to serve the University’s four Designated non-Art museums: the Museum of Archaeology & Anthropology, the Sedgwick Museum, the Whipple Museum and the Museum of Zoology. Mr Dale Johnston has been appointed to this post, which is funded for two years by the Heritage Lottery Fund. This appointment is welcomed, not only because of Mr Johnston’s energy and excellent work, but also because his appointment under the auspices of the Joint Museums Committee demonstrates recognition of the important role played by its Museums in presenting the University’s work to a broad public.

It will be obvious from this Report that much of the Museum’s work is now supported on a project-by-project basis by external, non University, funding sources. Major current examples are the Outreach Officer noted above, work at the external store supported by the Designated Museums Challenge Fund, and the development of the photographic collections for which the Heritage Lottery Fund has granted support. These funding agencies
have their own reporting and accounting requirements which are increasingly complex; they also require an element of matching funding from the resources of the recipient institution. The situation has now been reached where the Museum’s administrative, computing and financial resources severely limit its ability to benefit from opportunities for external funding. An increasing amount of staff time is taken up by the search for resources for continued maintenance and development of the Museum. These problems have been exacerbated by the breakdown in efficiency in the University’s central administrative offices accompanying the disastrous attempts to introduce a new accounting system.

Finance
The Department of Culture, Media & Sport, through the Designated Museums Challenge Fund allocated a total of £124,360 to support the re-organisation of the Museum’s external store, as described below.

The Heritage Lottery Fund is now supporting two projects in the Museum: the grant for work on the Photographic Collections has been renewed with a further £155,000, and an Outreach Officer has been appointed, as noted above.

Once again, Cambridge City Council provided a grant of £3200 to permit the public opening hours of the Museum to be extended during the Long Vacation. The University funded extended opening during National Science week.

Research grants awarded to individual members of Museum staff are noted below.

The Museum’s self-generated income was maintained through public donations, profits on the sale of publications and photographic services.

Exhibitions
Torres Strait Islanders: An Exhibition to Mark the Centenary of the 1898 Cambridge Expedition continued in the Andrews Gallery where it attracted considerable attention and was the setting for a number of special events and gallery tours.

The Tapper, the Calendar and Malangan: Emblems of Time Experienced and Bubberhutching on the Soch: flint-working at Brandon continued in the Maudsley and Clark Galleries respectively.
The museum participated in *NOISE*, a set of linked exhibitions devised by Adam Lowe and Simon Schaffer. The exhibitions focused on how we perceive and how we communicate our perceptions in the digital age. Ms Herle, with the assistance of Sue Dalglish, prepared several installations in the Maudsley Gallery including: ‘Dots in the Desert: Australian Aboriginal Art’ with paintings by Gracie Ngale Morton, Bessie Nakamarra Sims and Paddy Japaljarri Sims; Tom Van Sant’s ‘Map of the world without clouds’; and Paul Miller aka DJ Spooky’s ‘Sound Fabric’.

In the Clark Gallery, Manuel Franquelo and Sven Nebel’s ‘Virtually a Reality?’ and ‘Virtual Noise’ were exhibited, along with Robin Boast’s ‘Impressions d’Afrique’ and ‘Impressions d’Arctique’.

Linked exhibitions were held in Cambridge at Kettles Yard, the Whipple Museum of the History of Science, and the Fitzwilliam Museum and also at the Wellcome’s Trust’s Gallery in London. They represented a major contribution to National Science Week 1999.

*Dvrioponote: Roman Cambridge beneath our streets* reported the long-running excavations of the Roman town below the present Castle Hill. The exhibition, developed with assistance from M.Phil. students, coincided with the publication by the Cambridge Antiquarian Society of Dr John Alexander’s report on that work.

In the Clark Gallery, *Collecting Prehistory: Amateurs and Professionals in Late-Colonial Africa* was organised by Dr Boast in collaboration with with Dr Nathan Schlanger, opening on 14 July to mark the conference of the Society of Africanist Archaeologists.

**Maintenance and development**

*Buildings*

Routine maintenance was undertaken to the Museum building and security systems. The electrical power supply system was renewed.

*Documentation and collections management* The Museum’s pages on the World Wide Web, [http://cumaa.archanth.cam.ac.uk/](http://cumaa.archanth.cam.ac.uk/), have proved increasingly popular with over 13,000 visitors during the year. The searchable on-line catalogue of the collections has had almost 4000 queries since its inception in December 1998, and has proved useful to students and
researchers in Cambridge as well as to those further afield. A new set of Web pages, designed by Ms Roya Jacoby, will include more resources for scholars and students, and be more comprehensively searchable.

The Archaeology catalogue is now showing the benefit of numerous corrections and detailed additions. Nearly all records now have some indication of storage location. The original transcription of index cards sometimes led to the creation of duplicate records, most of which have now been eliminated.

Ms J. Tanner assisted with cataloguing over 150 new accessions in Anthropology.

Dr H. Regius, with the assistance of the Crowther-Beynon Fund, completed a project to update approximately 400 anthropological catalogue records from New Britain, including material collected by Dr Gregory Bateson.

Photographic Collections Project
Continuity in the work of cataloguing and rehousing the Museum’s photographic collection has been maintained throughout the year, following an extension of financial assistance from the Heritage Lottery Fund until March 2002. Ms H. Cornwall-Jones resigned in March to join the photographic section of Amnesty International; since then, Dr S. Guha has been the sole Photo Archivist, extending her working hours to full-time from September 2000.

The size of the photograph collection is now estimated to be over 100,000 images, and the objective of the Project for the next two years is to accession, catalogue and rehouse as many of these as possible. Over 49,000 photographs have now been accessioned and inventoried, over 45,000 having been rehoused to conservation standards. Ms P. Mody, Ms T. Boychuk, Ms G. Boast and Ms Y. Chung were employed as temporary cataloguing assistants between April and September 2000; their hard work is gratefully acknowledged. Mr T. Hoare’s volunteer work in sleeving the photographic prints has also been an invaluable help. Ms Eleonore Bozzi, graduate student of the Ecole du Louvre in Paris, provided volunteer assistance in September.

The focus on cataloguing individual collections has been maintained throughout the year. Over 24 personal photograph collections were accessioned, rehoused and catalogued. Collaborative links with other institutions and with individual scholars which have been forged over the last three years have proved a major source of information on specific collections,
including those of Evans, Hargreaves, Clarke, Bateson and Whiffen. In this connection, mention should be made of research undertaken by Mr J. Bell (a graduate student of Social Anthropology at Oxford) on the photographs taken by Kathleen Rishbeth in the Torres Strait in 1914.

In March, senior members of the Department of Social Anthropology were given a tour of the Collection, with a view to facilitating increased use for teaching and research. The improved documentation and accessibility of the collection are becoming widely known; research use and enquiries showed a steady rise throughout the year.

**External Store**

The Designated Museums Challenge Fund is providing resources for the re-organisation of the Museum’s External Store in West Cambridge. The Project is designed, over the period ending in March 2002, to bring the standards of housing and documentation of collections kept at the external store up to the standards of those in the main Downing Street premises. Ms J. Tanner co-ordinated initial planning for the Project, compiling an overview of the collections involved, organising equipment and assisting with training new employees.

The Project is managed by two Research Assistants, Ms T. Cotterill and Ms J. Somerville, who started work in February and were joined by two Technical Assistants, Ms R. Hand and Ms S-J. Harknett. Ms K. Sutton joined the team in August as a third Technical Assistant. In addition, voluntary help has been given by Ms K. Ling and Ms L. Raymond. The Museum’s curatorial, technical, photographic and administrative staff have also been closely involved with the Project, Dr Boast’s expertise on the database and networked computer system being particularly important. New installations include a computerised environmental monitoring system and a freezer for eliminating infestation of material brought into the store.

The work is being undertaken with three prime targets in mind: to improve physical and documentary access, remedial and preventive conservation, and space efficiency. Database records are being updated and many objects are being photographed. Conservation needs are being noted and urgent remedial conservation is being undertaken by Mr Buckley. Storage arrangements are being re-evaluated and objects are being repacked so as to achieve optimal use of space commensurate with
handling and conservation needs, packing materials being replaced as necessary. In addition, the Project has raised the practical challenges of ensuring that the store is safe to use, following recommendations by the University’s Health and Safety and Fire inspectors.

Work with the Central and South American and Mexican anthropology collections has been completed and re-organisation of the European and Asian anthropology collections is well under way. Following re-organisation of the Western European and Mediterranean archaeological collections, the British material is now receiving attention. The transcription of African anthropology records is almost complete and re-organisation of the artefacts themselves will shortly commence. With almost five thousand identification numbers already checked, current project targets have been exceeded.

Meetings
With the assistance of Ms Herle the museum hosted a two day meeting in February of Pacific Arts students from Ecole du Louvre, with their lecturer Philippe Peltier from the Musee des Arts d’Afrique et d’Oceanie.

The Museum hosted a meeting of the University’s Joint Museums Committee in May.

The Museums Documentation Association held a training session in the Museum.

As noted above, the launch of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society’s publication of Dr John Alexander’s report on Roman Cambridge was marked by an exhibition and reception in the Museum.

The anthropology galleries were used as a setting for M.Phil. students taking the new M.Phil. in Architecture and the Moving Image.

Material collected during Captain Cook’s voyages to the Pacific was the subject of filming for the BBC 4 television series ‘The Day the World Took Off’.

In July, the Museums hosted a reception for the Conference of the Society of Africanist Archaeologists, organised by Dr Phillipson.

Students from the Sainsbury Research Unit for the Arts of Africa, Oceania and the Pacific (University of East Anglia) were given a tour of the anthropological collection by Ms Herle.
Workshop and Conservation Laboratory
The Faculty Workshop has provided a variety of services to the Museum, including the installation of equipment and the assembly of storage boxes. The Workshop and Conservation Laboratory have both been involved in the Museum’s permanent and temporary exhibitions, including the student exhibitions and NOISE. Mr Buckley undertook work on a variety of objects, notably in preparation for loans and as part of the ongoing reorganisation of the external store.

Photographic Section
The Museum has made slightly less use of the Faculty’s photographic services this year. Mr Owen was much involved in the production of Ms Tanner’s handbook to the eighteenth-century ethnographic collections From Pacific Shores. Detailed record photography was undertaken of material sent out on loan. Photographs were made for the Museum’s own exhibitions, which were themselves recorded. Copies were made of many items researched under the Photographic Collections project. For external requests much of the work has been from the Photographic Collections. The usual provision of teaching slides and prints for staff research has been made.

Mr Owen attended a one day conference on photographic archives held by the Association of Flistorical and Fine Art Photographers.

Loans
Approval was given for the following loans:

A selection of 54 Torres Strait artefacts to the National Museum of Australia for exhibition in Canberra 2001-2 and subsequently in Cairns.

British archaeologica1 and Pacific Islands artefacts to the Science Museum for inclusion in the new Wellcome Wing displays for six years in the first instance. ARCH DETAILS. Cree drum and beater (1930.891 a,b), Musquakie hair ornament (D 1976.162), Crow necklace (1929.31), Maori bailer (1922.933) Hawaiian hand weapon (1920.803) and Samoan Club (Z.15289).

The long-term loan to the Science Museum of three British wool weights and a set of Chinese weights was extended for a further six years.
Six Burmese tools for lacquerwork to the British Museum for an exhibition *Visions from the Golden Land: Burma and the art of lacquer* April - August 2000.

Six objects from Irian Jaya to the Tropenmuseum, Amsterdam, for exhibition from February to April 2001.

**Visitors**
The Chairman of Resource (the Council for Museums, Archives and Libraries) visited the Museum in September.

**Research visitors**

*Anthropology*

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*Archaeology*

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*Photographs and Archives*  
16

*Museology*  
2

Researchers came from the following places

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Public
External funding permitted extension of the Museum’s public opening hours in March during National Science Week and during the summer months from 13 June until 9 September. On the latter occasion, the following were employed as temporary attendants: Ms T. Boychuk, Ms M. Garden, Ms M. Kagiadaki and Ms J. Mitchell.

A highly successful ‘Activity Day’ on a Roman theme was organised on the occasion of National Archaeology Day by Mr Dale Johnston, the Museums’ Outreach Officer.

During the year October 1999 to September 2000 a total of 18,416 visitors was recorded. This represents a modest increase of 3.4% from the total in the previous year, but remains slightly below the figures achieved between 1996 and 1998.

There were 121 pre-booked educational visits, and the public specimen-identification service dealt with 37 enquiries.

Crowther-Beynon Fund
The following grants were awarded from the fund established for the benefit of the Museum under the will of the late Mr V.

Crowther Beynon:
J. Bell: Papuan Gulf £1200
M. Bonogowski: Radiography of Jericho skull £110
A. Brown and M. Pinay: Rymill collection £700
H. Geismar: Vanuatu £1300
M.H.Harris: Barbados prehistoric pottery £1000
A. Moutu: Iatmul art, PNG £1110
A. Salmond: New Zealand collections £1300
V. Skvirskaya: Russian nomadism £1265
J. Tanner: South African collections £1595
S. Webb: Sami folk art £1100

Museum exhibition and outreach projects £7000
Museum documentation £15000
Northwest Coast acquisitions £2035

Acquisitions
A total of 244 acquisitions was registered in 1999, including a significant quantity of material that had been in the Museum for some years but which, for various reasons, had not previously
been recorded in detail. The newly acquired 1999 registrations may be summarised as follows:

**Gifts**
- Dr C. Alexander: Turkish textiles and household objects (1999.1-17)
- Dr G. Barnes: Japanese calligraphy set (1999.235)
- Professor J. Barnes: Australian barkcloth (1999.139)
- Estate of Professor M. Bradbrook: North American rattle and club (1999.141-2)
- Ms A. Brown: Canadian clothing, beadwork and other artefacts* (1999.194-232)
- Dr J. Fisher: Kenyan clothing, jewellery and utensils (1999.20-53)
- Sir David Hughes: Bronze sword from Wilburton, Cambs. (1999.242)
- Dr D.W. Phillipson: Ethiopian trousers (1999.19)
- Dr W. Sillar: Bolivian artefacts* (1999.144-93)
- Estate of Mr A. Todd: New Guinea bark cape (1999.140)

(* denotes collections acquired with the support of the Crowther-Beynon Fund)

**Purchase**
- Australian painting by Gracie Ngale Morton (1999.143)

**Teaching**
As well as coordinating the Archaeology Department’s M.Phil paper on museums, Dr Boast organised undergraduate practicals on ‘Care and Handling of Objects’ and on ‘Research in the Museum’. In addition, he taught the History of Science component of the Archaeology M.Phil. He was supervisor or advisor for eight PhD students, supervised one M.Phil and one undergraduate thesis.

In the Department of Social Anthropology, Ms Herle continued to serve as course co-ordinator and lecturer for the M.Phil. option ‘Social Anthropology and the Work of a Museum’, and for the undergraduate paper ‘Anthropology, Communication and the Arts’. She supervised three M.Phil. students and acted as Advisor to two PhD candidates. Graduate students in the Departments of Social Anthropology and Archaeology also assisted with installation of the NOISE exhibitions.

Dr Phillipson delivered a course of lectures on African
archaeology and supervised graduate students in that field. He also contributed to Museum Studies lectures for Archaeology and Social Anthropology students.

Dr Chippindale contributed to Part II and MPhil. teaching, and supervised Ph.D and undergraduate dissertations.

Ms Cornwall-Jones and Dr Guha lectured to Social Anthropology undergraduates on aspects of visual anthropology. Dr Guha also led a seminar for the course in ‘Anthropology, Communication and the Arts’.

**Staff activities**
The Director and Curator, Dr Phillipson, who holds a concurrent Readership in African Prehistory, continued to serve as President of the British Institute in Eastern Africa. He represents the Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology as a Manager of the African Studies Centre, the Smuts Memorial Fund and the Mulvey Egyptology Fund. He is Secretary to the Managers of the Frederick Williamson Memorial Fund and represents the University on the Cambridgeshire County Museums Advisory Committee.

He organised, with Ms Quayson’s assistance, a conference of the Society of Africanist Archaeologists at Peterhouse in July, attended by over 170 participants from a total of 27 countries. It was particularly pleasing that 13 African countries were represented. Dr Phillipson presented a paper on his research in Ethiopia. The conference members were entertained at a reception in the Museum, when they were able to view the *Collecting Prehistory* exhibition noted above. In conjunction with the conference, the Mary Kingsley Zochonis Fecture of the Royal African Society was delivered by Dr George Abungu, Director-General of the National Museums of Kenya, entitled *Preserving the African Cultural Heritage: a race against time.*

Dr Phillipson attended the International Conference on the History of Ethiopian Art in Fisbon in October 1999, giving a paper *An Ivory Throne from Aksum.* In February 2000 he delivered the Reckitt Archaeological Fecture at the British Academy, entitled *Aksum: an African civilisation in its world contexts.* He repeated this lecture at the Northeast Africa seminar in Oxford and also addressed the Byzantine Seminar in Cambridge. He attended a seminar organised in Fondon by the Arts and Humanities Research Board to discuss the future funding of University museums and galleries.

Dr Boast was a visiting lecturer at the Depto de Historia,
Universidad de Santiago (Santiago de Compostela, Spain), where he gave two extensive seminars on *NOISE: Universal Languages* and *The Artefact and Material Culture: the nature of the archaeological object*. He gave papers *On Message: Documentation and Control in Museums* at the European Archaeological Association Conference, Lisbon, and *Instruments of Comparison: The Field and the Museum in the Science of Prehistory* at the Wellcome Institute, London. He continues to collaborate with colleagues internationally on the development of HELICON, the centre for research into the history and anthropology of museums.

Dr Chippindale co-organized and attended a celebration conference to mark the retirement of Professor David Lewis-Williams at the University of the Witwatersrand, and attended the Rock Art Congress in Alice Springs, presenting several papers. He was a co-organizer of a successful weekend meeting in Cambridge ‘Global hunter gatherers after revisionism’. He continued to serve as Chair of the Publications Committee for the Society for American Archaeology, where a vigorously growing programme is energizing its activities. He became International Vice-President for the Australian Rock-Art Research Association, and gave a variety of research papers and talks at conferences and meetings.

Ms Herle gave numerous gallery tours of the exhibition *Torres Strait Islanders: An Exhibition to Mark the Centenary of the 1898 Anthropological Expedition* to students and specialist groups. She also gave several seminar papers focusing on her Torres Strait research at the following: an international meeting of the Pacific Arts Association, Chicago; the senior seminar at the Department of Social Anthropology; University of Manchester, the Pitt Rivers Museum Research Centre, University of Oxford; and the Garrod Seminar of the Cambridge Department of Archaeology. She participated in the Museums and Galleries Commission Seminar on Restitution and Repatriation and the Museums Association/Museum Ethnographers Group Joint Seminar on Ethical Guidelines for Ethnography.

Ms Herle was co-opted to the Photographic Committee of the Royal Anthropological Institute to discuss the future plans for the RAI’s photo collection. She continued as a board member for the Pacific Arts Association (Europe).

Mrs Harris regularly updated the Web pages of the International Association for Caribbean Archaeology. In May, she attended a South American Archaeology seminar at the Institute of Latin American Studies, London.
Research

Dr Boast devoted much of the year to exhibition work, including preparation of *Collecting Sights*, a major exhibition due to open on the Museum’s second floor gallery in 2001. Dr Guha and Dr Boast have been awarded a grant from the Society of South Asian Studies to India to continue their research on the work of Sir Mortimer Wheeler at the Archaeological Survey of India between 1944 and 1948.

Dr Chippindale continued his long-term programme of research into the rock-art of Aboriginal north Australia, working with the Wardaman Aboriginal community and with Australian and other colleagues. A major achievement of the year was the publication of a detailed study of the singular and distinctive beeswax rock-art of western Arnhem Land. Presented in the form of a CD-ROM, it is the first archaeological field study from Australia and the first study of a body of rock-art anywhere to take this new medium. A great merit of it is the ease and cheapness of publishing a full report with coloured photographs and drawings of every figure - the kind of detailed report which all archaeologists prefer but which is rarely seen in printed reports.

Dr Chippindale also continued his long-term study of the antiquities market and its consequences, with Dr David Gill, with a large paper appearing the *American Journal of Archaeology* in autumn 2000. This appeared before paper publication on the Internet, with supplementary supporting material - again of the kind scholarship needs but which is hard to do in print. A joint paper with David Gill and with two Cambridge MPhil. students, Emily Salter and Christian Hamilton, consolidated the work at the December 1999 conference held in Cambridge.

Ms Herle was on sabbatical leave during Easter term 2000. She was invited to be a Visiting Associate at the Museum of Anthropology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. This provided an intellectually stimulating environment and Ms Herle was directly involved in several ongoing projects, including plans for a major Pacific exhibition and consultations with First Nations artists. During this period, supported by a grant of £1722 from the British Academy, Ms Herle conducted field-based research in several Haida, Kwakwaka’wakur, and Coast Salish communities along the Northwest Coast of Canada. She also began co-editing a volume of conference papers for the Pacific Arts Association.

Dr Guha is continuing her research on the photographs of I.H.N. Evans. She worked at the Centre of South East Asian
Studies at the University of Hull in July to obtain documents and personal notebooks belonging to Ivor Evans.

The greater part of Dr Phillipson’s research during the year involved preparing for the detailed report on his excavations at Aksum, Ethiopia. This will be published in two volumes in 2000-01 by the British Institute in Eastern Africa and the Society of Antiquaries of London.

Mrs Harris, with a grant from the Crowther-Beynon Fund, continued work at the Barbados Museum on ceramic material from Heywoods.

**Publications**


**D.E. Nelson, Christopher Chippindale, Paul S.C. Tacon, George Chaloupka, John Southon et al.** 2000. The beeswax rock-art of Arnhem Land, Northern Territory, Australia: field records, archaeology, anthropology, dating, chronology and
interpretation. CD-ROM publication. Burnaby (BC): Simon Fraser University, Department of Archaeology.


