

Annual report of the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology, 1973-74*17 February 1975*

The Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology beg leave to present to the University their Annual Report on the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology for the year 1 October 1973 to 30 September 1974.

Staff

Mr P.W. Gathercole, Curator; Miss M.D. Cra'ster, Mr. M.D. McLeod, Mr. P.L. Carter, Assistant Curators.

Mr M.D. McLeod resigned his post on 15 July to become Keeper of the Museum of Mankind at the British Museum, an appointment which reflects very favourably on both Mr McLeod and the Museum. Mr L.P. Morley retired from his position as Faculty Photographer and Chief Assistant on 30 September, having been employed in the Facility, since 1938. Earlier in the year he had been seriously ill, but happily recovered during the summer. Serious illness also affected the Attendant Staff. Mr C. Bloy had a heart attack in April but made an excellent recovery. Most regrettably, Mr J. Rayment died from a heart attack on 21 June. His duties were taken over by Mr F. Whitehead. The Board appreciate the way that other members of the Curatorial and Assistant Staff doubled up duties during this difficult period.

The curatorial staff gave their full complement of lectures during the year (a total of twenty-four lectures each) in both parts of the Tripos. During the vacations they devoted much time to work on reserve collections, particularly those which might be moved to storage away from the Museum in the future. Miss Cra'ster checked and boxed most of the Near Eastern Collections. The Curator and Mr J. Osbourn, Museum Assistant, sorted all the material from the Solomon Islands and Tibet, and also completed a check on the Evans Collection from South East Asia. Mr McLeod continued his work on Ghanaian Collections and completed his display on the rise of the Asante state which was opened in January. Case arrangements of material from New Britain, New Ireland, New Caledonia, Borneo, Tibet, Sikkim, and Bhutan were refurbished by members of the Assistant Staff. The cases and free-standing exhibits on the entrance staircase were removed and the latter repainted. Repainting was also carried out in the Keyser archaeological gallery and in parts of the first floor ethnographical galleries.

Miss Cra'ster and the Curator continued to serve on the M.11 Motorway Committee and the Council of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, and Miss Cra'ster continued as Editor of its Proceedings. She was also the Museum's representative on the newly formed Cambridgeshire Archaeological Committee and the West Stow open air museum. The Curator was a member of the Council of the Cambridge City and County Folk Museum, the R.A.I. Film Committee, and the Working Party on Cambridgeshire Museums. He gave ten outside lectures during the year, including one to the Oregon Historical Society as part of its exhibition on the Voyages of Captain Cook. He also presented a paper at a conference on Oceanic Art in Hamilton, Ontario, in August. Mr P. L. Carter took his annual leave excavating in Lesotho. Miss M.D. Cra'ster was on study leave during the Michaelmas Term.

The Board thank the Honorary Keepers for their work during the year. Dr. G.H.S. Bushnell dealt with numerous enquiries concerning the American collections. Mrs Roth continued her work on the Fijian journal of Baron von Hügel. Dr G. I. Jones assisted Mr McLeod in the identification of West African material, and Mrs J. Stargardt completed certain displays in the South East Asian section.

Museum reorganization

The special committee of the Faculty Board set up in 1973 to examine plans for museum development reported to the Board in February. The Board decided that it would be realistic to proceed first with the detailed redevelopment of the archaeological galleries. The Clarke Hall would form the major display area. The Keyset Hall would be used in part as an archaeological laboratory and in part as a research area/reserve store for collections in regular demand by staff and students. This plan was referred to the Estate Management and Advisory Service for unit costing. Plans for a similar redevelopment of the Ethnographical Galleries were delayed until the overall storage position of the Museum Collections became clearer, following the decision by the

General Board to allocate to the Museum 2,500 sq ft of storage space at the Short's Factory Site, Madingley Road. The curatorial staff then evolved a scheme to tie these proposals together; the removal to Short's Factory of most of the reserve archaeological collections, the African and some of the American ethnological collections, would create space for the changes envisaged in the Museum. Final approval for the Short's scheme by the General Board is now awaited. Once it is given, the staff can begin the physical reordering of collections so badly needed. In anticipation of this, certain of the designated collections have been sorted into standard boxed units which will be fully interchangeable between Short's and the Museum.

Visitors

The number of visitors from outside the University was 13,533, a drop of eighty-seven from the previous year. There was a more marked decline in the number of visits by organized parties, from 162 to 114, which was partly due to the difficulty of accommodating school visits outside public opening hours. Among visiting groups were members of the suite accompanying the Dalai Lama when he came to the University in October. For this visit Mr Osbourn arranged a special ethnographic display of the Williamson collection from Tibet, Bhutan, and Sikkim. Other visitors included a party of museologists from the German Federal Republic and a delegation of Japanese ethnologists and architects studying museum design in connexion with the forthcoming construction of a National Museum of Ethnology near Tokyo. Twenty-three overseas scholars studied collections, nine of whom came from the Pacific area.

Loans

The Museum Committee decided that in order to allow more time for essential duties by the curatorial staff, it would discontinue the practice of temporary loans after 1 June 1974 until further notice. Prior to that date, five temporary loans were arranged, the most important being:

a collection of Romano-British material from the Sandy district for display by the Sandy Historical Society;

four Romano-British iron coulters from Great Chesterford for spectrographic analysis by Mr A. McWhirr (Leicester University);

an Iron Age scabbard from Lakenheath for X-ray analysis by Professor E.M.Jope (Queen's University, Belfast);

nine objects from Cook's Voyages to the Pacific for inclusion in an exhibition organized by the Oregon Historical Society, Portland, Oregon.

A request from the Bankfield Museum, Halifax, for the permanent loan of the Romano-British altar from Greetland, Yorkshire, was declined because it forms part of the Cotton Collection of inscriptions on permanent deposit from Trinity College. An excellent fibreglass copy was, however, made in its place by Mr P. Smith, Senior Technician. The costs of materials and transport were met by the Bank field Museum.

Crowther-Beynon Fund

Grants amounting to £3,357 were made to the following: Mrs B. Allchin, archaeological fieldwork in India; Mr G.Barker, survey and excavation in Italy; Mr A. Burrows, anthropological fieldwork in Zambia; Dr H. K. Cameron, reorganization of Museum brass rubbings collection; Dr J.M.Coles, excavations in Somerset; Mr R. Dennell, archaeological survey in Tunisia; Miss V. Ebin, anthropological fieldwork in Ghana; Dr B. Hope-Taylor, excavations at Bamborough; Mr J.W.Leach, anthropological filming in the Trobriand Islands; the Museum, purchases and processing collections; the Museum, assistance towards the publication of a manuscript on 'Atchin Initiation' by Dr J. Layard; Dr C.B.M.McBurney, excavations in Jersey; Mr M.D. McLeod, anthropological fieldwork in Ghana.

JACK GOODY, <i>Chairman</i>	J.GARLICK	JOAN LIVERSIDGE
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GLYN DANIEL	E.R.LEACH	MATTHEW SPRIGGS
SHELLY DAVIS-KING	GILBERT LEWIS	

APPENDIX

ACCESSIONS TO THE MUSEUM, 1973-74

- Abbott, D. Wyman, Execs, of:* Palaeolithic tools (74. 297-300; 302-3); Neolithic tools (74. 179, 181-2, 184-6, 189-98, 302-11, 314-16, 354-60, 398-9); Bronze Age pottery and weapons (74. 180, 199-204, 312-3); Iron Age pottery (74. 183, 381-95, 397), from Fengate excavation (74. 361-80); Roman small finds (74. 187-8, 440 62); Saxon brooches, etc. (74. 212-14, 352-3, 396), from Nassington cemetery (74. 717-51); Medieval and later small finds (74. 176-8, 205-21, 275-95): all collected from Peterborough area; Bronze mirror, China (74. 296).
- Audyman, P.V.:* Medieval objects excavated from St Neots and Eaton Socon Castle, Hunts. (74. 42-46).
- *Bacon, Mrs:* Beaker and small-finds from Bronze Age barrow, Chippenham, Cambs. (74. 37-8).
- Barclay's Bank:* Seventeenth-century glass drinking vessels, Bene't Street, Cambridge (74. 416-23).
- Beveridge, Mr B.:* Stone tools, Duxford, Cambs. and Essex (74. 39-40).
- Brooks, R.:* Collection of aboriginal equipment, Woomera, S. Australia, (74. 241-8).
- Browne, Mr D.M.:* Potsherds, etc., Roman to Medieval, excavated Gloucester Street, Cambridge (74. 103-75, 215-40, 249-74).
- Browne, Mr D.M. and Danks, Mr TV.* Seventeenth/nineteenth-century potsherds, M.II route, Cambs. (74. 463).
- Burkitt, Mrs M.M.:* Etruscan bucchero potsherds, Italy (74. 26); Bronze Age textile, Denmark (74. 101).
- Cra'ster, Miss M. D.:* Colour coated beaker, War Ditches, Cambs. (74. 29); pig-sticking spearhead and tie-dyed scarves, Jaipur, India (74. 98-9).
- Fortes, Prof. M.:* Tallensi buttock-cover, Ghana (74. 2).
- Freeman-Pannett, Mrs T.:* Head-rest, E. Africa (74. 1).
- Halford, W.R.:* Seventeenth-century iron spur and leather, Swaffham Bulbeck, Cambs. (74. 100).
- *Hammond, Mr N.:* Mayan pottery, British Honduras (74. 24-5).
- *Humphrey, Dr C.:* Collection of clothing and ritual equipment, Outer Mongolia (74. 12-21).
- Lethbridge, Mrs M.:* Anglo-Saxon finds, excavated T. C. Lethbridge, Lakenheath Warren, Suffolk (74. 401-15).
- McBurney, Dr C.B.M.:* Stone tools, Cambridge, France, and Iran (74. 34-6).
- Peacock, Mr C.:* Saddle-quern, Soham, Cambs. (74. 29).
- Peak, Mr T.* Neolithic flint knife, Egypt (74. 400).
- Pullinger, Mrs J.:* Saxon cruciform brooch, Cambridge (74. 28).
- Rhodes, Mr A.:* Stone axe-hammer, Waterbeach, Cambs. (74. 33).
- Schmeltzer, Mrs Kart:* Archaeological objects, Neolithic to Medieval, various sites in Harz Mountains, Germany (74. 91-7).
- Sedgwick Museum of Geology:* Iron age pot, *Bos primigenius* horn-core, Cornwall (74. 31); ostrich egg, Africa (74. 32).
- Tebbutt, Mr C.F.:* Pottery, etc. excavated from Sibthorpe Manor, Ellington, Hunts. (74. 47-89).
- Thompson, Dr J.E.S.:* Mixtec woman's blouse, Mexico (74. 102).
- Webb, J.D.:* Two small-long brooches and beads, Horseheath, Cambs. (74. 27A/C).
- Westlake, Mrs F.:* Beads, etc. from H.C.Beck collection, Egypt, Cyprus, Iraq, and Suffolk (74. 424-39).
- Young, M.:* Neolithic flint axe, Stretham, Cambs. (74. 399).

* Acquired with the aid of a grant from the Crowther-Beynon Fund.

DEPOSITS, 1973-74

- Paterson, Mrs A. S. (for Major W.H. Wilkin Trust):* Various items of personal equipment, Africa, including Congo, Ghana, Ethiopia (74. D. 1-9).

ARCHIVES

- Lethbridge, T.C. :* A collection of field-notes correspondence, sketch-plans, and drawings; given by Mrs Mina Lethbridge, Mr J.Gadd, and Horace G. Commin Ltd.