

TULLIE



**Collections
Development
Policy**

Cover page:

CALMG:2014.59

Michael Eden,
Cyan Bloom, 2014

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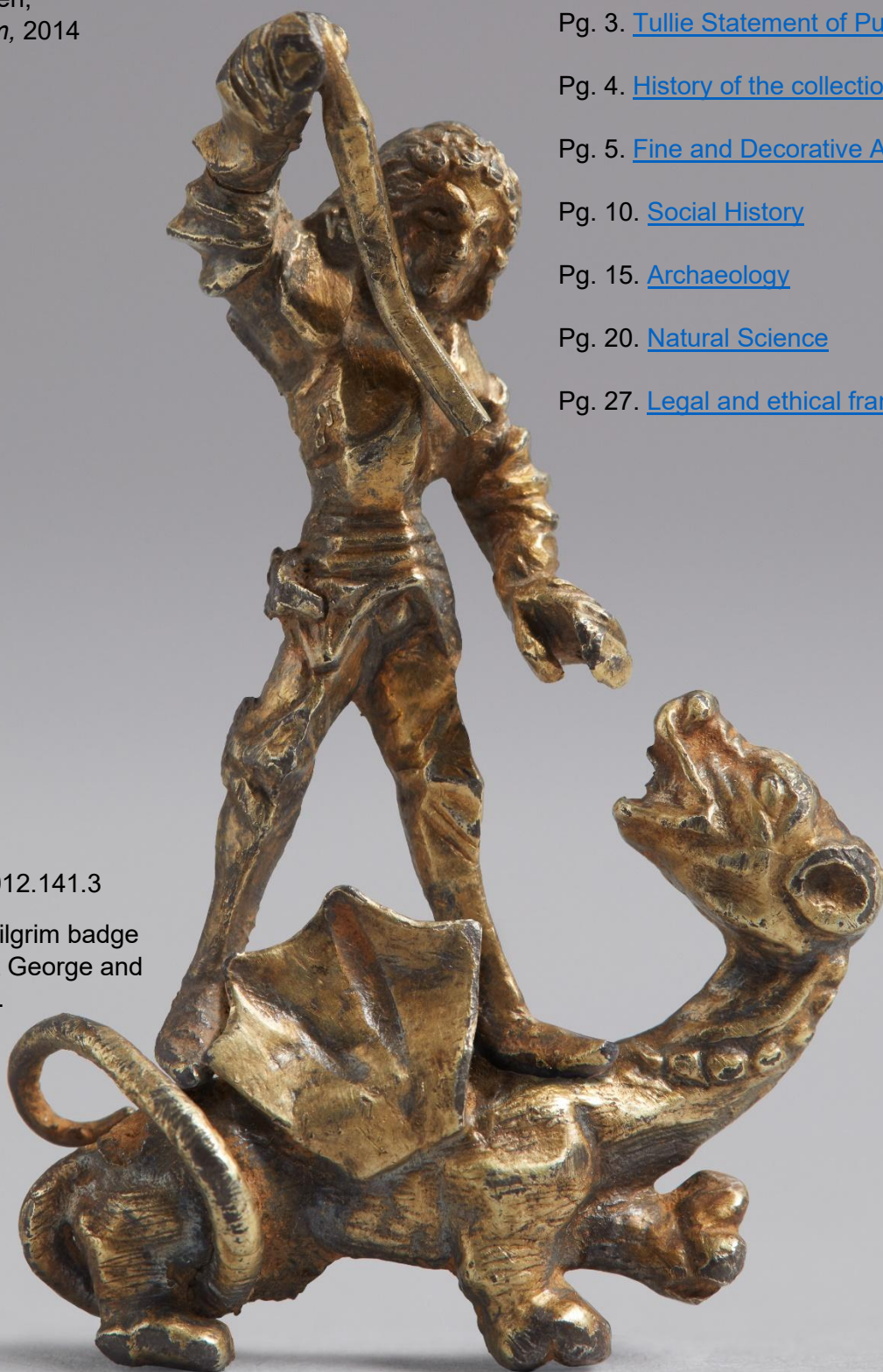
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CALMG:2012.141.3

Medieval pilgrim badge
showing St George and
the dragon.



1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document applies to the collections of Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery Trust, hereafter called Tullie.
- 1.2 This policy was reviewed on: 1/04/2026.
- 1.3 The next review date of the policy is: 1/04/2029.
- 1.4 The Tullie Board of Trustees will review this policy every three years.
- 1.5 Arts Council England will be notified of any changes to the Collections Development Policy, and the implications of any such changes for the future of collections.

2. Tullie statement of purpose

- 2.1 At the heart of Tullie's purpose is its manifesto. The three key pillars are:
 - Tullie is the heartbeat of Carlisle's cultural life.
 - Tullie uses collections, programmes, and resources to tell stories and inspire learning, for life.
 - Tullie is a catalyst to connect Carlisle and Cumbria to the world.
- 2.2 Our collections cover the history, nature and art of Carlisle and north Cumbria.
- 2.3 The museum holds collections in trust for the benefit of the public in relation to its manifesto. 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.
- 2.4 The Trust Board will ensure that both acquisition and disposal are carried out openly and with transparency.
- 2.5 Tullie 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.

MIN-TN.321

Banded malachite



3. History of the collections

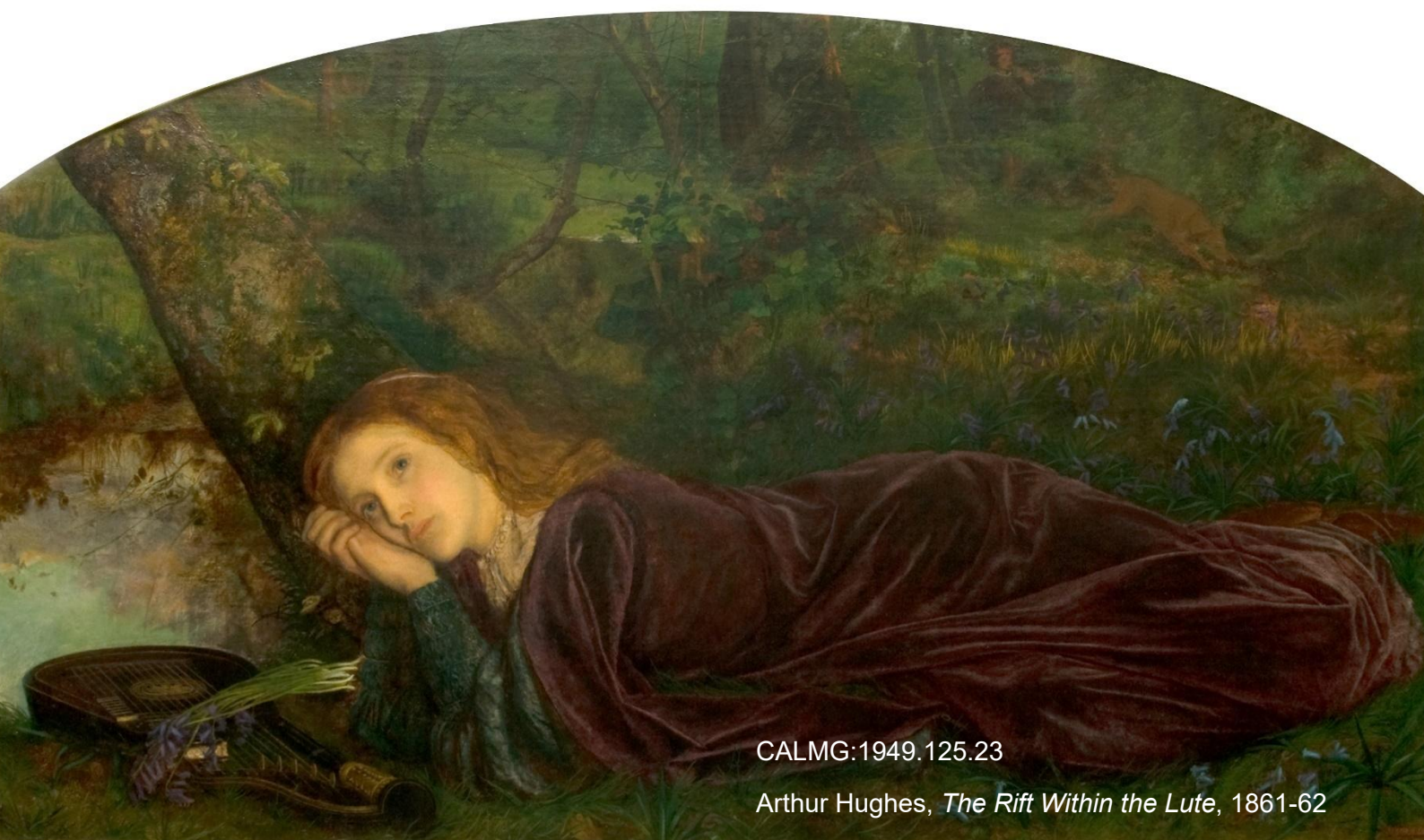
- 3.1 Tullie has expanded its collections, buildings and ambition since it was established by the Carlisle Corporation in 1893. Now a significant resource of cultural material, variously of regional, national, and international significance, the collection comprises almost 1,000,000 objects. The collections were first registered under the former Museums Registration Scheme in 1989 (No. 160). Full Accreditation was achieved in 2006 and renewed in 2013 and 2018.
- 3.2 Tullie's Natural Science and Archaeology collections include material from the county of Cumbria. The Fine Art collection focuses on artists or landscapes relating to North Cumbria, and the Social History collection focusses specifically on Carlisle and district. From 1st April 2023 the county of Cumbria will be split into the two administrative counties of Cumberland, and Westmorland and Furness. The impact of these boundary changes will be covered in section 8.5.
- 3.3 Tullie Museum and Art Gallery Trust also cares for the Guildhall Museum, Carlisle. The Guildhall was numbered 161 under the Registration Scheme but has no separate collections, drawing objects for display from the core collection held at Tullie. Full Accreditation of the Guildhall Museum was achieved in 2018.
- 3.4 In 2008 a Collections Development Strategy was produced for Tullie, providing a comprehensive and forward-looking strategic plan for future development of the collections, set in the context of the Museum Association's *Collections for the Future* report (2005). This Collections Development Strategy has formed the basis for the museum's subsequent Collections Development Policies. This policy has also been informed by Tullie's manifesto, the Project Tullie Masterplan (2017 onwards) and the priorities of Art Council England as a National Portfolio Organisation (since 2018).
- 3.5 Tullie's collections fall into four main areas: Fine and Decorative Art, Social History, Archaeology and Natural Science.

CALMG:1927.27.A2

CALMG:1927.27.B4

Pair of Roman glass vessels





CALMG:1949.125.23

Arthur Hughes, *The Rift Within the Lute*, 1861-62

4. Fine and Decorative Art

4.1 Current collections

Tullie have a wide-ranging fine art collection consisting of c. 7,600 paintings, watercolours, drawings, prints, photographs, sketch books and sculpture by mainly British artists dating from about 1650 to the present day. This collection is mostly of regional significance but also includes works of national importance. Notable elements include:

Purchase Scheme 1933-75

Set up by Maud Scott-Nicholson in 1933, the Purchase Scheme allocated yearly funds for the acquisition of young and little known artists. Key artists represented include: Stanley Spencer, William Rothenstein, Wyndham Lewis, Esmond Lowinsky, Vanessa Bell, Lucien Pissarro, Charles Ginner, L. S. Lowry, John Nash, Eric Ravilious, Carel Weight, Peter Blake and Roger de Grey.

Emily and Gordon Bottomley Bequest 1949

Collection of British art (1800-1900s) featuring works of national importance. Key artists represented include Pre-Raphaelites - Dante Gabriel Rossetti, Elizabeth Siddal, William Morris, Edward Burne-Jones, Ford Madox Brown and Arthur Hughes. Other key artists represented include Samuel Palmer, Charles Ricketts and Paul Nash.

Carel Weight Bequest 1999

Important collection of mainly British art (late 1800s-1900s). Key artists represented include Lucien Pissarro, Stanley Spencer, L. S. Lowry, Thomas Barclay Hennell and Carel Weight.

Pre-Raphaelite collection

Nationally important collection of works by the Pre-Raphaelites acquired from the Howard family, William Rothenstein, the Purchase Scheme and Gordon Bottomley. In 2024, Tullie was allocated six works by HM Government as Acceptance in Lieu of Tax from the estate of the late Ian Stephenson of Laithes, Penrith. Key artists listed above.

Local art and artists collection

Important collection of works by local and visiting artists many of which relate to northern Cumbria. Key artists represented include Sam Bough, William James Blacklock, John Constable, Thomas Bushby, Winifred Nicholson, Sheila Fell, Percy Kelly, Li Yuan-Chia and contemporary artists Julian Cooper, Donald Wilkinson, Jem Southam, Keith Tyson, Lorna Graves, Charles Oakley, Lynn Dennison, Peter Davis, Martin Greenland and John Woodman.

Decorative art

Wide ranging collection, including ceramics such as the Williamson Bequest (1940) of 800 pieces of 1700s-1800s English porcelain, and a table clock by Joseph Knibb of London, c 1600s. The collection features Arts and Crafts furniture, ceramics and metalwork, complementing the textiles held in the Social History collection. The contents of Barn Close, Carlisle's Arts and Crafts House, including furniture, textiles, ceramics, silver, metalwork, jewellery, works on paper, photographs, archival material. A small collection of musical instruments, including strings by the Forster family and a decorated violin by Andrea Amati (1564) also feature in the collection. Contemporary acquisitions include pieces by Paul Scott, Natasha Daintry, Richard Slee and Michael Eden.

Tullie was an early subscriber (1936) to the Contemporary Arts Society, which has allowed for the acquisition of fine and decorative art from artists including Stanley Spencer and more recently Anya Paintsill and the Singh Twins.

CALMG:
1949.125.51

Albert Moore,
The Mother of Sisera, 1861



Priorities for future collecting

Future collecting will have the following aims:

- To acquire and develop collections which enable greater understanding and appreciation of the arts in Cumberland (see section 8.5).
- We will prioritise artists who have lived experience of one or more of our priority protected characteristics of age, disability, race and ethnicity, sexuality and socio-economic (an additional protected characteristic recognised by Arts Council England).
- To acquire and develop collections which specifically relate to or enhance important aspects of the existing collections.

In particular, for fine art:

- Artists and makers either born or practising in Cumberland working in a variety of media from 1650 onwards particularly from the 1800 to the present.
 - Priorities from the 1800s include: women artists, W J Blacklock, M E and W H Nutter, Sam Bough, Thomas Bushby, artists associated with the Howard family and Hudson Scotts.
 - Priorities from the 1900s: students and staff of Carlisle School of Art, Ben Nicholson, Winifred Nicholson, artists associated with the Nicholsons, Li Yuan-Chia and exhibiting artists, artists associated with Helen Sutherland's time in Cumberland, Sheila Fell, L S Lowry, Percy Kelly; artists associated with the Scott-Nicholsons, Mortons, Edinburgh Weavers, the Purchase Scheme and specific collectors.
 - Contemporary priorities: University of Cumbria students, Carlisle College students, Cumbria Arts and Culture Network artists, artistic responses for specific exhibitions/galleries and also artistic responses to natural science, human history (including Hadrian's Wall), fine and decorative art collections; artworks which respond to biodiversity, climate change and migration.
- Works in a variety of media by significant British artists and makers dating from 1700 onwards, particularly contemporary, whose subject matter or materials relate to Cumberland.
- Works in a variety of media by significant British artists and makers from 1700 to the present day whose work relates specifically to or complements important aspects of the museum's art collections. Priorities include relevant Pre-Raphaelite art, Arts and Crafts Movement pieces, landscape subjects and Modern British artworks.
- High quality modern and contemporary artists and makers either born or practising in Cumbria or creating work in response to the collecting area. This includes the newly expanded Cumberland Council area. To research and collect digital artworks created by artists either born or practicing in Cumbria.
- In line with Tullie's [Contemporary Collecting Strategy](#), to acquire contemporary works of art produced by diverse artists in line with the Museum's Equity, Diversity and Inclusion policy, priority protected characteristics and commitment to the Creative Case for Diversity.

CALMG:2008.229.79

Lorna Graves, *Created/Crated*,
1978-2006



For decorative art:

- A clock (or clock mechanism) by George Graham FRS (1673-1751) of Kirklington.
- Arts and Crafts Movement pieces that complement the existing collection.
- Domestic furnishings from the 1600s and early 1700s for future display in Old Tullie House.
- Decorative art made from and with glass.
- Critically endangered crafts, including those on the Heritage Crafts Red List, and opportunities to capture the intangible cultural heritage associated with their production.
- Makers from Cumbria Arts and Culture Network and exhibitors from Potfest.
- Work by sculptors, studio potters, jewellers, musical instrument makers, furniture makers, clock makers, toy and doll makers based in Cumbria.

4.2 Priorities for rationalisation and disposal

Our Fine and Decorative Art collection contains works of both local and national importance. However, parts of the collections are of lower importance and could be candidates for rationalisation going forward.

Although each object should be examined on a case-by-case basis, candidates for rationalisation generally include:

- Fine art that is in poor condition
- Decorative art that is mass produced and widely held in other museums, without strong local provenance.

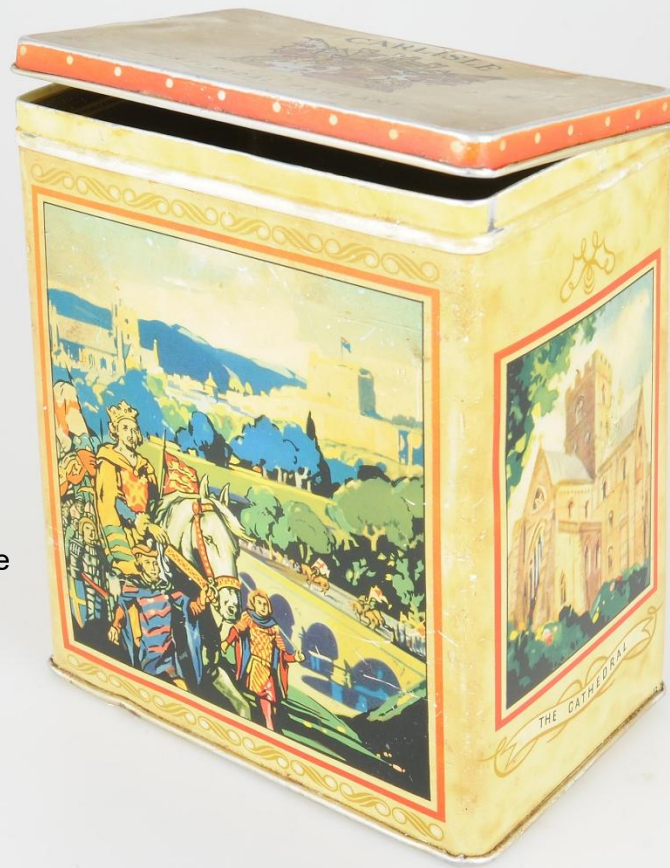


CALMG:2022.3.2

*Anya Paintsil, I am the predator,
not the prey II, 2020*

CALMG:2008.118

Carr's biscuit tin, made by Metal Box, with a Carlisle Pageant design.



5. Social History

5.1 Current collections

Social History objects collection

A wide-ranging collection of objects and ephemera relating to personal, community and working life in Carlisle district. The boundary between archaeology and social history is 1485, the death of Richard III and widely regarded as the end of the Medieval period.

The collection includes a good general representation of working, domestic and recreational activities. There is limited coverage of the Elizabethan period, including weights and measures and the nationally significant Carlisle racing bells. Material includes limited items from the Border Reiver period and 1745 Jacobite Rising, 1600s/1700s silver of the city and its trade guilds, coins and medallions from 1500-1900, Carlisle made watches, long case clocks and firearms, State Management branded pub material, traditional Cumbrian sports trophies and accessories, ephemera relating to 1900s Carlisle Pageants and fairs, tools, equipment and products of local industry and rural agriculture and the Blue Streak missile project archive. The collections also represent Carlisle based industries such as Textile manufacturers, Carr's biscuits and Hudson Scott/Metal Box.

Photographic collection

A collection spanning the history of popular photography with images primarily focussed on Carlisle people and places, with a significant number from wider Cumbria.

Significant collections include over 1,000 images by noted amateur photographer and archaeologist Mary Cicely Fair, the archive of Carlisle commercial photographer F. W. Tassell comprising over 1,500 images, and over 700 images from Carlisle photographer Jim Templeton. Early photography is represented with a number of locally taken Daguerreotypes and Ambrotypes.

Costume and textile collection

This includes a large collection of women's, men's, children's and infants' costume and accessories dating from 1700 to the present; a significant collection of locally made quilts; and textiles from local artists. Significant costumes include those worn or associated with local resident Margery Jackson including a court mantua and the uniform of Polish Second World War Pilot Tadeusz Felc.

The quilt collection represents work from around 1700 to the present day and includes a quilt incorporating the Friendly Association of Cotton Spinners apron from 1836. The textile collection includes work from local manufacturer Edinburgh Weavers, Morris and Company and rag rugs by noted local artist Winifred Nicholson.

Oral History collection

A smaller but significant collection of recordings dating from 1950s to the present. These recordings represent working life from Carlisle district industries including testimony from workers at Carr's/McVities Biscuit Works, Hudson Scott/Metal Box and the Blue Streak missile project at Spadeadam RAF site.

Born Digital collection

In 2020, Tullie started to collect born digital objects, ensuring that we are able to remain at the forefront of museum collections management. The Born Digital collection currently is made up of photographs taken by the public during the first Covid-19 lockdown, as well as miscellaneous videos, zines, and audio recordings.



CALMG:1948.60.1

Helmet, part of the Caldbeck parish armour

5.2 Priorities for future collecting

We want to be dynamic, representative and sustainable, developing our collections to tell the stories that make Carlisle unique. Collecting will target the following themes:

- Carlisle's role during 300 years of Anglo-Scottish warfare and Border Reiving, and subsequent Parliamentary and Jacobite periods.
- Carlisle's industrial revolution, manufacturing era and railway boom.
- 1900s and 2000s Carlisle and Carlisle's diversity today (see [Contemporary Collecting Strategy](#) for more details).
- Carlisle's diversity from 1485 to the present day, in particular stories of women and those relating to people with protected characteristics – filling acknowledged gaps in our collection.

In particular:

- Material relating to the Border Reivers.
- Material relating to the Civil War and 1745 Jacobite Rising.
- Material relating to the development of Carlisle's industry in the Georgian and early Victorian period.
- Material relating to the 1823 Carlisle Canal.
- 1800s railway material relating to the Citadel Station and steam age.
- Objects relating to Carlisle firms, Carrs/McVities, Cowans Sheldon, Edinburgh Woollen Mill and Hudson Scott/Metal Box, Dixons, Buck's, Ferguson's, Morton Sundour, Stead McAlpin, Linton Tweeds, Laing's and Eddie Stobart.
- Uniforms relating to Carlisle civic and industrial firms and organisations, to fill gaps in the existing collection.
- Modern and contemporary textiles which relate to Carlisle District or the existing collections. Priorities include printed textiles, textiles made by contemporary artists including the Nicholson family, textiles created through community projects such as Tullie Textiles, rag rugs and clothing made from Carlisle-produced textiles by international design houses, including Chanel. Clothing which can be displayed in the Contemporary Collecting Case in the Costume Gallery.
- Central Control Board and State Management material.
- Material relating to migration to Carlisle and Cumbria across the period.
- Material representing communities in Carlisle, in particular those with protected characteristics (see [Contemporary Collecting Strategy](#)).
- Material relating to the lives of women who lived in Carlisle District over the collecting period.
- Material relating to rural communities and livelihoods, including folk culture, which focus on the rural hinterland of the county outside of Carlisle's urban centre
- Photographs of Carlisle and district and photographs which enhance existing collections. This may include the work of named photographers, series of images and photographs from the 1990s onwards.
- Material relating to Carlisle media and broadcasting, e.g. Border Television, local radio stations, and newspapers and journals (where this does not overlap with the collections held by Cumbria Archives)

CALMG:2008.1.2

Wooden box containing typefaces for the Edmondson ticket machine.



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- Large artefacts (such as machinery and vehicles) will be considered in response to future developments of storage or display space. Priorities will include Social History objects relating to Carlisle businesses (for example, Carrs or McVities biscuit-making machinery), transport items (including a Carlisle tram), and furniture, fittings and other domestic artefacts that could be used to enhance interpretation of historic periods or the Trust's buildings. These could include items of 1600s-1700s date relevant to the interpretation of Old Tullie House and /or the period of the Jacobite Risings.
- Material relating to the Tullie family and historic occupants of Old Tullie House.

5.3 Priorities for rationalisation and disposal

While the Social History collection does contain fascinating stories and objects that relate to Carlisle's people from the 1500s to the present day, some of the collection is not as relevant. Previous collecting priorities have included collecting type material, or generic material that broadly represents domestic lives in the 1900s. As such, some of the collection does not have a connection to Carlisle, and cannot tell the stories that drive Tullie's mission.

Priorities for disposal include:

- Duplicate and mass-produced objects from the main Social History collection without good provenance or a local story.
- Duplicate and mass-produced objects from the Costume collection e.g., underskirts, without good provenance or a local story.

- Objects that contain hazardous materials, that make them too dangerous to display, store or engage with.
- Objects made from materials that are actively degrading and negatively affecting other objects

We have a small collection of ethnographic material; this deserves further research and investigation, but if found to not be relevant to the story of Carlisle, it will be a priority for disposal and, if appropriate, repatriation.



CALMG:2021.17.1-3

Scrubs worn by Evelyn
Nakachwa, a nurse at
Cumberland Infirmary,
during the Covid-19
pandemic.



CALMG:2006.1

Detail of the Ilam Pan, also known as the Staffordshire Moorlands Pan

6. Archaeology

6.1 Current collections

Tullie's archaeology collection is c. 400,000 objects strong, and encompasses prehistory to the early modern period (not including the Border Reivers, which is included in Social History).

The locally and nationally important collection includes extensive material from the significant prehistoric site at Stainton West CNDR, the Neolithic Langdale Axe factory and Bronze Age material including unique rock art and pottery. The collections relating to the Roman occupation include an internationally important collection of inscribed and sculptured stones, and domestic and military material from Carlisle. This comprises excavated material from Carlisle Archaeology Unit, and the UNESCO World Heritage Site Hadrian's Wall, including Birdoswald Roman Fort. The post-Roman and Early Medieval period includes objects from Viking burials at Ormside, Hesket and Cumwhitton. The medieval life of the city is represented by finds from the Carlisle Archaeology Unit excavations across the city. In addition, there is a fine collection of British coinage of all periods.

A notable point about the collection is that the waterlogged conditions that can be found in the archaeological layers of Carlisle allow the preservation of wood (e.g., writing tablets) and leather artefacts. Research carried out by Sapienza University suggests that Tullie holds the second largest collection of archaeological organics in the UK.

The collection consists of material collected through the following methods:

- Antiquarian collections (which includes the founding collections of the museum); e.g., R. Ferguson, Gilbanks, Harkness, Fisher
- Stray and single finds
- Amateur and modern collectors' collections
- Objects acquired through the Portable Antiquities Scheme including the Treasure Act
- Archaeological archives which include both objects and documentary archives (see [guidance on Tullie's website](#) for further information). Most of the archaeology collection stems from the rescue material salvaged from Carlisle

Archaeology Unit which folded in the early 2000s. This material also encompasses most of the archaeological documentation backlog.

The collections have been published in multiple places; notably Wright and Phillips (1975), and [the CWAAS Transactions](#), and the websites [Corpus Signorum Imperii Romani](#), and [Roman Inscriptions of Britain](#).

Recent excavations should all be published on [OASIS V](#), and the grey literature on the [Archaeological Data Service](#).



CALMG:1997.325.397

Iron sword from the
Viking burial at Hesket-
in-the-Forest.

6.2 Priorities for future collecting

Our archaeological collections, archives and digital material enable greater understanding of the development of Carlisle district and its communities. Key areas to collect will be Pre-Roman Carlisle, the development of Carlisle as a Roman military installation and town, and its subsequent development as an important medieval Border City and stronghold.

Historically, the museum has acted as a repository for archaeological finds from sites throughout the now dissolved county of Cumbria. Going forward, due to storage limitations, we will not automatically collect material from the whole area. Acquisitions in Archaeology will normally derive from or relate to Carlisle District or sites from outside Carlisle District which are currently held by the museum, with the following regular exceptions:

- Archaeological material excavated by bodies with which Tullie has a historic relationship, such as the Cumberland and Westmorland Antiquarian and Archaeological Society.
- Significant archaeological material from Cumbria which is at risk of loss.

Tullie requires excavators to contact the museum prior to the start of any excavation to discuss the potential for the material to be deposited at Tullie, to allow for forward planning of storage capacity. The museum charges a box fee for all archaeological depositions, which is set in line with industry standards, guidance from the Society for Museum Archaeology and consultation with other museums. The box fee intends to cover all accessioning and processing costs, with a contribution towards storage costs. Income from box charges is ringfenced for the care of archaeological collections. Further information can be found on the [Depositing Archaeological Archives](#) page of Tullie's website.

Priority areas for collecting are:

- Finds and documentation or archival material relating to the existing collections.
- Finds and documentation or archival material relating to sites in the collecting area. Some of these may be previously excavated sites and others will not be recognised yet.
- Pre-Roman, Post-Roman and early Medieval material (500-1000 CE): artefacts are scarce and almost all material from within the area is of high interest.
- Medieval period (1000-1500 CE): Material relating to life in Carlisle District.
- Individually very significant items found, made, or used locally, of any date up to c. 1700 CE.

CALMG:2000.232

Medieval betrothal casket



6.3 Priorities for rationalisation and disposal

When Carlisle Archaeology Unit folded in the early 2000s, their full holdings were transferred to Tullie to continue their preservation. Much of the material was in the post-excavation stage of processing, and this was not completed once transferred.

Additional depositions taken in from 2000-2020 have not been subjected to a sustainable processing policy, and therefore contribute to the documentation backlog.

Tullie is aware that these archaeological archives were accepted without being subject to the retention and disposal policy as set out by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists. This has created opportunity for aspects of the archaeological archives to be rationalised in line with the current Tullie Guidelines for Archaeological Depositions.

Much of the material has limited display value but retains research value, and disposals will be considered carefully in this context.

Although each archive should be examined on a case-by-case basis, candidates for rationalisation generally include:

- Unprocessed ecofacts
- Unstratified bulk material including ceramics, animal bone, and iron.
- Material that is in a poor condition and not salvageable by conservation.
- Post-Medieval material of no research or display value.



Nene Valley Colour
Coated Ware beaker
from Brougham,
decorated with a
hunting motif – a dog
chasing two hares.



CALMG:1960.87

A damselfly (*Agrion fabricius*) from the entomology collection

7. Natural Science

7.1 Current collections

Tullie's Natural Science collection totals almost 400,000 specimens. In 2018, the collection was Designated by Arts Council England due to its great geological and biological importance. The specimens mainly originate from the county of Cumbria, which has the most biologically diverse range of habitats of any English county. The collection has a considerable historical component (dating back to the early 1700s) and consequently provides an extraordinary and irreplaceable national resource for understanding the landscape and biodiversity of the region. The collection contains many specimens which have underpinned significant natural history volumes and scientific ecological studies, and continues to inspire and inform both the scientific community and the public, influence policy and deliver an enduring legacy.

Invertebrate Zoology

The nationally significant entomology collection is the largest component, comprising c. 200,000 specimens. It contains 10,000 British species, including type-specimens, specimens of species discovered new to Britain from the county's rivers, and historically important specimens (i.e., those collected by E. B. Ford), which have provided the foundation of ground-breaking ecological works.

The Mollusca collection comprises some 2,000 specimens of terrestrial and marine mollusc shells, including a data rich collection of 1,195 non-marine species collected by Ernest and Dorothy Blezard in the mid-1900s.

Vertebrate Zoology

Taxidermy includes 1,500 mounted specimens and 3,000 cabinet skins, representing most British species of bird (including the last indigenous Cumbrian Red Kite, 1840) and mammals as well as many important Cumbrian species of fish. For many mammal species, such as the Red Squirrel, collecting is continuous to present, allowing samples to contribute towards genetic studies of the species. The collection of mounted British birds and mammals, some exquisitely mounted and cased by Ernest Blezard, is unique in its outstanding representation of Cumbrian habitats: many specimens feature in Rev. Macpherson's *A vertebrate Fauna of Lakeland*.

There are 3,500 clutches of birds' eggs in the collection representing most British species and largely deriving from Cumbria. It includes clutches collected by Ernest Blezard (mid-1900s), raptor eggs collected under license by D. Ratcliffe and a series of failed Golden Eagle clutches taken under license from what was, for many years, the only English pair at Haweswater. The bird egg collection has contributed to the studies of the impact of environmental pollution (e.g., D. Ratcliffe 1970).

Additionally, the museum holds a taxonomically diverse collection of osteological specimens (c. 700).

Botany

Lakeland and British herbaria, including mosses and lichens. The botany collections have a strong historical element with significant material from the 1700s (for example, from S. Goodenough, Rev. J. Dodd and T. Heysham), 1800s (including C. A. Steves, J. Leitch, R. H. Williamson) and 1900s (for example, C. Winsome Muirhead, D. Blezard and D. Ratcliffe) and from a succession of nationally prominent local botanists. Data from the collections has underpinned contemporary distribution atlases such as *A Flora of Cumbria* (G. Halliday 1997). The collections have been greatly strengthened by the 2014 acquisition of the herbarium of Lancaster University (c. 35,000 sheets); an invaluable reference collection of vascular plant sheets from the British Isles and continental Europe. Most noteworthy are the contemporary 10,000 Cumbrian specimens, providing confirmation of published records of less common and critical species.

Fungi

An invaluable biodiversity resource collection of well-provenanced Cumbrian fungi. New acquisitions should focus on montane and grassland species in addition to providing voucher specimens for county biodiversity data. The contemporary collecting of fungi from the Cumbrian fells has preserved material from a little studied community in a vulnerable habitat in a period of climate change which has great potential for future research.

Geology

The 'Cumbria's Past, Our Future' project (2021-2023) funded by the Designation Development Fund significantly contributed to our understanding of this unique collection.

The collection includes 10,000 specimens of minerals, fossils, and rocks. There are 3,000 mineral specimens in the collection, 2,500 of which come from Cumbria. They represent internationally important areas including the Caldbeck Fells, the West Cumbrian iron fields, and the Northern Pennines. The museum also possesses a unique collection of minerals including lead, gypsum, aragonite, fluorites, lanarkite, leadhillite, plumbogummite, alstonite and brianyoungite. Noteworthy collections include that of R. Harkness, J. Goodchild, B.

Young, J. W. Branston and J. Ingham. A further 500 specimens derive from locations around the world and are of particular use for comparative and educational purposes.

The palaeontology collection consists of almost 6,000 specimens, consisting of mainly invertebrates (with a comprehensive component of Lower Palaeozoic invertebrates) and most groups are well represented. The collection has a wide stratigraphic range stretching from the Cambrian to the Pleistocene. There is a large geographic coverage from the British Isles (particularly Cumbria and Dumfriesshire) but also a small number of European specimens. This ensure that the palaeontology collection covers a range of specimens, as Cumbria palaeontology is only palaeozoic. Material from Cumbria is well represented and demonstrates the changing environments over a period of almost 300 million years, between the Lower Ordovician and the Lower Jurassic. The collection includes at least two type specimens and several figured specimens. The most important collection is that of R. Harkness, who used the specimens with his geological studies to unravel the complex stratigraphy of Cumbria and southern Scotland. Of particular scientific importance are the Permian sandstone vertebrate trackways, and a partial ichthyosaur skeleton from Great Orton, Carlisle, which may represent the oldest ichthyosaur from the United Kingdom.

The petrology collection contains just over 1,000 specimens with a comprehensive range of igneous, metamorphic and sedimentary specimens. Of particular note is the proportion from Cumbria comprising an excellent range of many different types of rocks found in the Lake District.

Other

The museum has a small collection of spirit specimens, and microscope (biological and geological) slides. The museum also holds an important archive of natural history notebooks and correspondence from prominent figures in the natural history of Cumbria including D. Ratcliffe, H. A. Macpherson, E. Blezard, and F. H. Day, to name a few.

In 2014 Tullie collected the skeleton of a juvenile Fin Whale – named Driggsby – which forms an important basis for work on human interactions with and impact on our oceans.

7.2 Priorities for future collecting

The area from which collected material will derive will normally be Cumbria (see 8.5.1 for more details). Acquisition of non-regional British material, or foreign specimens will be limited and mainly for comparative and educational purposes.

Exceptions to the above will be:

- The minerals collection, for which the area will be extended to include that part of the North Pennine ore-field which lies within the counties of Durham and Northumberland.
- Good example specimens of UK geology to fill gaps in the collection.
- The entomological collections, which may acquire representative material of British species, to further enhance these significant collections.

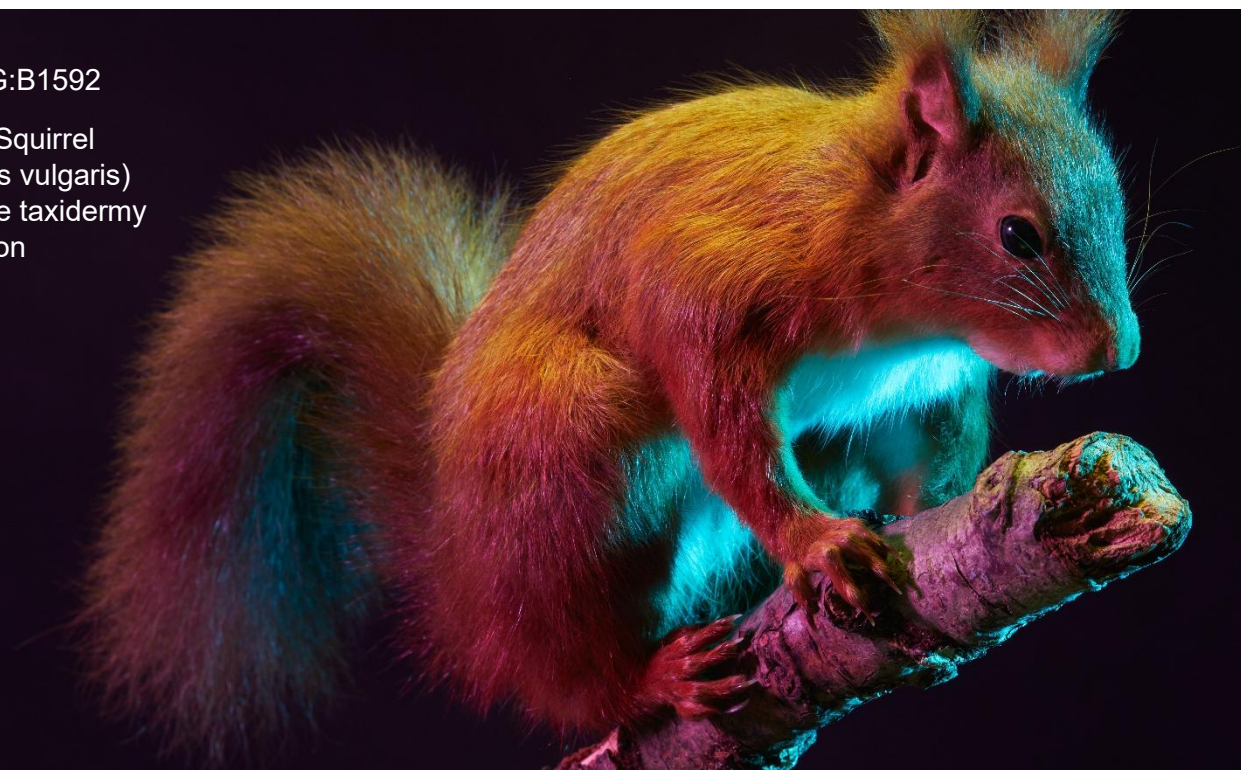
In particular, collecting will focus on:

Vertebrate Zoology

- Display material of British birds, mammals and selected marine fish not presently represented by high quality display material e.g., Red Deer, Dormouse, Harvest Mouse, Wild Goat, Bats, Water Vole and Shrews. Large mammals such as Lynx and Red Deer are also a priority. Casts and skeletons of cetacean species are of particular interest. Long-term, an aim is to acquire display material (models or specimens) of locally extinct species such as Megaloceros.
- Well-presented mounted taxidermy.
- Display material of Lake District heritage breeds representing local agriculture and rural agricultural practice, e.g., Fell Pony, Herdwick Sheep, Highland Cow and Rough Fell Sheep. Working heritage dog breeds including Border Collie, Patterdale Terrier, Lakeland Terrier and Fell Terrier are a priority, as well as the stories of Cumberland sheepdogs.
- Examples of the work of well-known local taxidermists - both historical and contemporary (e.g., Blacket Greenwell of Alston and Linnaeus Eden Hope)

CALMG:B1592

A Red Squirrel
(*Sciurus vulgaris*)
from the taxidermy
collection



and/or photographic records of such items, particularly those that fill gaps in the species represented in the collection.

- Study skins of contemporary bird and mammal casualties to provide temporal continuity to the collection resource. In addition, preserved skins of bats, and of species new to the area (such as Grey Squirrel, Ferret/Polecat, Mink) and of species now declining (such as Red Squirrel, Water Vole). All such material must be well documented and of local origin.
- Skeletal material representing the local mammal and bird fauna. Such material must be well documented and of local origin.
- Modern specimens of taxidermy and osteology to support curatorial teaching and handling.
- Non-native taxidermy that is connected to conservation projects within the Cumbrian region.

Invertebrate Zoology

- Invertebrate specimens with good provenance data collected in Cumbria.
- Specimens of British insect species which strengthen the collections.
- Voucher material for data held on the Cumbria Biodiversity Data Centre Database.
- Habitat photographs of important Invertebrate sites where they relate to specimens in the collection.

Botany

- Specimens of plant species, mosses and liverworts from Cumbria.
- Photographs of important plant habitats and local species where they relate to specimens in the collection.
- Specimens from key local and ancient trees, such as the Borrowdale yews.
- Material relating to community planting projects.
- Specimens from the vicinity of Hadrian's Wall and the National Landscape areas.

Fungi and lichens

- Collections of Cumbrian fungi and lichens with good provenance data, particularly the mycota of montane heath and unimproved grasslands.
- Well-provenanced photographs of Cumbrian fungi species and important sites and habitats within the county.

Geology

- Local specimens of rocks, fossils and minerals with detailed stratigraphic and locality information which are under-represented or new to the collections; a priority will be local specimens from the Permian, Triassic and Liassic exposures. Other priorities include native silver, carpholite and the secondary mineral bottinoite.
- Material from sites that are endangered (for example mines and quarries which are about to be closed) and their localities.
- Specimens relating to recognised geological sites (i.e., SSSI or RIGGS designated) in Cumbria and specimens which were first discovered in Cumbria.

- Specimens from internationally important sites including the Permian Hilton Beck plant beds, and the Permian Lazonby Fell sandstones.
- Large specimens of a selection of local rock, mineral, or fossil types for display purposes.



CALMG:2022.35

Bound herbarium
in four volumes,
collected by the
Rev. John Dodd,
1798-99

7.3 Priorities for rationalisation and disposal

While our Natural Science collection was Designated by Arts Council England in 2018 in recognition of its national importance, depth and breadth, there have been, over Tullie's lifetime, acquisitions that do not fit with the collection as a whole or fit with Tullie's purpose. These specimens will be priorities for rationalisation and disposal.

Although each specimen or group of specimens will be considered on a case-by-case basis, priorities for disposal generally include:

- Specimens that fall outside of the collecting policy, have no provenance, and do not add to our reference collection, and would be better suited to another institution.
- Specimens that are deteriorated, unsalvageable and have limited display and educational value, e.g., those suffering from advanced Pyrite decay.
- Weak, unprovenanced example specimens.
- Material that is unaccessioned that falls outside of the current Collections Development Policy.



CALMG:1965.31

A Roe Deer
(*Capreolus capreolus*)
skull

8. Legal and ethical framework for the acquisition and disposal of collections

8.1 Acquisition procedure

- 8.1.1 Curatorial staff will follow the [Acquisition and Accession Procedure](#) when acquiring objects for the collection.
- 8.1.2 Objects/specimens may enter the collection as gifts, bequests, field collecting, purchases and commissions. Archaeological material will not be acquired through excavation or field collecting directly by Tullie unless in exceptional circumstances. Joint acquisition projects with major regional or National museums will be considered.
- 8.1.3 Tullie will acquire [Born Digital material](#) where it fits within this policy.
- 8.1.4 The financial implications of individual acquisition proposals will be weighed against available purchase funds and the needs of the whole collection. Decisions to proceed with the acquisition of individual items will be at the discretion of the Senior Leadership Team acting in accordance with agreed policies and legal agreements with Cumberland Council. Major purchases will be considered by the Tullie Senior Leadership Team and Board of Trustees in the first instance. Grants will be sought in conjunction with all appropriate purchases.
- 8.1.5 Acquisition of objects for use by the Tullie Learning and Engagement team is governed by an in-house code of practice, and is covered by the Acquisition and Accession Procedure. This is to ensure that all offered donations will be centrally processed via the SPECTRUM standard, with the main collections having priority of opportunity to acquire items on offer. Objects permanently acquired for the Learning and Engagement team are listed separately from the main accession records. In addition, selected artefacts from the main Tullie collections are placed on loan to the Education collection and regularly audited.
- 8.1.6 The museum will loan in and out of the collection as required, and governed by the [Loans In Procedure](#) and [Loans Out Procedure](#).

8.2 Acquisition legalities

- 8.2.1 The museum will exercise due diligence and make every effort not to acquire, whether by purchase, gift or bequest, 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.
- 8.2.2 Acquisitions outside the current stated policy will only be made in very exceptional circumstances, and then only after proper consideration by the governing body of the museum, having regard to the interests of other museums. Any such acquisition will be in accordance with the legal agreements governing the relationship between the Trust and Cumberland Council.
- 8.2.3 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).
- 8.2.4 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 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 Digital, Culture, Media, and Sport in 2005.

- 8.2.5 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.
- 8.2.6 The museum will not acquire archaeological material 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, including those as set out in the Treasure Act 1996 and amended by the Coroners and Justice Act 2009.
- 8.2.7 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. See the museum's [Human Remains Policy](#) for more information.
- 8.2.8 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, and updated in 2016, by the Museums and Galleries Commission.
- 8.2.9 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.
- 8.2.10 Tullie will provide a Register of Acquisitions to Cumberland Council every year.

CALMG:2007.125.1-2

Pair of earthenware
vases decorated by
William Baron at the firm
of Charles Hubert
Brannam, 1887



8.3 Disposal procedure

- 8.3.1 Curatorial staff will follow the [Deaccession and Disposal Procedure](#) when removing objects from the collection.
- 8.3.2 The museum will act ethically and transparently throughout the rationalisation, deaccession and disposals process, abiding by sector guidelines including the Museums Association's Code of Ethics and Disposals Toolkit.

8.4 Disposal legalities

- 8.4.1 The museum's governing body, acting on the advice of the museum's professional staff, may take a decision to return human remains, 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 considering all ethical implications and available guidance.
- 8.4.2 The disposal of human remains will abide by Tullie's [Human Remains Policy](#).
- 8.4.3 In cases where disposal is motivated by financial reasons, the governing body will not undertake disposal unless it can be demonstrated that all the following exceptional circumstances are met in full:
- the disposal will significantly improve the long-term public benefit derived from the remaining collection.
 - the disposal will not be undertaken to generate short-term revenue (for example to meet a budget deficit)
 - the disposal will be undertaken as a last resort after other sources of funding have been thoroughly explored.



CALMG:1996.66.966

Crystalline amethyst

8.5 Local Government Reform 2023

- 8.5.1 From 1 April 2023 two new administrative counties were created - Cumberland, and Westmorland and Furness. These replace Cumbria County Council, although Cumbria will continue to exist as a ceremonial county. This local government change has moved the borders that Tullie previously used to decide its collecting areas – namely removing and unifying Carlisle City Council, Allerdale Borough Council and Copeland Borough Council. This brought new museums into the same region as Tullie (see 8.6.2) and affected our collecting priorities in the following ways.
- 8.5.2 Fine Art – Going forward, we will prioritise collecting works relating to Cumberland as opposed to North Cumbria, but we will consider and consult other museums in the collecting area before acquisition (see 8.6.2).
- 8.5.3 Our collecting area for Social History will remain Carlisle and District.
- 8.5.4 Our collecting priority for Archaeology will be Carlisle and Cumberland, but we will consider collecting beyond Cumberland if the objects or sites fit within our policy as outlined above. No other museums in Cumberland or Westmorland and Furness collect archaeological depositions – only Treasure (as defined by the Treasure Act) – so Tullie will consider rescue archaeology from the whole county of Cumbria.
- 8.5.5 Our Natural Science collection is Designated due to its comprehensive coverage of Cumbria so we will continue to collect for the whole area.



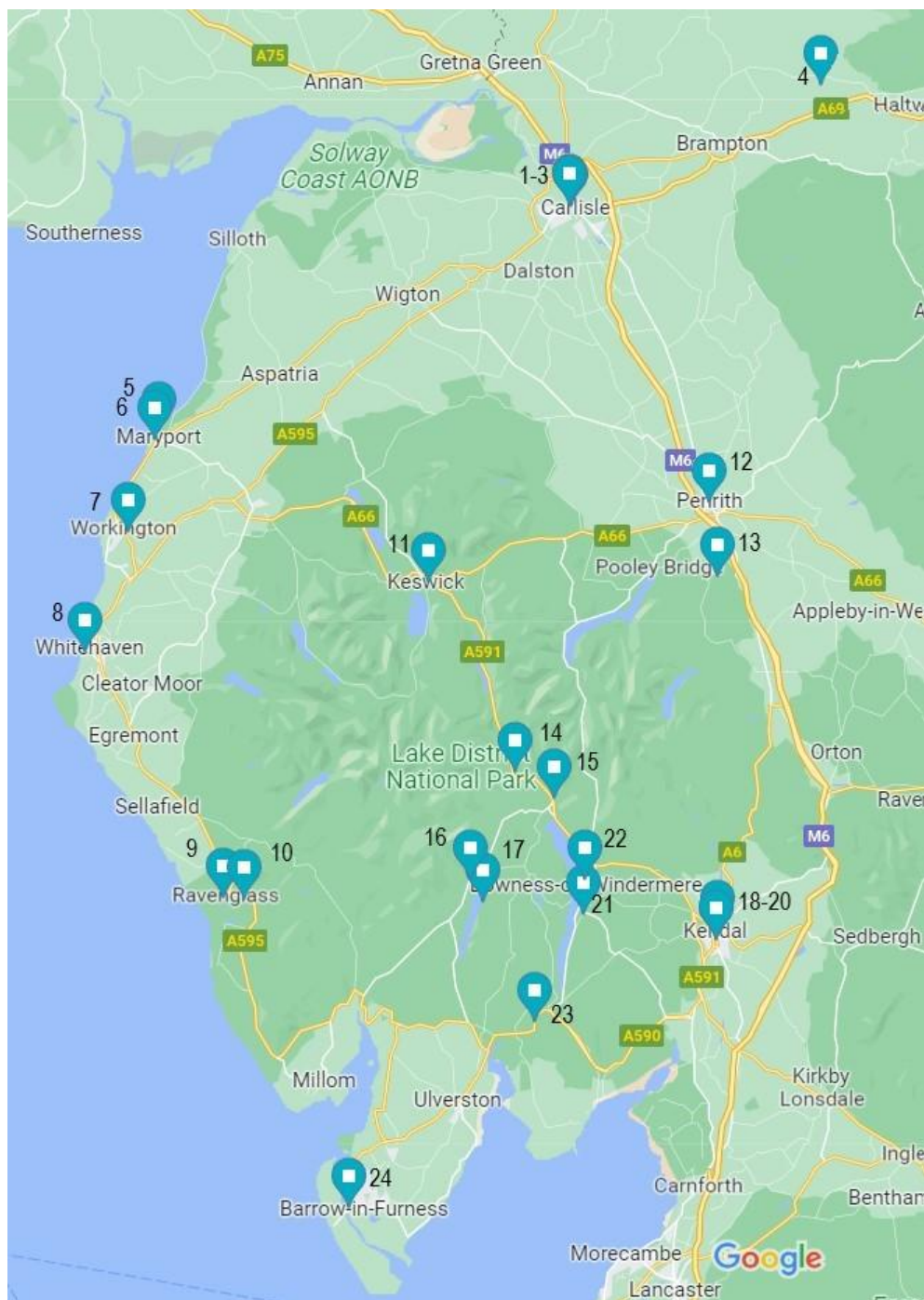
CALMG:1998.3

“Flossy” the flamingo, possibly a captive bird from the Isle of Man that was caught in a gale and taken to the shores of Cumbria.

8.6 Collecting policies of other museums

8.6.1 Tullie will consult the collecting policies of other museums and archives in Cumbria, Northumberland, Lancashire and southern Scotland as necessary, to ensure that possible acquisitions enter the most suitable museum.

8.6.2 Museums 1-11 listed below are all in the area covered by the new Cumberland Council.



Tullie will particularly consider the collecting policies of museums in Cumbria (see map).

1. Tullie

2. [Cumbria's Museum of Military Life](#)
3. [Carlisle Castle](#) (English Heritage)
4. [Birdoswald Roman Fort](#) (English Heritage)
5. [Senhouse Roman Museum](#)
6. [Maryport Maritime Museum](#)
7. [Helena Thompson Museum](#)
8. [Beacon Museum](#)
9. [Ravenglass Railway Museum](#)
10. [Muncaster Castle](#)
11. [Keswick Museum](#)
12. [Penrith and Eden Museum](#)
13. [Lowther Castle](#)
14. [Wordsworth Grasmere](#)
15. [Armitt Museum](#)
16. [Ruskin Museum](#)
17. [Brantwood](#)
18. [Kendal Museum](#)
19. [Abbott Hall](#) (Lakeland Arts)
20. [Lakeland Museum](#) (Lakeland Arts)
21. [Blackwell Arts and Crafts House](#) (Lakeland Arts)
22. [Windermere Jetty](#) (Lakeland Arts)
23. [Lakeland Motor Museum](#)
24. [Dock Museum](#)
25. Various [National Trust](#) properties in the Lake District (not shown).

In addition, Social History collecting will be made with reference to the policies of other collecting institutions based within Carlisle. In particular, the [Cumbria Archive Service](#) (for business and legal records and general ephemera, e.g., indentures) and [Carlisle Libraries Local Studies](#) (for individual and sequences of newspapers, both local and national). Carlisle Libraries Local Studies also actively collects printed ephemera, photographs and publications.

CALMG:1961.4.2

Margery Jackson's court
mantua, c. 1750





CALMG:1928.10

Bronze Age beaker