

UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

MUSEUM OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND  
ANTHROPOLOGY



The refurbished ground floor gallery, prior  
to installation of new archaeological  
displays

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1982-83

The Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology presents to the University the 95th Annual Report of the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology for the academical year 1982-83.

The delay in the issue of this report is regretted.

## ADMINISTRATION

The Museum Committee met four times during the year under the Chairmanship of Dr S. P. Hugh-Jones.

### STAFF

During 1982-83 the staff of the Museum was as follows

*Curator:* David W. Phillipson, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A.

*Senior Assistant Curator (post-palaeolithic archaeology):*

Miss M. D. Cra'ster, M.A., F.S.A.

*Assistant Curator (palaeolithic archaeology):*

P. L. Carter, M.A., Ph.D.

*Assistant Curator (anthropology):*

D. A. Swallow, M.A., Ph.D. (to January

1983) *Attendant:* B. Lewis

*Attendants (part-time):* Mrs D. Brett (until November 1982)

H. G. Cambridge, B.E.M. (from  
October 1982)

Ms M. Beckinsale (from December  
1982 to September 1983)

Mrs P. A. Came (from September 1983)

*Honorary Keepers:*

H. K. Cameron, M.A., Ph.D., F.S.A. (*Brass rubbings*)

G. I. Jones, M.A., Ph.D. (*Nigerian anthropology*)

G. A. Lewis, M.A., B.M., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., Ph.D.

(*Melanesian anthropology*)

Miss J. Liversidge, M.Litt., F.S.A. (*Romano-British  
collections*)

L.E.R. Picken, M.A., Ph.D., Sc.D., F.B.A. (*Organology*)

In addition, the following assistant staff of the Faculty of Archaeology and Anthropology held specific Museum responsibilities:-

*Secretary (part-time):* Mrs R. C. Fisk, M.A.

*Museum Assistant:* J. Osbourn

*Head of Workshop:* P. W. Smith

*Workshop Assistant:* M. Payne, M.I.A.C.T.  
*Photographer:* G. J. Owen, L.B.I.P.P., A.R.P.S.

It was with very great regret that the Board received the resignation of Dr D. A. Swallow, Assistant Curator, on her appointment as Assistant Keeper in the Indian Section of the Victoria and Albert Museum. The Board wishes to express its appreciation of Dr Swallow's excellent work during her eight years at the Museum and to offer her its best wishes in her future career.

Dr H. R. Waterson was employed as a temporary Curatorial Assistant, Anthropology, from September 1983.

It is a matter of concern and deep regret that permission has not yet been given for the Assistant Curatorship vacated by Dr Swallow to be refilled. At a time when major new displays are being planned and when unprecedented use is being made of the Museum collections by researchers from all over the world, this 25% reduction in the Museum's curatorial staff has presented great difficulties. It is much to be hoped that permission to fill this vacancy will shortly be forthcoming.

As in previous years, numerous helpers, including students, have worked in the Museum, often as unpaid volunteers. The range of the Museum's activities could not have been maintained without this assistance and the Board is most grateful to all those individuals whose names are given in later sections of this Report.

#### *FINANCE*

The University's provision for the Museum's recurrent expenditure was increased in compensation for inflation. Non-recurrent grants were obtained for the reorganisation of the collections, £9,602; for the duplication, microfilming and restoration of the accession registers, £1,728; and for the employment of a temporary curatorial assistant to work on the anthropology collections, £7,700. As recorded later in the Report, substantial funds have also been generously donated from University and external sources towards the cost of the new archaeology displays in the Clarke Hall.

The problem of maintaining adequate standards for the curation and presentation of the Museum's internationally important collections is a continued source of concern to the Board. It must be recognised that, not only does the Faculty, on behalf of the University, have charge of part of the national heritage: it is also providing public museum facilities for Cambridge, with virtually no support from local government.

## EXHIBITIONS

The archaeology gallery on the ground floor of the Museum was closed throughout the year for redevelopment work. No significant changes were made to the permanent anthropology displays other than those necessary for study, conservation and long-term development work.

Photographic displays were mounted on the Museum staircase by Ms Linda Donley on Lamu and by Ms Alice Welbourn on Sapana: a male initiation ceremony of the pastoral Pokot.

To coincide with archaeological excavations on Castle Hill, Cambridge, a small display of the Museum's material from Roman burials in the Cambridge area was mounted from July to September 1983 at the Fitzwilliam Museum.

Much work was undertaken during the year in preparing for a major exhibition, Great Anthropology Collections from Cambridge, which will be held in the Adeane Gallery of the Fitzwilliam Museum from March to May 1984 by kind permission of the Director and Syndicate of the Fitzwilliam Museum. This exhibition will serve both to mark the Museum's centenary and to draw attention to the need to refurbish the anthropology displays to a standard in keeping with their international importance. Work on preparing this exhibition has been supervised by Dr D. A. Swallow as consultant and the employment of assistants has been made possible by a generous grant from Sir Robert and Lady Sainsbury. Miss H. Moore was employed to work on this project from 30 May to 26 August 1983. After closing at the Fitzwilliam Museum the exhibition will be shown at the Sainsbury Centre for the Visual Arts at the University of East Anglia, Norwich during the summer of 1984, and the possibility of further, overseas, venues is being investigated.

## RE-DEVELOPMENT

### *STORES*

Progress continued during the year on re-ordering and re-housing the collections in the new stores at Downing Street and elsewhere. Dr S. Moogk undertook the classification and cataloguing of a collection of Alaskan artefacts given to the Museum half a century ago by Loyola College, Montreal. Mrs M. H. Harris continued her valued volunteer work on the American archaeological collection throughout the year. Major progress was made with processing the palaeolithic collections in which work Dr Carter was ably assisted by Miss C. White. In the furtherance of this long-term task, the following temporary assistants were employed:-

MR. M. Alexander  
Mr. A. Bergquist  
Mr. T. Coleman  
Miss J. Defrates  
Miss K. Fernie

Miss C. Malone  
Ms. B. Ritchie  
Mrs. S. Rodwell  
Dr C. Steele  
Miss F. Weatherhead

### *DOCUMENTATION*

Dr A. Fletcher of the Leicestershire Museums Service was engaged, with the help of a grant from the Area Museums Service, to carry out a searching analysis of the Museum's documentation system. His report drew attention to a number of shortcomings, most of which may be directly attributed to lack of staff and funding.

The essence of his recommendations is that the Museum's documentation may best be improved by the implementation of a computer-based system. In his opinion such a system, although expensive, would be more efficient, cheaper and better value for money than any attempt to upgrade the present manual arrangements.

Proposals to upgrade the Museum's documentation system

have been brought before the Museum Committee on a number of occasions during the past ten years. It is a vital part of the Museum's function and an area which will have to receive increasing allocation of funds and staff time in the fairly near future.

#### *ARCHIVES*

With the aid of a grant from the Cambridgeshire Museums Advisory Committee, Mr M. Evans completed his work of sorting the Museum's non-photographic archives. The preliminary catalogue which he produced has proved most valuable and has enabled members of the Faculty and visiting researchers to make much greater use of the archives than was previously possible. It is proposed, as resources permit, to extend this work in two directions, by including in the catalogue the Faculty's extensive photographic archives and by providing an annotated handlist of archival material relating to archaeology and anthropology housed in other Cambridge institutions.

#### *CLARKE HALL*

The structural refurbishment of the Museum's ground floor display gallery was completed in March 1983, creating a single gallery of some 270 sq. m. The work, carried out under the able supervision of the Estate Management and Building Service, was made possible by a generous grant of £21,747 from the Museums and Galleries Commission. Greatly improved heating, lighting, insulation and fire detection equipment has been installed. Detailed designs for new showcases have been prepared by the Museum's Consultant Designer, Mr Richard Daynes, F.S.I.A., and it is anticipated that the construction and installation of these will be completed at the beginning of 1984. The construction of these purpose-built cases has been made possible through the generous financial assistance of a substantial number of colleges, trusts, commercial



companies, local councils and private individuals, to all of whom the Board is deeply grateful. The next Annual Report, for 1983-84, will include a full list of contributors to the Clarke Hall project.

By the end of the year under review, work was well under way in preparing the new archaeological displays which will be installed in the Clarke Hall in time for its official opening on the occasion of the Museum's centenary in May 1984.

#### *MAUDSLAY AND ANDREWS GALLERIES*

With the completion of the Clarke Hall in sight, attention is already being paid to planning the refurbishment of the exhibition galleries on the first and second floors of the Museum. It is intended to launch a centenary appeal to raise funds towards the cost of this project which will involve structural refurbishment analagous to that already completed on the ground floor. Permanent displays of the anthropology collections will, it is planned, be installed in the first floor Maudslay Gallery, while the Andrews Balcony will be intended for a variety of more temporary displays including those of an inter-disciplinary nature.

## CONSERVATION

Mr Smith carried out conservation work on 176 objects during the year. The majority of specimens treated were being prepared for inclusion in the new Clarke Hall displays. Others required attention to arrest deterioration in store or on display, while a number of projects were also undertaken for the Department of Archaeology.

Almost half the specimens treated were of metal, mostly bronze, but including items also in iron and silver. A Roman shale bracelet from Girton was treated, as were several artefacts of bone and antler from the Swiss lake villages. Consolidation of several wooden artefacts was carried out, including the mesolithic paddle from Star Carr and a Lapp snow-shovel. Other organic materials requiring attention included a Japanese brocade sash and straw hat, a Chinese head-dress and a Greenland kayak apron.

The Museum's foundation stone and the memorial plaque to the Baron von Hflgel, first Curator, were cleaned.

## VISITORS

### *RESEARCH*

Some 115 researchers from outside Cambridge were received at the Museum by appointment to examine items in the collections. This figure is essentially the same as that recorded in 1981-82 and was maintained despite the fact that since January 1983 the Museum's curatorial staff was 25% below strength. A number of visits, however, had to be postponed and the inconvenience which this caused to researchers is greatly regretted.

The subjects investigated by visiting researchers may be summarised as follows

Anthropology	
General	3
African	7
American	5
Asian	6
Australiasian/ Oceanian	17
Total	<hr/> 38
Archaeology	
General	5
Paleolithic 13	
British	28
European	6
Asian	4
African	7
American	3
Total	<hr/> 66
Historical	3
Museum Archives	5
Museology	3

The origin of visiting researcher is shown below:-

	British	Isles	Europe	Africa	Asia	Oceania	Australasia/ America
Universities	25		8	3	4	6	7
Museums	14		5	-	1	2	2
Research units etc.	9		1	1	-	1	-
Other	19		2	-	-	1	4
Total	67		16	4	5	10	13

A service for the identification of specimens within the Museum staff's field of expertise was maintained throughout the year and 53 enquiries were dealt with. This service appears to be much appreciated by the public and has resulted in several important specimens being recorded and, in some instances, acquired for the Museum.

#### EDUCATIONAL

Several professional and educational groups were welcomed at the Museum during the year. During the I.C.O.M. Conference held in London in July 1983, the International Committee for Museums and Ethnography held a one-day session in Cambridge and toured the Museum. A further visit was made by a group of delegates to the main I.C.O.M. Conference. Groups of students from the Department of Archaeology at Liverpool University and from Leicester University's Department of Museum Studies toured the Museum. A group of graphic design students from the Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology undertook a poster-design project based on items in the anthropological collections. There were 34 organised parties from local schools. The Cambridge Antiquarian Society and the Cambridge Archaeology Field Group also held meetings in the Museum.

*PUBLIC*

Public attendances at the Museum during 1982-83 totalled 17,030, which represents a 59% increase on last year's attendances. This most encouraging increase, to the second-highest total ever recorded, has been achieved despite the fact that the archaeology gallery has been closed throughout the year, and bodes well for the future, when the new displays will have been completed.

## ACQUISITIONS

A total of 355 new acquisitions were registered during the year. In addition, 33 deposits were recorded and work on cataloguing previously unaccessioned collections resulted in a further 1,627 registrations.

### *GIFTS*

The Board expresses gratitude to the following donors:-

- B. Bradley, Esq.- collection of modern flint-working comparative material (1983.78-103, 105-129)  
Miss A. Cook - flint axe from Meldreth, Cambs. (1982.3031)  
Executors of the late Miss S. Garner - Roman nails from Inchtuthil, Perthshire (1982.3028)  
S. Heath, Esq. - Bolivian carnival mask (1983.1)  
J. Murray, Esq. - Hausa weapons (1982.3023-5)  
Miss M. Peach - fragment of monumental brass found at Toft, Cambs. (1983.77)  
Mrs J. Pullinger - Roman pottery from Obelisk Kilns, Harston, Cambs. (1983.4-75)  
Professor R. B. Sergeant - Yemeni tent and rug (1982.3026,7)  
Mrs V. Stripp - Acheulian cleaver from Isimila, Tanzania (1982.3030)  
Mrs N. Waller - Shilluk artefacts (1983.131-141)

In addition, the following gifts were made in recognition of grants received from the Crowther-Beynon Fund:- Government of Belize - Maya pottery excavated at Nohmul by Dr N. Hammond (1983.2,3)

- Dr N. Hammond - Maya bowl from Nimli Punit, Belize (1983.104)  
Dr T. Holland - jar from Tell Swehat, Syria (1983.76)  
The late Dr C.B.M. McBurney - Upper Palaeolithic artefacts from Ash Tree Cave, Derbyshire (1983.142-172)  
- artefacts from various British palaeolithic sites (1983.173-190)  
artefacts from Ebbsfleet, Kent (1983.1 91-209 )

*PURCHASES*

The following items were purchased for the Museum's collections:-

Collection of Balinese shadow puppets (1982.3032-3158,  
3162-3168)

Collection of Anglo-Saxon pottery and metal items from  
Wilbraham, Cambs. (1982.3159-3161)

*DEPOSITS*

The items listed below were deposited in the Museum collections on long-term loan by their owners:-

Amey Roadstone Corporation - Romano-British bronze figurine  
of a standing man, from Earith, Cambs. (1983.D.32)

H. Kendall and Sons Ltd. - Peruvian pottery and two silver  
figurines collected by the late Marlborough Pryor  
{1983.D.14-31}

D. G. Marriott, Esq. - two pieces of Chinese trade porcelain  
(1983.D.33)

R.M.M. Pryor, Esq. - Peruvian pottery collected by the late  
Marlborough Pryor (1 983.D.1 -13)

## LOANS

The following loans were made for exhibition at other institutions:-

Saffron Walden Museum - 6 items for inclusion in the  
new Ethnographic Gallery Swaffham Bulbeck Festival -  
an iron spur and leather binding for a "bygones"  
exhibition.

## CROWTHER-BEYNON FUND

The following grants were approved, for payment in August 1983, from the Fund established for the benefit of the Museum under the terms of the will of the late Mr V. B. Crowther-Beynon.

### *MAJOR GRANTS (existing collections)*

Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, £4,000 for new archaeological displays in the Clarke Hall

Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, £1,250 for preparation of a catalogue of the Cook Pacific collections by

Mr P. Gathercole Mr R. Blench and Mr M. Alexander, £870 for preparation of catalogue of the Northcote Thomas collection

### *MAJOR GRANTS (new collections)*

Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology, £1,000 contribution to Acquisition of Specimens Fund

Dr N. Hammond, £1,000 for fieldwork in Belize

Mr P. Lane, £1,000 for research on Dogon ethno-archaeology, Mali

Mr M. Banks, £550 for research on textile production in Gujarat

### *MINOR GRANTS*

Mrs M. Harris, £270 for investigation of material from Dr G. Bushnell's Tobago excavations

Dr C. Shell, £200 for documentation of British and Irish bronze socketed axes

Mr D. Kennett, £250 for preparation of catalogue of specimens from Anglo-Saxon cemetery in St John's College cricket field



## TEACHING

Members of the Museum curatorial staff contributed to the teaching of all three constituent departments of the Faculty during the year. It is a matter of regret that approval has not yet been given for the establishment by the Department of Archaeology of a one-year M.Phil. course in Archaeology and Museum Studies.

## PUBLICATIONS

Work was completed during the year on two works of which, it is hoped, the publication will coincide with the Museum's centenary in 1984.

A catalogue of artefacts collected by the Cambridge Torres Straits expeditions has been prepared by Mr D. Moore for publication by British Museum Publications Limited. It will include photographs and descriptions of several hundred items from the Museum's collections as well as related holdings in other institutions.

The Fiji Journals of the Baron A. von Hügel, first Curator of the Museum have been edited by Mrs J. Roth, ably assisted by Dr S. Hooper. This work, aided by grants from the Crowther-Beynon Fund, will help draw attention to von Hügel's visit to Fiji in 1875-77, during which was collected much important material which subsequently came to the Museum. The von Hügel Journals will be published in 1984 by the Fiji Museum in conjunction with the Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology.