

COLLECTIONS STRATEGIES FOR DELIVERING AMGUEDDFA CYMRU – NATIONAL MUSEUM WALES' VISION

1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Why museums collect

In her introduction to the Museums Association's report *Collections for the Future* (2005), Jane Glaister, the Chairwoman of the MA's Collections Inquiry Steering Group and former President of the Museums Association, noted "Museum and gallery collections give people pleasure and can evoke wonder and awe. They enable people to explore the world, and make other people, other experiences, and other places real and tangible. They provide evidence and offer opportunities for research and learning... they give people a powerful sense of place, identity and belonging, anchored in the fuller understanding of the past".

Collections of specimens represent the *raison d'être* of museums and provide the fundamental database for all their work and objectives. These specimens provide the primary resource for servicing numerous public responsibilities, be they answering enquiries from specialists or the general public, furnishing material for exhibitions, or supplying data to other bodies. They are, in effect, the three-dimensional database recording a country's past, present, and place in the world, and so represent the educational raw material for telling that story. Modern data-accessing methods will never replace the need to view 'the real thing', and, indeed, may lead to increased demands for access. Material in reserve stores is also the object of continual investigation and research by museum staff who also make it available as far as possible to the wider cultural and scientific community. Offering access to their collections as a uniquely important resource for life-long learning is a major preoccupation for museums today.

Nevertheless, there is recognition in the profession that museums are no longer developing their collections with the vibrancy and rigour needed to ensure that they serve the needs of current and future audiences. Museums must enter in the debate about how collections can best be developed for the future, and reinstate active collecting as a crucial part of their activities.

1.2 Our unique range of collections

Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales is the national repository of three-dimensional material relating to Wales's natural and created heritage and culture, and of international material that helps to define Wales's place in the world. It is the leading museum body in Wales; our collections, numbering in excess of 4 million specimens or groups, and the academic standards and scholarship of our staff have a national and international reputation. The breadth and quality of many of our collections in the humanities and sciences alike make us unique amongst UK national museums. We differ from the

other national museums and galleries in the UK by the range of our disciplines – wider than any apart perhaps from the Museums and Galleries of Northern Ireland – and by the number of different sites that we operate. We fulfil for Wales the functions of all the London-based National Museums and Galleries, and hold our collections in trust for the people of Wales.

Because of our wide-ranging Charter remit, our collections encompass, for example, prehistoric stone hand axes, Roman military equipment, medieval jewellery and Victorian coins; oil paintings, drawings and ceramics; insects, stuffed animals and shells; rocks, minerals and fossils; vernacular buildings, furniture, costume and other textiles; coal-mining equipment and computers; and archives, photographs, historic books and learned journals. Objects in the collections can thus vary in size from microscopic spores and fossils, on the one hand, to whale skeletons, railway engines, a coalmine and a stately home on the other. Many objects in our collection have very considerable financial value, such as Renoir's 'Blue Lady', for example, amongst many other pictures, whilst our science departments hold many 'type specimens' – the original from which a species, sub-species or group was first described, and which thus have a literally unique scientific value.

Some of our collections originate from private and institutional collections established well before the founding of the Museum, such as the important shell collections of Melvill and Tomlin, and the archaeology, art and social history collections of the old Cardiff Museum which effectively formed the founding collection of the institution. Other collections were donated or bequeathed as complete entities at a later date – the Davies bequest of Impressionist paintings, and the Bangor University Insect Collection are two examples – whilst other collections have been built up patiently by Museum staff over many years. Nevertheless, Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales is a young institution compared with many other British NMGs, and our coverage of many areas remains weak.

1.3 National and international dimensions

The nature of national museums also means that their outlook and standards are international, reflecting the quality and (usually) the scope of their collections. Britain's imperial past has resulted in many UK museums acquiring important collections of international material, particularly of antiquities, ethnographic material, and natural history specimens. In many instances, and particularly the sciences, it is very difficult to draw a clear line between national and international material. Our informal mission statement has for many years been 'telling Wales about the world and the world about Wales', and to carry out the first half of that mission demands collections from elsewhere in the world. Indeed, our draft revised Charter calls on us to collect 'objects and things and associated knowledge, whether connected or not with Wales, which are calculated to further the enhancement of understanding and promotion of research'.

Of our collections, those of Industry, Social History and Archaeology are almost entirely Welsh in their content, or include only a very small proportion

of non-Welsh comparative material. Art's holdings of paintings - the best-known section of its collections - are split almost equally three ways, between works by Welsh artists, works by others depicting Welsh subjects, and non-Welsh work. Geology's collections include much non-Welsh material. Rocks throughout the world are dated from a Welsh template - Precambrian, Cambrian, Ordovician, Silurian, etc. - and Wales's journeys across the face of the planet means that we can learn about our own land by collecting and studying fossils from Scandinavia, central Asia and Argentina, and by investigating ancient and modern volcanoes in south America, the western USA and Iceland, for example. Finally, a high proportion of our Biodiversity collections are also international, with the Melvill-Tomlin collection of shells from around the world the scientific equivalent of the Davies Bequest in its importance, and again helping us to understand Wales's place in the world whilst enabling us to contribute to an international agenda through our research and teaching.

1.4 Use of the collections

Like every museum, only a small proportion of the collections that we hold are displayed – currently under 0.6%. However, 13% are interpreted through electronic media, and a programme of temporary exhibitions, the majority created or part-created from the Museum's own collections, enables collections normally in store to be made accessible. Our collections were seen by nearly 1.4 million visitors in 2004/5. Of these visitors, over 217,000 were in pre-booked educational parties and received an enhanced level of interpretation from education officers, interpreters and curators. The well-received Glanely Gallery at NMC provides an opportunity for hands-on interaction with collections and for talks by curators and conservators. Externally, the Outreach Collection – objects supported by interpretive matter – is available to individuals in schools and communities, and increasing use is made of video-conferencing to enable links with curatorial experts. Curatorial and conservation staff lecture widely on the collections to conferences, groups and societies in the community and nearly 168,000 individuals benefited from these activities in 2004/05.

We also loan a considerable amount of material to other institutions, for display and for research. We made loans to 366 venues in 2004/5 (of which 105 were international), which comprised a total of over 32,000 items. This represents one of the best records of all the UK nationals which keep data in this field. Collections too are the basis of numerous public enquiries – over 22,000 in 2004/5. Such enquiries vary from very general to the very specific – do you have an example of species X from location Y? Our staff are currently engaged in some 120 research projects on the collections, and publish annually up to 60 peer-reviewed and popular articles, monographs and books. Other outputs of this vital research work include servicing the enquiries noted above, and preparing temporary exhibitions and permanent displays. Museum research is different from that undertaken in universities and other centres since it is based on the collections, and its outputs are therefore less theoretical and more immediately relevant to the public.

1.5 Why do we add to our collections?

To be relevant to today and tomorrow, and to fulfil the aims expressed in our Charter, we continue to create collections which will help us tell the story of areas of activity which we have not yet been able to do. Classic recent examples of this have been the acquisition of Big Pit National Coal Museum, necessary in order to tell a more rounded story of Welsh industry, and of geological specimens from the prehistoric continent of Gondwanaland, the ancestral home of the land that is now Wales. To continue as a living museum, and as a definitive repository for Wales of three-dimensional material from the past and present, we thus need to enhance our collections both for presentation and for research. Increasingly, national and local museums are co-operating in this field, so that unavoidable duplication between institutions is forestalled. Throughout, however, we must be mindful of the obligations towards the people of Wales placed upon us by our Charter, and work within those parameters.

Collections are enhanced by new acquisitions. Acquisitions can result from both active collecting (through fieldwork, archaeological excavation, or through the opportunity of purchasing relevant objects, for example) or passive collecting (receiving through donation or bequest items that belong to categories that we have identified as appropriate for us, and which are gaps that we wish to fill). Specimens are collected because we judge them to be of significance. They may be great works of art – readily acknowledged as such by all – or of less immediate appeal, which we judge will have a lasting value. Some archaeological specimens will be unique records of past life and achievements, while much social history and industrial material will once have been commonplace, but may now be rare by accident of survival. Increasingly, we are collecting contemporary material, so that future ages will have a material record of life today. Specimens which we collect can thus be typical of a type (a shell, fossil, building, or dialect word), a geographical region (a Welsh county, the Irish Sea, or the Seychelles), or a time (a Palaeolithic hand axe, a Viking sword, a modern computer). We also collect to represent changes over time (a particular tool-type, a fossil life-form, or a shell) – the same species collected from the same locality over a period of time will help show any long-term changes arising from pollution or climate change, for example.

1.6 How do we add to our collections?

Items for the collections are acquired through fieldwork, donation, bequest and purchase. Fieldwork is particularly important in the sciences, where the study of the earth and its habitats often results in collecting opportunities, and specimens are brought back to the Museum for preservation, identification and research. Some major pieces of fieldwork are carried out in conjunction with other institutions and nations such as the ongoing EU and National Assembly-funded surveys of the bottom fauna of the Irish Sea; the DfEE-funded Darwin schemes of training local scientists in East Africa and the Galapagos Islands; and the Royal Geographical Society's 'Shoals of Capricorn' project which has seen our staff working in the Seychelles,

collecting material which can then be used to compare species density and distribution with that from the Irish Sea, for example. Contracts undertaken by our staff on behalf of other agencies such as the Countryside Council for Wales or English Nature (such as the MINESCAN survey of all mineral sites in Wales for conservation purposes, or studies of freshwater mussels in English and Welsh rivers) result in the acquisition of material for the Museum, and indeed is the main justification for our staff undertaking such work. In Archaeology, fieldwork frequently takes the form of archaeological excavations. The Department itself undertakes a number of research excavations, often over many seasons. Finds from excavations sponsored or conducted by Cadw and the Welsh Archaeological Trusts are often deposited along with the associated records in the Museum. Buildings for the collection at St Fagans National History Museum are often identified through fieldwork, though when they will be offered to us is often outside our control. Normally we can only identify the type of building that we want to add to the collection; acquiring an example of that type often takes many years.

Many items are also received through donation or bequest. It should be noted, however, that Social & Cultural History – which in the past accepted many items through donation – has had to curtail acceptance of donations because of a grave lack of suitable storage space. Nevertheless, items are still donated or (less frequently) bequeathed to us, the latter often without advance notice. Other items and collections are purchased either privately following an approach, or publicly through auction. We consult with other publicly funded institutions in Wales, particularly the National Library, in order to safeguard appropriately the heritage of Wales in the most effective manner. Another major constraint on acquisitions (like storage) is funding. The Museum's Specimen Acquisition Grant has remained static at £1.075M for some years, but its purchasing power has diminished by far more than inflation, particularly in the field of art. A partnership with the Derek Williams Trust will help with the acquisition of modern art, but sadly at the expense of other areas.

1.7 The need for new Collections Strategies

Our current subject collections policies (to be distinguished from our Collections Management policies, recently newly ratified by Trustees), which were last formulated in 1997, are fairly passive documents. In line with the spirit of our new aspirations, we now need to refocus and create Collections Strategies that are far more active documents reflecting the priorities identified in the Vision, agreed Strategies, our Learning and Access policy, and demonstrate their relevance to meeting identified external needs. They should show the part our collections play within Wales, the UK, and internationally. They should ensure that modern and contemporary aspects, traditionally weak in non-science museums, are covered. They should identify collection gaps and measures or strategies for addressing them, if appropriate, and identify active, passive and closed collections, and areas of cessation of activity with appropriate measures to dispose of collections no longer regarded as useful. This latter point must be tempered by the recognition that collections have always grown and contracted over time in accordance

with fashions in collecting, which respond in turn to external pressures. But collections, particularly the national collections, are held for the future and form the three-dimensional evidence basis for the past, from which questions can be asked as well as answered in the future. We cannot presume to know what these questions will be, but we have to be equally sensitive to the resources needed to properly look after collections in care. To ensure that this balance is maintained, it is proper that Trustees periodically review the appropriateness of collection holdings and the thrust of future collecting activity.

1.8 New directions

Our draft revised Charter (2005/6) calls on us to further our activities “by the comprehensive representation of science, art, industry and culture of, or relevant to Wales, and, generally, by the collection, recording, preservation, elucidation and presentation of objects and things and associated knowledge, whether connected or not with Wales, which are calculated to further the enhancement of understanding and the promotion of research”. Further, our Vision statement and Development Plan 2006-16 are designed to turn the institution into a world-class museum of learning. In addition to maintaining our commitment to education and excellence, we wish to become equally known for our relevance to society and our innovation. We will involve our stakeholders in debating and presenting contemporary issues in fresh and challenging ways. One of the fundamental ways in which we will do this will be by creating prosperous collections that are well-used, sustained and flourishing. We will do this, inter alia, by adding to the collections in ways that are relevant to society today in the future and will focus on collaboration with diverse stakeholder and visitor groups who can help us to ensure that the collections grow in meaningful ways. We have already begun to involve stakeholders in such discussions. We will offer increased physical and intellectual access to our reference collections, through the development of collection-based study spaces within our museums and through better targeted dissemination of the results and findings of our collections-based research. The needs and interests of our audiences and partnerships are likely to inform increasingly our strategies, as well as our own research interests.

The wording of the draft Charter is specifically designed to be time-proofed, that is, it will allow us in the future to collect (if we so choose) in areas where we currently have no expertise or wish to do so. So, even though the Charter mentions ‘the comprehensive representation of science ...’, our Strategy for Science (ratified by Trustees in 2005) recognises that for the foreseeable future we will only collect in our established areas of natural and earth sciences, and not do so in other areas such as physics, chemistry, astronomy, or any of the new sciences. This does not, of course, prohibit us from putting on exhibitions, displays or interpretations of these disciplines if we wish. Whilst we have taken the view that the full representation of the scientific and technological aspects of industry should not concern us in the near future, since the National Museum for Science and Industry has that brief for the United Kingdom, we will nevertheless aim to demonstrate examples of new

and innovative work at the National Waterfront Museum Swansea, and will accordingly build up a collection in this area.

Overall, our collecting will reflect the new intellectual directions proposed by the Vision, and be more inclusive and reflect the diversity of users' views and interests. One of the most important ways in which we can become relevant for now and for the future is by collecting contemporary material in all the fields that we cover. This is already done in some areas. In Biodiversity, for example, most of the collecting that is done is of contemporary material. Geological material, by definition, cannot be contemporary, but collecting can be done in areas which are relevant to today's needs, such as urban geology, and helping other areas such as building conservation through the creation of a database of Welsh building stones. We will also wish to collect material for interpreting contemporary scientific issues, be they explaining natural disaster or highlighting the continuing loss of the world's biodiversity. Like Geology, Archaeology & Numismatics cannot collect contemporary material, but that subject is developing new and increasingly scientific ways of interrogating collections and making them increasingly relevant; and after all, knowing where we have come from has always been held to be a major contributor to understanding where we are going. Art has for many years been developing its' collections of modern and contemporary art, but both space and finance have dictated that this has only progressed slowly. With our commitment to creating an enhanced National Gallery (and similarly a Natural History Museum and a National History Museum) there should be, in the long term, far more space in which to display such holdings, and accordingly, the need now to collect actively to this end. The new National Waterfront Museum displays a lot of contemporary material, with provision for growth, and the Department of Industry has a dedicated curator charged with developing such collections. Social and Cultural History, likewise, is acutely aware of the need to develop contemporary collecting. Issues such as 'virtual' collection – i.e. recording by appropriate means – of areas which cannot be collected because of size or media is a general issue for all subjects. But other material which we should increasingly be collecting is generated in digital form, and we must investigate the implications of beginning to seriously collect such material. This area in particular must be discussed with collectors of digital material, in Wales pre-eminently the National Library, but there will be other examples. Oral records, which we have long collected both for their own intrinsic value and as a medium for preserving testimony, will increasingly become available to us in digital formats too.

The major physical change arising from the Vision is the decision to create three new museum entities (mentioned above). As strategies for these developments are pursued, collections identified as suitable for showcasing and interpreting will be identified in increasing detail. We cannot divorce collecting strategies from the research and display strategies that we will similarly develop for these major new capital projects. The Vision has also highlighted our wish to work more with partners, and partners' wishes to work with us. Accordingly, we will want to consult more widely on all our strategies, and both lend and borrow more material (though this wish has its own resource demands), making better use of the global collections resource and

avoiding duplication of existing collections if at all possible. We will also wish to internally work in a closer and more integrated fashion, so as to address some of the issues noted in our Art strategy, amongst others. These draft strategies, too, may help to kick-start thinking about a 'Welsh distributed national collection', involving ourselves, the National Library, CyMAL and the Federation of Welsh Museums and Galleries. Uncurated collections exist in Welsh museums – what should be done with them?

The strategies presented here, therefore, are merely snapshots in time, and represent only the start of a continuous process. Project-specific strategies will be developed in support of particular projects, whether they be research or display projects. Crucially, however, these strategies differentiate clearly between collections that require active development as part of our Vision aims, those that require a more passive approach, and others that can be regarded as closed but are nevertheless worthy of retention, and those that can be disposed of for various reasons. There is also a crucial link to expertise, and we will be investigating further this area.

2. DEPARTMENTAL COLLECTIONS STRATEGIES

2.1 ARCHAEOLOGY & NUMISMATICS

The Department of Archaeology & Numismatics is one of the primary bodies in Wales concerned, through its collection and preservation of material culture, with the comprehensive interpretation and display of the past in Wales. As such, it forms an important part of the consciousness of the people of Wales whose origins and identity, as Welsh people, is rooted in their archaeology and history. We accordingly seek through our exhibitions and events as, also, through the care and use of the collections, and the high public profile gained by fieldwork in all areas of Wales, to remain in the forefront of Welsh archaeology.

The collections range from 250,000 BP to modern times. Although they are rooted in Wales, they are of national and international relevance. They demonstrate patterns of change within society, both within Wales and global cultures and have a contemporary relevance: identities, a sense of belonging, as well as inspiring creativity.

Archaeology is the study and practice of writing the history of humans and their environment from material culture. This is dependent on a multitude of sciences, continually evolving and adopting new techniques. The collections allow us to illustrate story lines:

- that explore complex societies, communities, people and events: religions / beliefs / economics / technology / conflict / visual culture and its meaning.
- characterise the fluid nature of 'Wales' through time - most of the collections pre-date the concept of Wales as a unity - and reflect external influences from UK and mainland Europe.
- cultures in contact – trade, diffusion of ideas, objects, people, conflict and invasion.
- the interaction of humans, the landscape and environment, terrestrial and maritime.
- the artefact and its context (sense of wonder) – a focused and tangible link to the past and an individual without the fog of history.
- the sites and their stories – some identified in literature, others anonymous in history.

The Archaeological Archive has multiple users, from the public to researchers in the Arts and Humanities, Sciences (archaeometallurgy, chemistry, earth and environmental sciences, palaeopathology, archaeobotany, archaeozoology) and those engaged in cross-cutting research (eg environmental change through time and urban growth). They form benchmark reference collections in early material culture (typological, technological and art historical).

These collections and the learning that emanates from them underpins our belief in the sustainability of Wales' historic environment and assets.

The Archaeological Archive comprises all artefacts, human remains, environmental evidence (e.g. bones, soil samples), paper records (e.g. plans, notes and record sheets, photographic materials), digital records and any post excavation records in any format e.g. specialist reports, conservation reports, archive reports and publications

Scope of the Collection

We hold over 800,000 objects and samples with supporting records and information. This collection is divided into seven active sections, each, except post-medieval, with a curator who is responsible for the care and understanding of the objects that fall within the following categories:

- Palaeolithic and Mesolithic (250,000 – 5,000 BC)
- Neolithic (5,000 – 2,500 BC)
- Bronze and Iron Ages (2,500 BC – AD 75)
- Roman (AD 75 – 400)
- Early Medieval (AD 400 – 1060s) and Medieval (AD 1060s–1485)
- Post-medieval (AD 1485– 1800)
- Numismatics: coins, tokens and medals from ancient times to the present day.

How We Collect

The archaeology and numismatic collections grow in a number of ways:

- Donation – some people are happy to give important objects or collections to the museum.
- Excavation – we conduct a number of research excavations in Wales. We have also been able to support by financial grants a small number of excavations conducted by other institutions and archaeologists in Wales in return for the finds. We also accept archaeological archive from excavations undertaken by contracting units, mindful of the collection strategies of local museums and other organizations, such as RCAHM Wales.
- Purchase – particularly significant finds are occasionally purchased. Some objects and coins are acquired through the Treasure Act and the finder receives a reward based on the full market value.
- Loan – a small number of very important objects or collections are on long term loan to us from their owners. This means the objects are available for display and study but do not belong to us.

Strategic Context

The archaeology and numismatic collections form the primary ‘first-hand’ evidence on which all interpretations of our material past are based. They provide a unique resource to stimulate and harness enthusiasm for Wales’ prehistory and early history. These collections are essential to delivering some of the themes – Belonging, Origins and Life, as well inspiring Creativity – and priorities identified in the Vision, including the redisplay of the archaeology collections in the National Museum Cardiff and the longer term aim to create a Museum of history and archaeology at St Fagans. By adding to the collections we can gradually build up a more accurate picture of the past. The collections also provide an important resource for study and research in the future.

Archaeology: National Museum Wales is a relatively recent foundation and

the collections lack the long historical development of other institutions. The international importance of the collections is fully recognized but, throughout archaeology, basic collections are still being formed.

An active programme of fieldwork throughout Wales over the last 20 years has helped develop some collecting areas: Pontnewydd, Little Hoyle (Palaeolithic); Burry Holms (Mesolithic); Mynydd Rhiw (Neolithic); Llanmaes (Bronze/Iron Age); Caerwent (Roman); Llan-gors, Llanbedrgoch (Early Medieval). Other means of collecting are more passive and opportunistic, for example chance discoveries, items of Treasure, assemblages from developer-funded excavations etc.

Numismatics: Development of any aspect of the coins and medals collection depends upon the availability of suitable specimens. Welsh campaign and gallantry awards form a very small percentage of the overall market and appropriate groups will only occasionally become available. Nevertheless, this is an area where the Museum should look to improve its collection. The principal source of Roman and British coins will be cases of Treasure, which are random in both occurrence and contents; single finds reported to the Portable Antiquities Scheme or to the Museum, likewise.

This strategy summarises the specific aims and remit of the Department of Archaeology & Numismatics as it relates to the Museum's corporate Policy on the Acquisition and Disposal of the Collections.

Collection Strengths

Palaeolithic & Mesolithic

- Quaternary fauna from cave sites in Wales - including material from departmental excavations at Pontnewydd, Cefn, Cae Gronw, Hoyle's Mouth and Little Hoyle caves. Also material from – Paviland Cave and Coygan Cave.
- Palaeolithic (from earliest times to c.8,000 BC) material – lithic artefacts, fauna and hominid finds - from sites in Wales, including Pontnewydd Cave, which has produced the earliest hominid finds in Wales, and Paviland Cave, one of the richest Upper Palaeolithic sites in Britain.
- Mesolithic (8,000-4,000 BC). Wales is a rich area of Mesolithic settlement and the best collections belong to the earlier part of the period. Recent acquisitions from fieldwork at Burry Holms and from excavations at Rhuddlan and Llyn Aled Isaf have enhanced the collection.

Neolithic

- Neolithic (4,000-2,000 BC) includes a fine collection of finds from megalithic tombs, the axe-factories of Graig Lwyd and Mynydd Rhiw and settlement sites.

Bronze & Iron Ages

- Bronze Age (2500-800BC) – Wales has a rich and varied abundance of Early Bronze Age burial and ritual landscapes, with a number of important human burials and grave groups in the collections, illustrating the rise and flow of styles, cultures and peoples.

- A long-lived centre for early mining of copper, lead and gold, Wales supported and fed early metalworking traditions and its Bronze Age societies were tied into the long-distance sea trade and exchange networks. These are particularly well illustrated through the rich collections of adornments, weapons and tools.
- The religious beliefs, customs and concerns of Bronze Age societies may also be viewed through varied votive and hoard groups, which locates its peoples within a broader north-western Atlantic tradition. For these reasons, these collections have particular European resonances.
- Iron Age (800BC-AD78) – Strong regional identities and contrasts typify the Iron Age archaeology and peoples who lived in this part of western Britain. An abundance of hillforts, and defended enclosures is witnessed, while excavated collections from a range of these sites illustrate the social and daily settled life of these farming communities.
- The Iron Age witnesses the beginning of a distinctive new portable art style across temperate Europe: La Tène or ‘Celtic’ art, and the collections include many decorated artefacts of European importance and significance from Wales. Examples include the Llyn Fawr hoard, the Llyn Cerrig Bach votive lake assemblage, the Capel Garmon firedog and the Cerrig-y-Drudion crown. Through these collections of decorated ironwork and bronze, we gain insight into the emerging tribes-people, warrior elites and religious leaders, many of whom were to provide stiff resistance to the invading Roman Army during the first century AD.

Roman

- An internationally important collection of military material from the Roman fortress of Isca (Caerleon) and its environs.
- A large collection of Roman finds from the legionary base at Usk, the predecessor of Caerleon.
- A large collection of finds from the Roman auxiliary fort of Segontium (Caernarfon).
- A large collection of finds from the auxiliary forts in Wales, such as Brecon, Gelligaer, Caersws, Neath and Loughor.
- A large collection of finds from civilian sites, such as Llantwit Major villa, Whitton farmstead and Caerwent - the most important Roman town in Wales.
- A collection of finds from Roman industrial and mining sites in Wales, including Holt, the works depot of the Twentieth legion, and Dolaucothi, the only known Roman gold-mine in Britain.

Early Medieval

- Nodal collection of early medieval inscribed stones and stone sculpture – including casts – of international importance, which forms a primary source of information on the period.
- Collections from three sites of international significance, which provide both context and chronological benchmarks for material culture in the west of Britain in this period: Dinas Powys, Llangors crannog and Llanbedrgoch.
- Some individual artefacts of intrinsic importance on archaeological, artistic ,

- historical or technological grounds (eg the Llangwnnadi bell, Smalls sword guard, Red Wharf Bay Viking silver arm-rings)
- Human remains from Llandough, the largest early medieval population assemblage from Wales (high research potential).

Medieval and Later

- Significant collections from medieval sites of national importance (many in the Guardianship of Cadw), in particular castles and abbeys.
- The Magor Pill boat (best-preserved 13th-century boat in Britain).
- National collection of medieval seal matrices and impressions (well documented).
- National reference collection of medieval ceramics.
- National collection of medieval floor Tile (fully published).
- Stone sculpture collection of national importance, including surviving elements from the chapter house door, Strata Florida.
- Growing collection of medieval and later gold and silver jewellery.
- Individual artefacts of iconic significance (e.g. the stone head of Llywelyn from Deganwy, the 'Levelinus' stone, the armorial mount from Harlech bearing the arms of Owain Glyn Dŵr).
- Individual artefacts of high quality and national importance on archaeological, artistic, historical or technological grounds (e.g. Raglan ring, Kemeys rood figure, Llandaf ivory diptych, Oxwich brooch)

Numismatics

Fine general collection of coins from the Greeks to present day. Some areas of national/international importance, resulting from hoards and from focused collection.

- Ancient coins from the Roman and Greek worlds.
- English and British Isles coinage, especially Saxon, Norman and later Medieval coins from Welsh and other mints in western Britain.
- Material relating to Wales, in particular:
 - coins of the Romans (notably the Bridgend [loan] and Rogiet hoards);
 - coins from the time of Charles I (Aberystwyth mint; Tregwynt hoard; coins of Civil War).
- Welsh tokens, banknotes and paranumismatica.
- Medals – notably those commemorating acts of civil gallantry – especially those relating to Wales or to the exploits of Welsh people.
- Comparanda - European, British Colonial and World coins.

Collection Weaknesses

Palaeolithic & Mesolithic

- Limited collection of Quaternary fauna from cave sites in North Wales representative of the Upper Palaeolithic period.
- Palaeolithic (from earliest times to c.8,000 BC) material. Weak in lithic artefacts and fauna of the Early Upper Palaeolithic from sites in Wales. The collection is also weak in assemblages from open-air sites.
- Mesolithic (8,000-4,000 BC). Wales is a rich area of Mesolithic settlement,

but the collection is very limited in later Mesolithic finds and in collections which have been well excavated and with good stratigraphic information. There is also a weakness in finds from excavated assemblages from the intertidal zones, the only areas where there is organic preservation.

Neolithic

- The collection is generally modest in size.

Bronze & Iron Ages

- Limited number of assemblages from Bronze and Iron Age settlement sites across Wales.
- Limited dating and environmental samples from which to derive information on landscapes, farming regimes and settlement activities during later prehistory.
- Collection of human remains is weak and unrepresentative for both the Bronze and Iron Ages.

Roman

- Limited range of material from the diverse range of rural sites across Wales, especially those of more humble origin.
- Limited environmental samples to provide detailed landscape modelling.
- Paucity of cemetery assemblages and human remains.

Early Medieval

- The number and types of artefacts represented are limited in number and date range and consequently on a partial reflection of early medieval Wales and its people. New discoveries from this period are extremely rare.

Medieval & Later

- The collection is modest in size and limited in range: there are gaps that require filling and areas that require consolidation.
- The post-medieval collection (c. 1540s – 1900) is small and undeveloped, and there is overlap with collections held by the Departments of Social History and Art (notably ceramics).

Numismatics

- Division of parts of the collection between different sites/departments.
- Possible loss of Bridgend hoard if loan recalled. (Few other important specimens are on loan.)

Opportunities

- Development of new flexible displays, such as 'Origins' and at the National Roman Legion Museum will improve public understanding of the significance of the collections and raise their profile.
- Pre-emption of 'Treasure' in Wales. This has enabled the National Museum to acquire items of national importance that have been declared 'Treasure', using the Specimen Acquisition Grant and external grants (eg HLF, NACF etc)

- Providing support to excavations conducted by other institutions and archaeologists in Wales in return for finds.
- Investment in storage projects such as the Collections and Access Centre, Nantgarw; West Wing Stores and Archive, National Museum, Cardiff will provide for growth of the collections.
- The proposed development of a Museum of History and Archaeology at St Fagans, with significantly greater gallery space, will improve current public engagement with the collections
- The creation of a National Museum of Art provides an opportunity to display some of the National Collection of Ceramics to build on the post-medieval ceramics currently displayed.
- The investigation of find-spots of potential 'Treasure' assemblages through fieldwork enhances their information potential.
- The Portable Antiquities Scheme is providing opportunities to follow up chance discoveries with fieldwalking surveys, on occasions involving volunteers, such as Cophill Farm, Chepstow which has produced flint implements and stone tool manufacturing waste of Upper Palaeolithic to Bronze Age date.
- Potential collaboration with Royal Mint Museum to enhance the display of coins.
- Use of collection for future educational initiatives.

Threats

- Potential loss of significant loan items currently on display because of limited gallery space.
- External pressure to return early medieval inscribed stones and stone sculpture to local communities, particularly if not displayed.
- Any lack of investment in storage spaces will increasingly become a factor limiting the Department's ability to accept large collections.
- Lack of funding to acquire items declared 'Treasure' and other items or collections of high value/ national importance.
- Current inability to display spectacular new finds or new research discoveries, leading to a lack of public understanding about the significance of the collections, could impact on acquisitions.

Passive or Closed Collections

Archaeology

Passive collections: Quaternary Fauna (in consultation with Department of Geology)

Closed Collections: Prehistoric Foreign; Roman England; Roman non-British; Classical Replicas; Medieval and Post-Medieval non-British.

Numismatics

Passive collections: Greek, Iron Age, Roman, British, European and World; tokens; commemorative medals; banknotes.

Closed collections: None

Strategy for Developing Collections

We seek to collect and acquire material to enhance the displays and to increase the range of the reference collections, in order to enable a better understanding of the past. Our specific acquisition policies are:

Palaeolithic and Mesolithic

- Collect specimens to enhance the collection of Quaternary fauna which is of importance both for archaeology and for Quaternary mammal studies in Wales.
- Collect specimens - particularly stone artefacts, faunal remains and hominid bones of the Palaeolithic period.
- Increase the range of Mesolithic material from settlement sites and from the intertidal zones of Wales.

Neolithic

- Acquire relevant Neolithic material from sites in Wales and beyond - megalithic tombs, axe-factories and settlement sites.

Bronze and Iron Ages

- Collect Bronze Age material from a range of strategically important burial and ritual monuments, mine, settlement and landscape excavation and fieldwork projects.
- Acquire significant Bronze Age Treasure discoveries and selective metalwork finds.
- Enhance the collection of analytical, dating and environmental samples, in order firstly to maximise our understanding of the existing collections and secondly, to derive maximum information about landscapes, farming regimes and settlement activities during later prehistory.
- Acquire Iron Age material from hillfort, enclosure, settlement and landscape fieldwork and excavation projects, in order to strengthen the depth of the collections and assure that they achieve and maintain a broad pan-Wales coverage.
- Acquire significant Iron Age treasure and La Tène art discoveries and selective metalwork finds, in order to improve the depth and richness of this collection.
- Human remains: to collect human bone from inhumations and cremations associated with grave groups (e.g. Beaker people, Late Iron Age warrior burial).
- Collect comparative information and archive material about collections, sites and projects within and beyond Wales, to extend the relevance and scope of our collections in an international context.

Roman

- Collect and acquire material that represents and illustrates the Roman period in Wales and the Welsh Borderland.
- Collect material from the Roman legionary bases at Caerleon and Usk, either excavated collections or chance discoveries.
- Collect finds from Segontium Roman fort, Caernarfon, and its environs.

- Collect specimens that enhance the existing strengths of material from military, civilian and industrial/mining sites in Wales.
- Acquire significant Roman Treasure discoveries.

Early Medieval

- Collect and acquire specimens that represent and illustrate the early medieval period in Wales and the Welsh Borderland.
- Acquire early medieval inscribed stones and stone sculpture which enhance the existing display and reference collections (mainly casts).
- Increase the range of early medieval material, for example through continued support of departmental fieldwork and acquisition of chance finds.
- Strengthen weak areas within the collections whenever possible (e.g. metalwork, organic material)
- Collect early medieval material culture where rare information on its context can be obtained.
- Maintain a representative collection of human remains to aid research on the population of Wales during this period

Medieval & Later

- Collect and acquire specimens that represent and illustrate the medieval period in Wales and the Welsh Borderland.
- Collect medieval material to enhance the range of the collections and the representation of different site types from the whole of Wales.
- Enhance the reference collection of medieval seals and seal matrices from Wales and comparative specimens from the British Isles.
- Enhance the collection of medieval floor-tiles from sites in Wales.
- Strengthen the collection of medieval, Tudor and later jewellery
- Strengthen weak areas of the collections (weaponry, sculpture, inscriptions, leather, objects of devotion, dress accessories)
- Acquire collections from sites of national importance in order to improve the regional representation of material culture throughout Wales
- Acquire 'Age of transition'/ post-medieval finds from sites in Wales, taking account of the interests of other departments

Numismatics

- Acquire coins found in Wales from archaeological sites and chance discoveries, including cases of Treasure.
- Collect British campaign and gallantry medals, particularly military, relating to the exploits of Welsh people, taking into account the interests of other departments and museums.
- Increase the range of the collections of Welsh tokens, banknotes and paranumismatica, taking into account the interest of other departments.
- Acquire specimens which will enhance existing strengths in the main collection areas – Greek, Roman, British.
- Collect specimens which will enhance the existing comparative collection of European, British Colonial and World coins.
- Acquire display quality specimens for Origins and other exhibitions.
- Acquire specimens as a resource for teaching, demonstrations and

lectures.

Disposal Policy

The Department of Archaeology & Numismatics operates in accordance with the overall Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales Policy on the Acquisition and Disposal of the Collections (2006).

- The Welsh archaeological collections consist of items which, whether displayed or not, represent the material evidence for the prehistory and early history of Wales. Provenanced Welsh archaeological material, and comparative material essential for its interpretation, would not be disposed of except in the most exceptional circumstances.
- The quantity of comparative material is small. Some collections, without Welsh relevance, were transferred to other appropriate Museums in the 1970s and 1980s. The militaria from the First and Second World Wars were transferred to the Regimental Museum in Cardiff Castle; a small, but significant ethnographic collection was accepted by the Horniman; while the Egyptian collections went to the to the Museum of Egyptian Antiquities, University of Wales Swansea. It is not envisaged that any further collections will be transferred.
- Any numismatic disposals are likely to be very rare and limited to purchased specimens which are (i) genuine duplicate material; (ii) items which can be sold or exchanged in order to acquire a better example of the same. The proceeds of numismatic sales would be used only to purchase more numismatic specimens.

2.2 ART

Introduction

Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales houses both the national collection of Welsh art and the Welsh national collection of European and World art. The Department of Art cares for these collections and aims to acquire works to enhance them for future generations, and to preserve, present and promote the heritage and culture of Wales in a world-wide context.

This strategy replaces a 'Policy on the Acquisition and Disposal of the Collections' compiled in 1995-6 (updated 1998), and reflects our 'Vision' and other major developments of the last ten years.

During that decade, the operating environment for all national collections of art in the UK has been transformed. Since 1996 the Heritage Lottery Fund has become the single largest source of acquisition funding and has also set a distinctive access agenda. We have also worked increasingly closely with the Derek Williams Trust, an independent charity, which often supports our acquisitions of art after 1900, as well as building its own collection in this field. Our resources have not kept pace with background inflation, let alone with rapid growth in prices in many areas of the art market. External support for acquisitions has therefore become increasingly important, and it is matter of growing concern that it is no longer possible to acquire many works that would enhance our collection.

Our vision (2004-5) for a 'world-class museum of learning' has established a number of broad goals. These include:

- Making sure that what we collect and what we learn from research are relevant to the 21st century.
- Celebrating the creativity of art and artist, invention and inventor, the ideas that have inspired our world.
- Continuing the investment in contemporary art which sets the arts of Wales in an international context.

From 2007, our art collections will be shown in the National Museum of Art, which will occupy the whole upper floor of the Cathays Park site. Improved displays will enable visitors to engage more fully with the Art collections and the stories that they tell.

Our 2002 public and peer-group consultation 'Views of the Future' and the 2005 feasibility study jointly commissioned with the Arts Council of Wales regarding the future display of the national Welsh and international Art Collections from David Clarke Associates both propose that our art collections should evolve to form the core of a National Gallery for Wales. These reports also contain conclusions that will bear on future collecting. From the latter:

- A National Gallery must have a distinctively Welsh outlook, but should not be a Museum of Welsh Art.
- A National Gallery must be rooted in the display of the collections, but with a critical engagement in the contemporary arts and other disciplines, and in flexible and changing strategies of exhibition and education.
- It should be a national priority to ensure that collection holders [in Wales] are resourced to continue to acquire work ... by both Welsh and international artists.

During the next decade, our collecting will become more focussed, it will be increasingly targeted on the stories that we seek to tell, and on issues of contemporary relevance. However aesthetic quality and importance remain a prerequisite of any significant acquisition. Nor will we acquire works which we cannot house or care for adequately.

We have recently drawn up a number of action plans to develop the collections in priority areas. These currently cover Applied Art post-1850, Fine Art from 1900, and Craft, and others, for example on Photography and on new forms of art, will be prepared shortly.

Scope of the Collection

We hold the Welsh National Collection of the Fine and Applied Arts from Antiquity to the Present. This is one of four UK national art collections based outside London, and like our colleagues in Edinburgh, Belfast and Liverpool, we hold works of national and international importance. We liaise regularly over acquisitions with the London-based national art collections, especially the National Gallery, Tate, the V&A, and the British Museum. We also seek to foster the collecting of art by local museums in Wales.

The collection comprises 1799 oil paintings, 8305 watercolours and drawings, 147 portrait miniatures, 221 sketchbooks, some 13900 prints and posters, 3112 photographs, 562 sculptures and a small but growing number of works in a variety of new art forms, together with 9633 pieces of pottery, porcelain and glass, 551 pieces of silver, 243 examples of japanware and 357 applied art objects in other materials, including ivory and jade. The collection includes art of Welsh origin and inspiration and art from elsewhere, and both are of equal value to our purpose.

Strengths, Weaknesses and Opportunities

Strengths

Areas of excellence and international importance are:

- Outstanding French Realist, Impressionist, and Post-Impressionist paintings, and sculpture by Rodin and his contemporaries
- Other European oil paintings from the Renaissance to the 20th century (relatively small in number but most of very high quality).

- British art of the 18th century
- The 'New Sculpture' of the late 19th century
- 20th century British art
- A comprehensive collection of art by Welsh artists from the 18th century to the present, including substantial bodies of work by Richard Wilson, Thomas Jones, John Gibson, Penry Williams, Augustus John, Gwen John, David Jones, and Ceri Richards.
- Graham Sutherland's personal collection (893 works)
- Portraits of Welsh sitters in various media
- Welsh topographical and landscape art
- A large and wide-ranging collection of works of art on paper
- One of the principal collections of ceramics in the UK, comprising the pottery and porcelain made in the south Wales factories between the 1760s and the 1920s, an outstanding body of 18th century continental porcelain, and English-made wares from the late mediaeval period to the present.
- A fine collection of English silver from the Renaissance to the mid-19th century, including major pieces for Welsh patrons, supported by the Jackson loan collection (deposited 1922, half of the collection purchased in 2002), and the property of other lenders, including the Church in Wales.
- A growing collection of modern and contemporary applied art

Weaknesses

The Fine Art collections have been formed in large part by major gifts (such as the bequest of the Davies sisters) rather than by the active pursuit of the goals of the Museum's 1907 charter ('the complete illustration of the art history ... of Wales' and the furtherance of public education). Periods of relative poverty, particularly during the 1930s and currently, have prevented the acquisition both of key works by Welsh artists and makers, and of outstanding works of European and world art associated with Wales. We are particularly weak in the art of non-European cultures.

We are only able in part to present the story of the development of historic art in Wales within a broader British and European context. Our holdings of German and Netherlandish art of the 16th century and Dutch art of the 17th century are very small, despite their central importance to early painting in Britain. We have no 18th century French art of any significance, despite our earlier works by Poussin and Claude and our Impressionists. Our holdings of 19th century British art are particularly weak.

Photography remains a Cinderella art form. Art has significant holdings of historic photography, including portraiture, and also collects lens-based contemporary art. However there are also major photographic collections in the Department of Industry (especially the John Dillwyn Llewellyn material) and at St Fagans. Unlike the National Library of Wales, the Museum currently has no photography specialist. The forthcoming opening of the National Centre for Photography at Margam will make a reassessment of these collections essential.

Turning to modern and contemporary art, despite the recent acquisition of much of the collection formed by the Arts Council of Wales between the 1950s and the 1980s, our holdings of Welsh art are inadequate, particularly in more recent work, and lack of space has greatly hampered collecting, preventing the acquisition of outside paintings, large-scale sculpture or installation art in particular. We are very weak in international art since 1945, making it impossible to contextualise much Welsh art of the period, and as this is now one of the most expensive areas of the art market, that weakness is likely to continue.

The National Library of Wales also collects both historic and contemporary art associated with Wales. While there is liaison at a curatorial level, the policies of both institutions should be more closely integrated.

In the Applied Art field, the following are additional areas of concern:

- ad hoc disciplinary boundaries with other areas of Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales, especially St Fagans – The National History Museum has resulted in a collection narrowly focused on ceramics and silver, resulting in poor representation of other ‘arts of design’. As a whole, we have missed the opportunity to represent the importance of furniture, textiles, jewellery, etc in the international history of design
- Lack of clarity over contemporary collecting, the result of overlaps with St Fagans, and also with the Department of Industry.
- The location of the Applied Art collection within the Department of Art has led to a focus on the aesthetic content of Applied Art material. Future Applied Art displays may also seek to tell stories of function and social significance.
- The applied art and design of non-European cultures are very poorly represented, resulting (as with fine art) in a very skewed, Eurocentric view of what constitutes art and design, unacceptable in a culturally diverse country like Wales and when our main target audiences are in diverse cities like Cardiff, Newport, Bristol, etc.

More widely, the Art Department’s small curatorial staff (currently Keeper, two Section Heads, and three junior curatorial posts) and heavy commitment to exhibitions, displays and public programmes has resulted in a lack of expertise and time to commit to acquisition, or to the study and better understanding of what we already hold.

Opportunities

Despite the marked fall in funding for Art acquisitions over the last twenty years, both internally and externally, the Museum has continued to acquire art. There is general appreciation that static collections cannot be fully creative: new acquisitions demonstrate confidence and commitment, they mean new stories, new connections, fresh inspiration, maintenance of our profile and – increasingly – the ability to collaborate with peer institutions. Consequently Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales is one of the few UK national museums to continue to ring-fence its acquisition funding.

A number of recent temporary exhibitions have focussed on the work of the work of some of the principal artists associated with Wales over the last two hundred and fifty years, e.g. Richard Wilson, Thomas Jones, John Brett, Gwen John, Augustus John, David Jones, Cedric Morris, and Ceri Richards. This focus has subsequently made possible a number of significant acquisitions, and more will follow.

We are particularly fortunate to have a significant external partner in respect of the Derek Williams Trust, an independent Cardiff-based charity, which will often assist the Museum's purchases of art after 1900, contributing up to 50% of the Museum's cost. The Trust also acquires modern and contemporary art entirely from its own resources, and these are generally placed on extended loan to the Museum. In 2004, the Trust and the Museum made a supplementary agreement, which created a centenary fund for major purchases of modern art to which both parties will contribute at least £200,000 a year each for a five-year period.

Departmental Policies

We seek to collect:

- Historic and Contemporary art by Welsh artists and makers, and by artists and makers working in Wales.
- European and International art of aesthetic and educational value
- Works reflecting the impact of Wales, its landscape, history, and culture on visual artists and makers from the post-medieval period to the present.
- Works reflecting the history of the patronage and collection of art in Wales
- Portraits of Welsh sitters, where these are also of aesthetic merit
- Works illustrative of cultural diversity, and relevant to the needs of our changing audiences

We also commission works from artists for our various museums, where opportunities arise.

Priority Areas

Fine Art

1. Welsh Art (1500-1900)

Including works by Welsh artists, and images of Welsh people and places – the core of the collection, comprising around half our oil paintings and sculptures and much of our holdings of works on paper. Central to our purpose and to the Vision, and increasingly neglected in order to concentrate more on Art after 1900.

Strategy for Development – While the acquisition of historic art is largely dependent on what comes on the market and when, we will maintain contacts with specialist dealers and auction houses and work more

proactively with owners, and will seek to build the collection through loans and bequests, while continuing to purchase whenever possible.

2. British and International Art (1500-1900)

Including works from Welsh collections – of central importance, including many of the most popular works in the museum, and those in heavy international demand.

Strategy for Development – as (1.) above

3. Modern and Contemporary Art (1900 to the present)

Includes traditional and new forms of art. Numerically, this is the principal growth area, as we seek to build a representative collection of Welsh art and to acquire works with particular links to art in Wales, as well as adding other major examples of British, European and American art of the period, and of the art of other cultures. We seek to reflect the developing practices of contemporary artists.

Strategy for Development – Collecting in the Modern and Contemporary field is linked to the policy framework established with the Derek Williams Trust and is directed by the Art Department's Action Plan for the collection of Fine Art after 1900.

Applied Art

Strengths which must continue to be developed are:

1) craft in all relevant media – ceramics, glass, metalwork

Strategy for Development – Planned collecting of contemporary craft following the Department's Action Plan for Craft

2) Welsh ceramics – objects that develop our aim to be as definitive a research collection as possible

3) continental porcelain – objects that either are instructive about other areas of the collections, especially Welsh porcelain, or address areas of weakness within this collection (eg figures, French porcelain)

4) ceramics and glass associated with Wales – objects of particular documentary and/or aesthetic merit

5) post-mediaeval silver: outstanding examples, especially if (but not necessarily) associated with Wales

Strategy for Development – we will maintain contacts with specialist dealers and auction houses and work more proactively with owners, and will seek to build the collection through loans and bequests, while continuing to purchase whenever possible.

The applied arts of Wales (ceramics, japanware, contemporary craft in particular) have generally been well served in our collecting. Future collecting

should focus on the most important historic objects and on the best craft work produced in Wales or by Welsh-born makers.

Consumption of applied art by Welsh people has also generally been well-served, though we have failed to acquire important works that have proved inconvenient for storage or display, The most important ceramics, silver, furniture, etc of this type should continue to be a priority area.

The focus of collecting has historically emphasised design content rather than function or social significance. Rather than attempt to shift this emphasis, we should embrace it as our guiding principal and seek to develop the collections so as to tell this story in a more rounded way and with high quality as our aspiration.

Major weaknesses to address remain:

a) design and applied art in all media,

British and international, post-1850; significant opportunities include the collecting of early craft/artist ceramics/etc from Europe and especially France, as a counterpoint to the Davies collection, Marriot glass, etc; also the collecting of designs on paper (complementing some existing holdings of this type) Furniture has always played a central role in the design and articulation of domestic spaces and other interiors and, when of high status, often been carefully designed to co-ordinate not only with architecture but with works of art intended for the same spaces. For architects and designers, furniture has also long been a primary vehicle for experimentation and innovation, an aspect that the collection at St Fagans does not address. The potential for furniture to enrich art displays is well demonstrated by the Adam-designed Williams Wynn furniture that adds depth to the interpretation of silver and pictures from the same source. The development of our small but important collection of documented furniture will bring similar richness to other areas of our displays.

Nor do we have the capacity to collect furnishing textiles. These have historically not only held high prestige but have been an important vehicle for 2-dimensional design; also much of our collections, whether pictures, sculpture or applied art, would in their original contexts have accompanied textiles of various kinds. The collecting of textiles and costume at St Fagans has emphasised social context rather than design, therefore leaving our collections lacking in this area.

Strategy for Development – Collecting in the Modern and Contemporary field (post 1900) is linked to the policy framework established with the Derek Williams Trust and is directed by the Art Department's Action Plan for applied art and design after 1850. Work proactively for gifts and loans.

b) industrial design. While industrial design of the last 150 years is also collected to some extent by the Department of Industry and at St Fagans we seek to develop the existing strengths of the collections by addressing our weakness after about 1850;

- (i) to reflect the development of design as an independent discipline;
- (ii) to reflect the globalisation of design culture;
- (iii) to stimulate and support the study and practice of design in Wales.

Given limitations of funding and space, we seek to collect:

- (i) objects of aesthetic importance that elucidate the history of design, i.e. influential designs or objects that represent a designer, style, period or technology particularly well;
- (ii) primarily objects made for domestic, social, ceremonial or similar contexts and that illustrate developments in social and other practices, e.g. those associated with dining, drinking, lighting, domestic comfort and convenience, display, recreation, communication, consumerism;
- (iii) objects and other material that elucidate the design process itself, e.g. the role of the designer (designs, models, sources of inspiration, etc.) or the development and use of new technologies and materials (electrical goods, plastics, recycled materials, etc.);
- (iv) objects and material that illustrate issues related to design, e.g. competition and imitation, commercial processes (marketing, retail, advertising, etc.).

Strategy for Development – Collecting is directed by the Department’s Action Plan for applied art and design after 1850. Work proactively with colleagues in the Department of Industry and at St Fagans

- c) Continental applied art other than porcelain, and especially pottery C16-present; emphasis on high quality and educational value rather than quantity

Strategy for Development – Make planned purchases as resources permit. Work proactively for gifts and loans.

- d) subject to an agreed strategy, applied art and design of non-European cultures; given existing holdings of material from east and central Asia, these are obvious areas to develop (i.e. switch from CLOSED or PASSIVE to ACTIVE)

Active Collections

Fine Art

- Oil paintings, watercolours, drawings and sculptures of all periods by Welsh artists, and images of Welsh people and places. ACTIVE.
- Paintings, watercolours, drawings and sculptures of all periods of high aesthetic and educational value, regardless of origin. ACTIVE.
- Works in all fine art media reflecting the impact of Wales, its landscape, history, and culture on visual artists from the post-medieval period to the present. ACTIVE.
- Works reflecting the history of the patronage and collection of art in Wales. ACTIVE.
- Portraits of Welsh sitters, where these are also of aesthetic merit. ACTIVE.
- The art of non-European cultures, especially from the recent past and the present. As the field is vast, collecting is likely to result from creative

partnerships, such as exhibitions. A work of Australian aboriginal art was acquired by gift in 2004. ACTIVE

Applied Art

Existing collection categories are by material rather than by date. In general, we will collect actively in many categories (and occasionally outside these categories) for the period after about 1850.

- Welsh ceramics: ACTIVE: approx. 3,000 items: an on-going priority, one of our 'unique selling points,' finest such collection in the world; we no longer collect in large quantities but must actively research opportunities to develop in this area, as well as be able to acquire objects and/or collections of special interest as opportunities arise.
- English porcelain: ACTIVE: approx. 1,900 items: one of Britain's major reference collections; will also continue to develop PASSIVELY, but on a limited scale needs to be developed ACTIVELY in order to contextualise Welsh porcelain, to reflect new research, and to fill the few important gaps (such as 20th-century 'design').
- English pottery: ACTIVE: approx. 1,700 items: a major representative collection, with areas of weakness that should be addressed, eg 19th century, tiles, high-quality early Wedgwood, late C19/early C20 'art' pottery.
- Continental porcelain: ACTIVE: approx. 2,200 items: a major collection for which we are well known; needs to be developed actively on a limited scale, to contextualise Welsh porcelain, to improve the balance of the collection (eg figures) and to tell the story of design after about 1850.
- Continental pottery: ACTIVE: approx. 100 items: some important objects but generally an area of weakness. Needs to be developed strategically to represent major influential types, to contextualise story of Welsh and English ceramics and continental porcelain, to tell the story of design after about 1850. Emphasis must be on quality rather than quantity. Desirable to develop continental artist and craft ceramics of late C19 and early C20, as counterpoint to Davies collection, Marinot glass, etc.
- Silver: ACTIVE: approx. 550 objects: a collection of high importance; in historic terms, needs to be developed, largely when opportunities arise to acquire Welsh-related pieces and/or collections. Future priorities of this kind: remainder of Jackson collection, if offered for sale; casters from Bodelwyddan centrepiece (currently in USA); important pieces of Welsh church plate, if offered for sale (eg Welshpool gold cup). ACTIVE collection of post-1850 'design' silver and contemporary craft silver are priorities.
- Glass: ACTIVE: approx. 400 items: a moderate collection for the most part, providing a broad overview of glass from Britain and to some extent Europe. Opportunities to acquire significant objects, whether or not of Welsh relevance, should be taken. ACTIVE collecting of contemporary craft glass, post-1850 'design' glass.
- Furniture: currently PASSIVE: 17 items: should be ACTIVE when resources (storage and display space) allow. Priorities should be (a) important documented furniture, particularly with Welsh provenance, that has design-history significance; (b) post-1850 'design' furniture; (c) craft furniture.

Passive and Closed Collections

Fine Art

The following are not regarded as priorities for development:

- Welsh topographical and portrait prints; bookplates; costume prints.
- These are of occasional research and display value, but the National Library is the principal collecting organisation in these fields.
- 19th century reprographic prints

Applied Art

- East Asian ceramics: PASSIVE: approx. 450 items: a weak to moderate collection, that needs to be developed as a contextual resource for the other ceramics collections. This can in part be achieved by loans for display, but good opportunities to acquire relevant objects should be taken.
- Ivory: CLOSED: 90 objects
- Jade: CLOSED: 65 objects
- Japanware: PASSIVE: approx. 250 objects: acquisition should be limited to important documentary pieces, and where appropriate we should defer to Pontypool Museum.
- Japanese collections (Leach and Hughes collections): CLOSED: 74 objects
- Bonnor workshop collection: CLOSED [we will collect objects by Bonnor on a PASSIVE basis]
- Jewellery: PASSIVE: a small, miscellaneous collection of post-1900 jewellery that could be developed ACTIVELY.

2.3 BIODIVERSITY & SYSTEMATIC BIOLOGY

Context

The strategy document “Earthscape” a Strategy for the Natural Sciences in a Museum Context outlines the roles and aims of the Department of Biodiversity & Systematic Biology. Contained in this document are many references to the roles of systematic collections and their core function as the major tool for systematics research and biodiversity inventory. Concerning collections this document recognises the pivotal role of the collections as

- 1) a long term 4-dimensional record of biodiversity
- 2) a tool for biodiversity and systematics research
- 3) a source of educational material

Systematic collections are not primarily an educational tool reserved for public exhibition. They are the only physical record of our biodiversity inheritance, of our progress in understanding the natural world, and a contemporary tool for further discovery.

Linked to the collections is the expertise of the curatorial staff such that the acquisitions policy is connected with the staffing policy. Over the last ten years there has also been national and international debate concerning the provision of systematics expertise and the role of biological collections in addressing some of the issues raised by the Earth Summit and the Global Taxonomy Impediment. Consequently, this acquisitions strategy takes such issues into consideration in attempting to recognise both local and international needs from collections and taxonomic expertise. For this reason also, we find it impossible to discriminate between collection areas other than broadly and feel that we must continue to advance on such a front. We shall take advantage of opportunities as they arise, and primacy will need to be given to responding to such externally-driven opportunities if they are relevant.

We recognise the inter-relationships of collections and expertise within the UK. As a consequence, the acquisition and disposal of collections will, when appropriate, be discussed with appropriate stakeholders.

Collection Strengths

The existing collection strengths provide much of the framework within which this strategy is established. However new developments in systematics, especially the use of DNA will modify both what and how we collect. Our strengths lie in the great national and international range of the collections and these strengths will generally be maintained. Development outside these strengths will only be pursued after discussion with external stakeholders and justification.

Mollusca

- World Mollusca in the Melvill-Tomlin collection and its associated library
- British/Welsh Mollusca giving an almost complete coverage of the British fauna
- Non-marine Mollusca especially African and Palearctic
- Palaearectic land Mollusca
- Bivalve Mollusca from the Indian Ocean and world-wide localities
- Cephalopods in the Hoyle (1st Director of the Museum) collections, and cited in his important papers on the group
- World-wide Quaternary Mollusca

Insecta

- Extensive and comprehensive British/Welsh collection
- Coleoptera (Tomlin and Gardner bequests)
- Diptera (agricultural, host associations and Palaeartic coverage)
- Hemiptera (agricultural host associations and Palaeartic coverage)
- Lepidoptera (British and world-wide butterflies, British moths)
- Foreign collection comprehensive in coverage of insect families

Other Terrestrial Invertebrates

- British and Welsh spiders
- All British woodlice species are represented by specimens
- Soil mites from Wales and other sites

Marine Invertebrates (excluding Mollusca)

- Extensive collections of benthic invertebrates from British waters, and especially Irish Sea
- Extensive collections of Polychaeta from British and world-wide localities
- Collections of parasitic worms of marine fish

Vertebrates

- Mounted (display) specimens of most British mammals and many British birds
- Cabinet specimens of birds, birds eggs and mammals
- Comprehensive skeletal material

Vascular Plants

- Large collection of flowering plants, mainly from Europe, including the largest collection of Welsh plants in existence, with associated collection of fruits and seeds
- Large fern collection of international scope
- Small collection of glass microscope slides showing mainly sectioned plant material

Cryptogams

- Large bryophyte collections (second largest in Britain), with special reference to Britain, but of international scope
- Extensive lichen collection, mainly British, with special reference to Wales

Timber Collection

- Large collection of timber and wood sections from all parts of the world

Economic Collection

- Collection of economically-important plant products, including food-stuffs, textiles and pharmaceuticals

Palynology

- Large collection of samples and mounted slides of Quaternary palynological samples
- Hyde Collection of modern palynological samples, acquired from the Asthma and Allergy Unit of Sully Hospital

Botanical Illustrative Material

- Large collection of prints and drawings mainly 18th and 19th century, charting the development of botanical illustration
- Large collection of transparencies of plants and landscapes
- Large collection of old glass negatives showing plants, landscapes, botanists, and diagrams from publications
- Extensive world-wide collection of postage stamps trade cards on botanical themes

Biological Models

- A unique collection of botanically accurate wax models of flowers, fungi and other plants.
- Blaschka glass models of invertebrates.

Botanical Archives

- Unpublished manuscripts and correspondence relating to Welsh botanists and other collectors, and to herbarium collections held by the Department

Botanical and zoological libraries

- Extensive collection of books, journals and reprints, mostly dealing with the biological sciences.
- Small collection of rare 19th century and earlier books
- Collection of microfiche copies of old books and journals not held as paper-copies in the library; also of classic herbaria

Collection weaknesses

The major weaknesses are related to staffing and thus the use we are able to make of our collections rather than the collections themselves. With wider taxonomic expertise, we could give more value to the collections that we currently hold. The global level of expertise and the global taxonomic impediment give enormous scope for collection based taxonomy and the choices available for development are many. Any decision to diversify our expertise and collections should only be made after an analysis of external need.

In the area of our core collecting policy, that is to be the repository for voucher material relating to the biodiversity of Wales, the Strategy for Science (2005, and based on stakeholder responses) recognises a number of priority areas where expertise and collections could be developed.

Marine crustacea

Marine epifauna

Algae

Fungi

Soil invertebrates

In addition to these, there are other areas where we hold collections of sufficient strength enabling us to contribute to the regional biodiversity inventory and taxonomic research.

Micro-lepidoptera

Spiders

Ferns

Terrestrial crustacea, millipedes and centipedes

Freshwater macro-invertebrates

As regards the biodiversity of Wales, our major weakness arises from a lack of awareness of our role as the national repository and the subsequent loss of voucher material resulting from surveys and studies by organisations and individuals that we would regard as stakeholders.

Opportunities

The expansion of biodiversity research and inventory following the Earth Summit has brought systematic collections and systematics to the fore. This has led to an increase in studies and surveys relating to the conservation of biodiversity and in the routine use of Environmental Impact Assessments, both of which result in the creation of collections. This massive expansion does lead to a greater possibility of creating a definitive biodiversity inventory, which should be supported by voucher collections. Museums are the only repository for such material and museums are therefore in a pivotal position to contribute to these contemporary environmental agendas.

Through contributions to the global biodiversity agenda we are able to place the museum in an international context and use our collections and expertise to promote the museum and Wales.

The advent of molecular systematics opens up a review of much of the traditional taxonomy and allows a closer look at relationships and identity. The active collecting of samples that contain preserved DNA will give greater value to our collections and provide materials for cutting edge research within and beyond the museum.

We will also collect appropriately as we develop themes or stories (eg. climate change through history) that we will wish to examine in exhibitions or interpretive programmes, and as we develop our concepts for the creation of a National Natural History Museum for Wales.

Threats

The major threat to collections has been highlighted in the reports cited in the Strategy for Science document and consists primarily of indifference towards and underfunding of collections and taxonomy in the UK. Without an acceptance of the value of systematic collections there will be no impetus to make or receive those collections that represent modern biodiversity.

Departmental strategies (Overarching)

A specimen based inventory of the biodiversity of Wales.

We will act as the depository for voucher material relevant to the fauna and flora of Wales and an overarching policy, for each section, will be to develop this role. Acquisition currently is by NMW field-work, or by deposition from donors, with little coming by direct purchase. Considerable promotion of the role is still required to achieve wide knowledge and acceptance. The collections and data here will support the local record centres and the Marine Environment Record Centre for Wales

DNA sampling

Modern systematics research is becoming more reliant on the analysis of DNA sequences. Accordingly, the overall policy must include the development of collections of suitably preserved specimens or tissues for this use in all areas of collecting.

Specimens for exhibition and learning

Specimens, including books, collected as voucher material or for research are frequently not suitable for exhibition. Consequently, there will always be the potential need to acquire specially prepared specimens, models, illustrations and books for exhibition and learning use.

Function as a hub for abandoned collections

Where necessary safeguard the future of external collections by the acquisition of collections in danger of disposal or destruction, to retain or redistribute to other institutions as appropriate.

Departmental Policies (Sectional)

Mollusca

We will:

- Collect voucher material in those taxa and regions relevant to the British fauna
- Collect Bivalvia on a world-wide basis to consolidate the centre of excellence in this field
- Collect land Mollusca relevant to areas of biodiversity research where current strengths and expertise can be best utilised. For the next ten years this will focus on the land molluscs of Africa and the Families Streptaxidae and Helicidae worldwide
- Acquire specimens to maintain the status of the Melvill-Tomlin collections (especially missing or recently described species) where that collection is

historically strong either regionally or taxonomically, either by exchange or purchase

- Acquire archaeological, Pleistocene and Quaternary specimens relevant to European molluscs or to inter-disciplinary research activities
- Acquire archival materials relevant to study of Mollusca to add to the holdings from Hoyle and Melvill-Tomlin collections and other objects relevant to the history of science and study of molluscs in Wales/Britain.

Insecta

We will:

- Collect British insects, especially from Wales in order to create a reference resource and biological records centre for Wales
- Collect specimens from the Palaearctic region, especially in the Hemiptera, Diptera and Coleoptera in order to better understand the British fauna
- Acquire specimens from elsewhere especially the Old World tropics and sub tropics that are of direct relevance to agreed research projects
- Acquire specimens where the collections is strong either regionally or taxonomically either by exchange or purchase
- Acquire display quality specimens for exhibitions
- Acquire specimens as a resource for teaching, demonstrations and lectures
- Attempt to provide the resources to collect the freshwater fauna of Wales which is currently completely under-represented in the collection.

Other Terrestrial Invertebrates

We will:

- Acquire specimens in order to answer public enquiries
- Acquire soil mite voucher specimens as a result of the research activities of a research associate
- Attempt to provide the resources to collect the myriapod and arachnid fauna of Wales which is currently incompletely represented in the collection
- Acquire display quality specimens for exhibitions
- Acquire specimens as a resource for teaching, demonstrations and lectures.

Marine Invertebrates (excluding Mollusca)

We will:

- Collect the regional fauna in all benthic groups by fieldwork, selective bequests and by use of external contracts for identification
- Make collections of benthic organisms from all parts of the world when relevant to current research programmes in comparative benthic community ecology
- Collect polychaete worms of relevance to the British fauna
- Collect polychaete worms internationally to consolidate the subject area as a centre of excellence
- As resources allow, collect marine Crustacea beyond the limits of the Irish Sea

- As resources allow, collect marine epibenthos beyond the limits of the Irish Sea.

Vertebrates

We will:

- Acquire specimens of rare species or species not in the collection, dependent on accidental kills (eg road deaths) or Customs confiscations.

Vascular Plants

We will:

- Collect specimens that will enhance the comprehensive cover of the wild and adventive vascular plants in the British Isles. For the next 20 years we will concentrate on critical and infraspecific taxa
- Collect specimens to enhance comprehensive cover of vascular plants in Europe and other areas relevant to the development of the Welsh flora
- Collect specimens to enhance the comprehensive cover of plants cultivated in Wales
- Collect specimens to support current research interests
- Safeguard the future of national and private herbaria by the acquisition of collections in danger of disposal or destruction, and retain or redistribute to other institutions as appropriate.

Cryptogams

We will:

- Collect bryophyte specimens to enhance our comprehensive coverage of European species and representative geographical coverage of Great Britain, and collect comparative specimens from areas of the world botanically related to Wales
- Collect lichens to enhance our comprehensive coverage of species of northern and western Europe, representative geographical coverage of Wales, and collect comparative specimens from areas of the world botanically related to Wales
- Collect fungi to enhance our representative coverage of Wales, and collect comparative specimens from areas of the world botanically related to Wales
- Collect diatom specimens to develop the diatom collections, enhancing coverage of European species and representative geographical coverage of Great Britain, and collect comparative specimens from areas of the world botanically related to Wales
- Acquire representative comparative specimens from other areas of the world to support current research interests, and because it is recognised that many genera and species are cosmopolitan
- Safeguard the future of national and private herbaria by the acquisition of collections in danger of disposal or destruction, and retain or redistribute to other institutions as appropriate.

Timber

We will:

- Collect specimens of timber and wood sections to enhance the comprehensive coverage of timbers grown or used in Wales.

Economic Material

We will:

- Collect specimens of timber and wood sections to enhance the comprehensive coverage of timbers grown or used in Wales.

Palynology

We will:

- Continue to collect Quaternary palynological specimens, especially from Wales and adjacent regions, as part of agreed research activities

Botanical and zoological libraries

We will:

- Purchase or otherwise acquire books, journals and reprints relating to the research programme
- Purchase or otherwise acquire books, journals and reprints necessary to answer public inquiries
- Purchase or otherwise acquire books necessary to develop outreach activities.

Illustrative (Botanical)

We will:

- Collect fine books, prints and drawings to enhance the representative coverage of botanical illustrations, reflecting the main historical developments in the techniques of botanical illustration
- Acquire botanical illustrations by the best of today's artists in the field
- Collect photographic material for research, display, teaching and publications, provided that they show clear images and are accompanied by documentation as to what the images show (of that this information can be obtained through research)
- Collect representative postage stamps on botanical themes from all parts of the world that can be used as part of an outreach programme.

Botanical Models

We will:

- Collect or have made models as a resource for display and teaching.

Archives

We will:

- Acquire notebooks, photographs, letters, manuscripts and other materials relating to Welsh botanists and the botanical exploration of Wales, and relating to collections acquired by the Department
- Acquire notebooks, photographs, letters, manuscripts and other materials relating to Natural History collections in Wales, and relating to collections acquired.

How we collect

Of relevance to the acquisition policy are the mechanisms used to acquire specimens. There are the following major routes

- Collecting by staff through survey and research projects
- Donation of voucher material from external surveys and projects
- Purchase of collections as they become available
- Commissioned purchases

Currently by far the largest source is through staff projects and secondarily through purchase of existing collections. The donation of voucher material should be a major route, especially with relevance to the Welsh fauna and flora, but is currently lower than one would wish for.

2.4 GEOLOGY

Introduction

The Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales Vision Statement (December 2005) naturally refers to the collections and to their use in relation to the overall Development Plan. For example,

“... use our natural science collections to help our visitors to understand the environment.”

“... adding to the collections in ways that are relevant to the needs of today and the future.”

“... providing all our collections with internationally approved standards of care.”

“... Increase our physical and intellectual access to the Museum’s reference collections”

“... ensuring that our research programmes meet the requirements of our visitors and users.”

Both individually and collectively, these aims and objectives form the main basis for collection strategies within the Department of Geology.

Equally important is the Natural Science document formulated as part of the Vision Statement Earthscape – A Strategy for the Life and Earth Sciences.

And in addition, the Department of Geology is addressing the current initiative to develop an international focus for the Earth Sciences under the aegis of UNESCO and the International Union of Geological Sciences entitled Planet Earth – Earth Sciences for Society 2005-2007. This document is for the Earth Sciences what the Rio de Janeiro Action Plan for Sustainability is for the Biological Sciences. The Planet Earth document focuses on the relationship between humankind and Planet Earth in demonstrating that geoscientists are key players in creating a balanced sustainable future.

The collections strategies presented here are prepared within the overall framework of these various documents. There is a prime focus on:

- Developing the collections through a prioritised acquisition policy
- Collecting actively in areas of interest.

Emphasis has also been placed on how additional value can be given to the collections, by ensuring that relevant expertise is available to undertake research. Greater access to the collections is proposed by:

- Making the collection data available as widely as necessary
- Researching the collections to give added value

- Increasing public accessibility to the collections
- Bringing reference collections into open access
- Increasing facilitated access to core collections
- Increasing interpretation of content and role of collections

We are the main repository for fossils, rocks and mineral specimens from Wales, and this material forms the core of our collecting role. Additional major focus is in our archival/ documentary collections. This meshes well with the other national museums and is a role that should be strengthened by further collecting and promotion of the collections. Additional international material is also collected to place the evolution of Wales in a global context. It is important to emphasise that there are no other institutes with geological curators in Wales, or scientifically or historically significant geological collections.

Strengths

Palaeontology

The main repository for fossils from Wales; these are augmented by research collections from other parts of the UK, and from worldwide sources. The collection is therefore of international status and significance, and is one of the major palaeontological holdings in the UK. We are a major UK centre for palaeontological research, especially in taxonomy, phylogeny and palaeobiogeography, with particular current emphasis on the earlier Palaeozoic.

- Lower Palaeozoic invertebrates, especially brachiopods, trilobites, bivalves, corals
- Some Carboniferous invertebrates: brachiopods, trilobites, non-marine bivalves
- Silurian-Devonian plants
- Carboniferous (Coal Measures) plants
- Jurassic ammonites
- Very active staff research programme which enhances collections and encourages peers to use us as a repository
- Deposition of many collections by peer colleagues (especially type/reference material).

Mineralogy

- The strengths of our Mineral Collection lie in the areas of Welsh mineralogy; research and partnership programmes over the last ten years have enhanced the holdings into a definitive and comprehensive collection of Welsh minerals. Reference material from almost all mine sites in Wales.
- Other areas of strengths in the mineral collection are Welsh gold, Welsh millerite (World-class); British fluorite and World cassiterite, mainly derived from the core of the R.J. King collection acquired in 1983. A small collection of native silver specimens from the Kongsberg Mines in Norway, is also of significance (and of considerable value). Much of the material in this category is of display quality.
- Significant collection of British minerals, including some derived from heritage collections, and a research collection of Leicestershire material.

Petrology

- The Welsh Reference Rock Collection, (consisting of hand specimens and petrological thin sections) acquired dominantly by field collection during the 20th Century, provides a unique resource for enquiries and the first stages of original and collection-related research.
- Welsh research petrology collections, derived from Ph.D. theses and published papers.
- Welsh Coal Collection; collected during the 20th Century from working collieries
- Welsh slate collection. These samples range from hand specimens, to large samples (some of display quality), to rock powders, thin sections and borehole core and chippings.
- Shallow borehole collection from South Wales, with associated logs and maps, provides valuable research and engineering resource.

Archives

A significant research collection of historical documents and maps relating to the early development of geological science in the UK in the early Nineteenth Century. Of international status and significance. This is continually being enhanced as a research and consultative tool, and to increase its comprehensiveness.

- De la Beche correspondence – relates to mid-nineteenth history of geological Science; consulted by experts worldwide.
- William Smith maps and subsequent geological archive – one of best holdings in UK.
- Nineteenth Century and early Twentieth Century Geological Survey maps of Wales.
- Library archive of rare and historical geological texts.

Weaknesses

Palaeontology

- Graptolites
- Palaeozoic vertebrates (e.g. ORS fishes)
- Patchy coverage from local (Welsh) aspect, both stratigraphical and geographical.
- Carboniferous invertebrates other than those noted above.
- Display-quality material for some groups.

Mineralogy

- Unrepresented minerals from Welsh type localities, (e.g. cymrite, bannisterite)
- Weak comparative mineral specimens from World localities to support greater knowledge of the context of Welsh minerals (e.g. brookite, bannisterite, pennantite).
- Poor representation in some areas of systematic minerals, particularly new species described in the last twenty years.
- Lack of display quality minerals from Wales.

- Poor representation of Welsh minerals from Welsh working quarries. Display quality gemstones

Petrology

- Some duplication in the non-Welsh, non-display rock collection
- Poor display - quality, large, Welsh rocks
- Weakness in reference coal specimens from NE Wales and the Forest of Dean
- Incomplete building stone collection for Wales

Opportunities

One of the main opportunities that we are currently exploring is the use of our data to become more involved in aspects of Applied Geology (especially rock/mineral collections, maps, boreholes, and staff expertise). Our recent publications on Landslides and on Urban Geology highlight the potential to reach a wider audience and to raise substantial sponsorship. There is also active involvement in development of the Welsh Stone Forum, including plans to develop a 'Stone Library'. Other obvious opportunities include

Palaeontology

- Partnerships with other institutions/individuals to enhance the scope of research collections
- Acquisition of targeted display material from commercial sources
- Maximising use of available SAG resources (especially for quality exhibition materials)

Mineralogy

- Develop better links to private mineral collectors to acquire collections

Petrology

- Although we hold a modest building stone collection, this is an area with a growing external demand for information and samples. The collection has been enhanced by a small amount of collecting but to make this a useful resource a more focussed approach is required to establish a position of authority.
- We have a small meteorite collection; this is used primarily for interpretation and display. The collection would be of considerably more use to a wider audience if it were enhanced to be a full representative suite of samples, illustrating the complexity of meteorite variation. Part of this objective might be achieved by donation but in general this will be dependant on purchase through approved sources.
- To develop the Implement Petrology Group (axe) collection and associated information through a major research programme.

Archives

- Availability of SAG to acquire items as they become available on the market.

Threats

Palaeontology

- Lack of expansion space for collection growth.

Mineralogy

- Lack of expansion space for collection growth.

Areas requiring development over the next five years (i.e. active programmes)

- Welsh mineralogy (to maintain status)
- Main mineral collection (non-Welsh)
- Welsh reference rock collection
- Research petrology collection
- Building stones
- Meteorites
- Coal collection
- Display quality vertebrates
- Some Carboniferous invertebrates

Areas requiring passive development (i.e. donation but no active acquisition programmes)

- Petrology non-Welsh UK, and World, slag

Closed collections which we believe should not be disposed of

- Radioactive minerals

Collection which could be disposed of

- Duplicate, non-Welsh, non-display rocks collection (suggest deaccession and transfer to teaching collection)

Impact of the collecting strategy

Within the major collections, the main ways that the Vision impacts are in:

- Developing new parts of the major holdings, linked with relevant expertise in collection areas where there is public demand for information (major display vertebrates, building stones, archaeopetrology, gemstones, meteorites).
- Although collecting in the natural sciences has a primary concern with reflecting and documenting the natural World, and preserving this record for perpetuity, a contemporary aspect to collecting does arise. A good example of this is in the coal collection, where social aspects (decreasing social awareness of coal and reduced research resource resulting from the closure of collieries and opencast mines) drives a collecting programme.
- Ensuring that the collections are relevant to support public programmes
- Ensuring that the collections can support the Planet Earth and Earthscape action plans, by
 - Enhancing our national and international scientific reputation
 - Becoming the established centre for holding and disseminating accurate data on Welsh fossil flora, fauna and geology

Learning & Access policy

- By developing new parts of the collections, linked with relevant expertise in collection areas where there is public demand for information the Department of Geology will be making more information on geology available and accessible to more people. We can use the geological collections to proactively generate public demand and enhance interest, perhaps in partnership with other 'learning' organisations – e.g. Lifelong Learning Dept., WEAs, ESEF (Cymru), and use them to stimulate public interest/knowledge from 'newsworthy' events – discoveries of significant fossils, volcanic eruptions etc.
- We will also collect appropriately as we develop themes or stories (eg. climate change through history) that we will wish to examine in exhibitions or interpretive programmes, and as we develop our concepts for the creation of a National Natural History Museum for Wales.

Contemporary aspects of collecting

- New developments in enhancing the building stone collection, the coal collection and archaeology-related petrology collections, all reflect contemporary demands on the petrology collection.

Collection gaps

- These are listed under weaknesses; appropriate measures to address this are listed under opportunities.

Collection for disposal

- Little material for disposal has been identified, which in part reflects the rigour with which specimens have been acquired in the past.

2.5 SOCIAL & CULTURAL HISTORY

Why do we collect?

- To conserve and study buildings, artefacts and archival material that illustrate the social, cultural and environmental heritage of all the people of Wales, from the Middle Ages to the present day, and to interpret that heritage to the widest possible audience.
- To develop St Fagans: National History Museum into a museum of Welsh history where visitors can explore the history of Wales at one site.
- To support changing social and cultural history displays at all of Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales’ history museums.
- To create a reference collection relating to the cultural heritage of Wales, both material and non-material, for the purpose of academic research, and to be the source of authoritative expertise in these areas.

How do we collect?

The department’s collections grow in a number of ways:

- Donation
- Bequest
- Purchase
- Fieldwork (by departmental staff and external organisations)

The department’s collections range from re-erected historic buildings to oral testimony recorded in the field. Collection of information should be as relevant as the collection of artefacts, in order for us to provide a clearer understanding of the communities which the artefacts represent. As representativeness is a key issue, selectivity is vital and must be based on thorough research and a well-thought out interpretive strategy.

Historically, the process of collecting historical buildings has been in the main reactive, containing a high degree of chance. It is dependent on buildings being offered by members of the public or local authorities, which mitigates against pre-planning. With limited space for developing these collections further, we should be more actively targeting specific buildings when they become available (e.g. for sale or by auction). This is a much more pro-active approach which would make it easier to plan ahead strategically.

Similarly, we could be more pro-active in developing research links with university departments. We have until now been a passive repository for archival material generated by university research projects which fall within our remit. We need to work with them, to influence research topics and make mutually beneficial applications to funding sources which would otherwise be unavailable to us.

Strategic Context

MWL’s stated aim was to illustrate the daily life and work of the people of Wales from the Middle Ages to the present day. Collections have been used

to illustrate both spatial variation and temporal evolution, unlike most other open-air museums in Britain and beyond. The emphasis has been on the typical, not the unique, and the perspective that of history from below.

Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales’ vision of St Fagans: National History Museum, “where visitors can explore the History of Wales at one site” moves the goalposts in a number of ways which have repercussions on the development of the collections:

- We need to examine whether Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales as an institution has the collections to deliver what would be expected of such a museum, particularly in terms of political history and a chronological storyline.
- There are obvious gaps in terms of representing the range of Welsh identities and communities which exist and have existed in Wales.

Collection strengths

- Historical buildings: 2 in-situ buildings - one of which is a Grade 1 listed building - and over 60 buildings which have been dismantled and re-erected on site. A good collection of farmhouses and cottages, small rural industrial/craft buildings and barns. Also good representative examples of regional (domestic) building types and constructional techniques.
- Commerce: mainly business and trade materials. Also collections relating to medicine, law and order and ecclesiastical items.
- Vernacular furniture: the finest collection in the UK, a large proportion of which is on open display in the re-erected buildings, as well as a notable collection of horological items.
- Costume and textile collections, dating from the 16th century to the present day, including both fashionable and everyday wear, occupational clothing and accessories of all types.
- Domestic Life: a comprehensive collection of cooking, dairying equipment, household appliances, tableware, ornaments and furnishing fabrics.
- Agriculture: agricultural tools, vehicles and machinery dating from the late 18th century to the mid 1950s, either of Welsh manufacture or with strong links to the Principality.
- Craft collections representing the working life of rural and semi-industrial Wales, e.g. woodworking, leatherwork, metalworking crafts, basketmaking. Also textile crafts such as quilting, embroidery, lacemaking, tailoring and products of the woollen industry in Wales.
- Cultural life collections, relating to music, folklore and customs, cultural, educational and social institutions, popular culture, sports and children’s toys and games.
- Archival collections which include the definitive archive of Welsh oral traditions and dialect speech, fieldwork films, manuscripts relating to Welsh ethnology, and a photographic archive of over 150,000 images. The folklore collection in particular is a treasure trove of information which could be used to personalise and enliven open-air displays.
- A specialist Library of over 40,000 volumes and 200 periodical titles relating to ethnological studies and Welsh social and cultural history.

Collection weaknesses

- Post-1950s and contemporary collecting is deficient across the whole span of the collections.
- Outbuildings relating to the working life of many of the historic farmhouses re-erected at St Fagans are missing.
- Not all regions are represented in the collection of historic buildings, and there are few urban domestic buildings in the collection.
- There is also very little urban material in the audio-visual collections. Although there has been an increase in English-language recordings since the 1980s, the bias is still towards Welsh-language material.
- There is little representation of Wales' various community languages and cultures, and multiculturalism is an area largely unexplored in our collecting and research.
- The various aspects of popular culture are not as well represented as traditional culture.
- Welsh livestock farming is under-represented in the agricultural collections, which also needs to be broadened to include the science of agriculture, food processing and the increasing diversity of modern agriculture in the post-production subsidy period.
- We do not have the collections to interpret the political history of Wales or the 'national story'.
- We have little to represent migration from and into Wales.
- Despite the assumption that the site is about the people of Wales, not a museum of building techniques, we have not in the past pursued a consistently holistic approach to collecting, which would link buildings and artefacts with the stories of the people who lived in them and used them. Also oral history recordings have in the past emphasised processes and vocabulary rather than social history/life stories.

Passive or closed collections

Until we have further discussions about the remit of the National History Museum, it is difficult to list in detail the collecting areas which would come under this heading. Generally speaking, pre-1950s collections of most of the present classifications require only passive development. Certain types of historic buildings are nowadays unlikely to be offered to the museum, and should perhaps be recorded as part of the archival collections rather than collected as physical specimens. As far as pre-1950 agricultural technology is concerned, we only need documents, photographs and advertisements regarding the existing collection in order to provide the context for interpretation. Long case clocks, and pre-20th century furniture (apart from a few exceptional categories) are effectively closed collections or only need passive development. Other closed collections would be pre-1930s laundry items, open-hearth cooking, dairying, pre-1950s electrical and gas appliances. We are no longer engaged in dialect research, but recordings of dialect

surveys and sociolinguistic research carried out by university departments or the media are collected passively in order to provide a continuity of archival resources to researchers in those fields.

Collections which could be disposed of

- Pre-registered tape collection of radio broadcasts, if they could be transferred either to NLW or to the BBC archives.
- Duplicates or items in poor condition which could be considered for handling collections or for use in open displays.

Strategy for developing collections

- Develop the brief for St Fagans: National History Museum.
- Adopt a more pro-active approach to the collecting of historic buildings, so as to ensure remaining space on site is used to its maximum potential in delivering St Fagans: National History Museum.
- Consult and collaborate with other Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales departments and other institutions (particularly other museums and archives, the National Library, and university departments) so as to share resources for research and display.
- Restructure and redirect available resources to develop new collecting areas, particularly national and political history (already in progress).
- Curators in all collecting areas to address post-1950s collecting gaps.
- Develop contemporary collecting in all areas by:
 - Appointing a Curator of Contemporary Culture who will work with the existing subject specialists to deliver a project-based contemporary collecting strategy.
 - Seizing the opportunity, through Gallery 1 and other projects, to actively involve communities in the production of displays and exhibitions which will enhance our collections. To start this process, we will use the Festival of Muslim Cultures to develop community-curated elements for the new exhibition to be opened in Gallery 1 in 2007.
 - Exploiting the opportunities offered by new technology and the WWW to engage with our stakeholders and collect audio-visual material (e.g. oral testimony, photographic evidence) directly.
 - Use national events to engage with stakeholders and highlight new collecting areas.

Constraints on Collecting

There are factors which, if left unresolved, would constrain our ability to develop our collections:

- Lack of storage space.
- Limited curatorial expertise in new collecting areas / interpretive themes.
- Limited room for expansion within the St Fagans site and possible difficulties in obtaining planning permission.
- The perishability of materials used in the manufacture of modern and contemporary artefacts.

2.6 INDUSTRY

Introduction

This strategy replaces the 'Collecting Policy for the Department of Industry: Policy on the Acquisition and Disposal of the Collections' compiled in 2000 (and revised in 2003), and reflects the delivery of the Museum's Industrial Strategy and intended delivery of the Storage Project and the 'Vision'.

Why do we collect?

The Department of Industry was established in 1959 to carry out the brief of the Royal Charter (1907, revised 1991) which called for the Museum to effect 'the complete illustration of the special industries of Wales'. This brief has now been superseded by the revised draft Charter (2005), which calls for 'a comprehensive representations of ... [the] industry ... of Wales'. It aims to promote understanding and knowledge of the special industries of Wales through the collection and conservation of artefacts and their research, interpretation and display. To achieve this the Department collects two-and-three-dimensional objects, photographs, books, works of art, film and sound recordings.

This document summarises the specific aims and remit of the Department of Industry as it relates to the Museum's corporate Policy on the Acquisition and Disposal of Collections. Much of the Department's current collecting activity is related to the display programmes of Amgueddfa Cymru-National Museum Wales' industrial museums and displayed reference collections at the industrial museum sites:

Big Pit National Coal Museum, Blaenavon

- 2005 Gulbenkian Prize winning museum comprising underground tour and surface workings of Big Pit Colliery
- The main display and storage venue for the National Coal collections

The Collections Centre, Nantgarw

- The main repository for the Department of Industry's three-dimensional collections, documents, photographs, works of art and film and sound recordings
- Reserve collection of National Wool Museum's textile machinery
- Small proportion of reserve collections from Big Pit National Coal Museum and National Slate Museum

National Slate Museum, Llanberis

- The Museum is based in the listed 1870 built engineering workshops of the former Dinorwig Slate Quarry
- The display and storage venue for the National Slate collections

National Waterfront Museum Swansea

- The main display venue of the Department of Industry collections
- The Department of Industry Library and Photographic Research Room

National Wool Museum, Drefach-Felindre

- The Museum is based in the 19th and 20th century mill buildings known as Cambrian Mills
- The main display and storage venue for the National Wool collections

How do we collect?

The department's collections range from full size stationary engines, locomotives, vessels and vehicles to scale models, personal tools, equipment, effects and ephemera as well as selected documents, books and photographs.

The department acquires collections via:

- Donation
- Bequest
- Purchase
- Collecting in the field

Strategic Context

The opening of the National Waterfront Museum Swansea in October 2005 was the final strand completing the delivery of Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales's Industrial Strategy, developments at Big Pit National Coal Museum, The Collections Centre, National Slate Museum, National Wool Museum.

The delivery of the Industrial Strategy has encouraged cross site multi-tasking and inter-departmental collaboration in curation, documentation and conservation. The development of our internal Industrial Curators' Circle to help direct and support the Industrial Strategy has proved successful, and the group will continue to serve in this capacity in order to help each of the industrial sites to meet future display projects and particularly the refresh programme of displays at the National Waterfront Museum Swansea over the next three years.

Collection Strengths

Coal

- Listed coal mine within the World Heritage Site of Blaenafon.
- Comprehensive and internationally important collections of coal mine lighting, hand tools, roof supports, drams, rescue equipment and trade union objects.
- Comprehensive range of models depicting coal mining techniques and equipment.
- Wide range of documents covering most aspects of colliery operation and administration, and union material.

- Large and comprehensive collection of coal industry books, journals and Parliamentary Papers; notably a near-complete set of Mines Inspectorate publications.
- Large and nationally important collection of coal industry photographs.

Heavy Industry

- Nationally important collection of metalliferous industry hand tools, process samples and products.
- Nationally important collection of Welsh-made bricks, tiles and refractories.
- Models of iron and steel plant.
- Nationally important collection of documents, notably metalliferous industry company brochures, company newspapers, and share certificates.
- Large collection of books, journals and Parliamentary Papers; notably a near-complete set of Mines & Quarries Inspectorate publications.
- Large and nationally important collection of Welsh heavy industry photographs.

Public Utilities & Civil Engineering

- Large collection of prime movers, particularly oil and gas engines.
- Wide range of civil engineering documents.
- Wide range of books and journals, notably early gas and electricity industry journals, and technical works on prime movers.
- Wide range of civil engineering photographs, notably industrial archaeology record images.

Recent & Contemporary Industry

- Comprehensive range of Welsh-made automotive industry products.
- Wide range of products of Welsh light industry especially from the toy industry.
- Near-complete range of Welsh-made computers.
- Collection of Welsh modern industry company brochures.
- Wide ranging collection of books and journals, notably Welsh modern industry journals and newsletters.
- Collection of Welsh modern industry photographs.

Slate

- Listed slate quarry workshop complex at Llanberis including original in-situ engineering equipment, working water and Pelton wheels, and large collection of foundry patterns.
- Original engineer's house, and re-erected quarrymen's houses, all accurately furnished.
- Restored and fully operational table incline.
- Nationally important collection of hand tools, early twentieth century mechanised extractors, wagons, locomotives and products.
- Important collection of drawings and sketches of quarrymen at work by M.E.Thompson.
- Wide range of slate industry-related books, journals and Parliamentary Papers; notably coverage of transport and a near-complete set of Mines & Quarries Inspectorate publications.

- Wide range of slate industry photographs.

Transport

- Nationally important collection of Welsh railway carriages; examples of other rolling stock also held.
- Working replica of the world's first railway locomotive (1804).
- Large and internationally important collection of tramplates and early railway track components.
- Fine collection of working small boats from around the Welsh coast.
- Wide ranging collection of hand tools and personal ephemera pertaining to land and maritime transport.
- Nationally important collection of ship models.
- Nationally important collection of ship portraits.
- Wide range of documents, particularly railway and maritime.
- Large collection of transport books and journals, notably a complete run of Lloyd's Register of Shipping from the mid 1830s to the present.
- Large and nationally important collection of transport photographs.

Wool

- Listed woollen mill buildings at Cambrian Mills, Drefach-Felindre including original machinery.
- Nationally important range of machinery from woollen mills throughout Wales.
- Collection of Welsh-made flat textiles, samples and flannel quilts from the eighteenth century to the present.
- Archives pertaining to Cambrian Mills.

Research Resources

- In addition to the subject-specific strengths of the archive, library and photographic collections outlined above, our collections include wide ranging and important coverage of the industrialisation and urbanisation of Wales, social history, political and union activity, and landscape change.

Collection Weaknesses

The major weaknesses are threefold:

- Incomplete coverage of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This is a reflection of the late date of the establishment of the Department. We recognise that opportunities to fill gaps in this time period will be very limited.
- A south Wales bias in the collections (save for slate). This reflects both the location of the Department and the greater intensity of industrialisation in south Wales compared to north Wales. Attempts to redress this bias are taken whenever opportunities arise.
- Until recent years collecting was biased towards the traditional industries, leaving economic fields that had become important since the Second World War under represented in the collections. With the appointment of a curator

of recent and contemporary industry, we are making redressing this weakness our priority.

A structural weakness inherent in the multi-site nature of the department is that curators can be isolated from colleagues and from their collections and, with documentation and conservation staff being mainly located at The Collections Centre, access to conserve and document the collections can be limited. The establishment of the Industrial Curators' Circle goes some way to redressing this weakness.

Opportunities

- To build upon the inter-departmental and inter-site collecting and research liaison engendered by the Industrial Curators Circle so enhancing the social and cultural dimension of the collections.
- Better sharing of internal resources for research and display
- To continue to develop the good working practices and co-operation with local authority partnerships particularly with Swansea, Torfaen, Gwynedd and Carmarthenshire
- To continue to develop the good working relationship between ourselves and local record offices.
- To participate in and nurture appropriate partnerships eg. European Route of Industrial Heritage, Herian, Padarn Forum
- To continue the research links forged with Swansea University in the development of a proposed MA course in Museum Studies to be taught jointly by the Museum and the university; and with Bangor University in the delivery of their existing BA and MA Heritage Management courses.
- To continue to develop the recent and contemporary industry collections
- To implement the Storage Strategy through improving the storage of collections at the Collections Centre, and provide enhanced physical and intellectual access to these collections notably through the reassembly of the stationary engines and larger objects within the store.
- The refresh concept underpinning the displays at the National Waterfront Museum Swansea will increase collecting opportunities, particularly through the mounting of displays of hitherto under-represented topics.
- The creation of a dedicated Frontiers Gallery at Swansea will result in us being able to collect examples of innovative products and processes as they are developed, and thus document Wales's developing role as a centre for innovation.

Threats

We will endeavour to:

- Guard against potential indifference to industrial topics now that the physical manifestation of our Industrial Strategy has been completed.
- The need for adequate resourcing, particularly in terms of conservation and documentation, of future display projects

Passive/ Closed Collections

- Public Utilities and Civil Engineering: despite the fact that we have sound representative photographic and library collections we do not have a member of staff to actively collect within this field.
- Company records: in accordance with the long standing formal agreement with the Welsh County Records Offices the department does not collect runs of company records but will refer potential donors on to the appropriate record office.
- Maritime: in accordance with the National Historic Ships Committee policy we will not collect any large sea going vessels.

Collections which could be disposed of

- We are currently conducting a large object review, consulting with all industrial sites to create a list of potential duplicate collections that could be disposed of.
- Accessioned copies of archive material (particularly maps and plans) the originals of which are held in county record offices.

Current Collecting aims

We will collect:

- objects made or used in Wales, as well as objects made or used by Welsh people outside Wales and such comparative objects as may be deemed relevant.
- material dating chiefly from the period from 1750 to the present day, placing particular emphasis on recent and contemporary material.
- material that will enhance the existing collections
- objects that are considered to be historically significant by connection to notable people, events and organisations especially in the development of industry
- objects for educational purposes in order to improve and extend the public understanding of industry
- through electronic and audio-visual media and other appropriate methods, whether undertaken by the Museum or others, record work environments, processes and machinery, particularly those reflecting the change in the Welsh economy from production, to the service sector and the knowledge economy
- co-operate actively with other Departments and museums with complementary collections in order to provide a comprehensive cover of the subject and avoid unnecessary duplication.

Prospective acquisitions must also satisfy the moral and practical requirements attached, which comply with the Museums Association's ACQUISITION- Guidelines on the ethics and practicalities of acquisition (June 1996).

Collecting Principles

- In accordance with the principles of the Vision, additions to the collections must be based on quality, rarity, condition and relevance to active research programmes in support of the particular collecting areas. We will not permit indiscriminate acquisitions or random accumulations;
- Collections must be of manageable size and be sustainable. Acquisition will be limited to those specimens which can be properly studied, conserved, stored, displayed, or used for educational purposes in accordance with internationally approved standards of care.
- Emphasis to collecting specimens that complement existing collections. Duplication should normally be for the purposes of specific research, educational purposes or for exchanging programmes only;

2.7 THE LIBRARY

Introduction

The Library collects books and journals primarily to support the work of the Museum's staff, particularly curators and those in education, but also acquires items that are to all intents and purposes 'museum objects', landmark books in the history of Wales and related material in the broadest sense. Current stock amounts to around 200,000 items, including St Fagans.

Strengths

Particular strengths are in Mollusca, Roman archaeology, Flora, Architecture, and Social/Industrial History. Budgets are assigned to the curatorial departments to allow them to prioritize their purchases, for as with any academic department in a museum, university etc it is those staff who are in the best position to make such decisions. In the light of the Vision, such purchase decisions will no doubt stem from Vision activities.

Opportunities

A growing area is electronic access to journal titles. At the moment, the majority of those used by the Museum comes free access with the print edition, although some are e-access only. A current development is that some titles are ceasing print edition, with e-access only, often at a considerably higher costs than the original hard copy. This is an area of operation that is being closely monitored by the Library, and is under discussion with curatorial colleagues.

Passive/Closed Collections

The Library is aware of areas where there will be little development, ornithology for example. However, such areas will continue to be held in the Museum. However, there are collections of out-of-date books, particularly 'reference' material [almanacs, etc] where material could be de-accessioned. If the Audit Committee accepts the review of the Library in 2006, the procedure would be to submit details to the DDG, and once permission was given, to try and find a 'home' for such material, rather than recycling.

February 2006