

Annual Report of the Faculty Board of Archaeology and Anthropology on the
Museum of Archaeology and of Ethnology, 1947-48

10 November 1948.

The FACULTY BOARD OF ARCHAEOLOGY AND ANTHROPOLOGY beg leave to present to the University their Annual Report on the Museum of Archaeology and of Ethnology for the year 1 October 1947 to 30 September 1948.

1. Dr T. T. Paterson, Curator of the Museum, retired at the end of August in order to take up work for the Government. During his tenure of office he has added largely to the collections, built many extra store cupboards, made the Keyser Hall and the old entrance hall available for exhibition, and planned the re-arrangement of the Maudslay Hall and the Andrews Gallery which is now nearing completion. He also designed the lay-out of the accommodation in the temporary extension now being built. The Board desire to record their thanks to him for his services, and wish him success in his new undertaking. He was succeeded by Dr G. H. S. Bushnell, who has been Assistant Curator for the past two years.
2. Mrs J. H. Hutton, who as Miss O'Reilly gave long and devoted service to the Museum, retired at the end of 1946. Her intimate knowledge of the working of the Museum and of its contents would have been very greatly missed during the last two years but for the happy circumstances that she remains easily accessible and is always ready to make her experience available to present members of the staff.
3. The thanks of the Board are due to the Honorary Keepers and to a number of voluntary helpers, particularly to Miss C. I. Fell, who helped in many ways, notably in cataloguing a large part of the Braybrooke Collection, to Miss J. Liversidge, who has given much assistance with the sorting and classification of Roman objects in the Braybrooke Collection, and to Mr P. C. Dewhurst, who has devoted a great deal of time to the perusal of Neville's excavation diaries and identified many objects in the Braybrooke Collection of which the labels had been lost.
4. Two new Honorary Keepers have been appointed. The Rt. Rev. A. W. Smith brings to the care of the African Collections an intimate knowledge of West Africa based on many years service in Nigeria. Mr G. A. E. Ruck, appointed Honorary Keeper of the Collection of Rubbings of Monumental Brasses, began to work on the collection under Mr Griffin, as long ago as 1924, and has done more than anyone to care for it since Mr Griffin's death.
5. The death of Mr H. F. Bird has removed one of the oldest friends of the Museum where he was a constant voluntary helper until prevented by ill-health. The annual reports bear witness to the valuable work which he did, in particular that for 1922 which speaks of his zeal in carrying on the routine work of the Museum during the period between the retirement of Baron von Hügel and the appointment of Mr Louis Clarke. He also acted as treasurer of the Museum Committee for several years. His chief work, however, is seen in the collection of Primitive Currency which he prepared in collaboration with Mrs Quiggin, and the accession books and the card catalogue also show abundant evidence of his industry. His arrangement of the original Cambridge Antiquarian Society's collection of rubbings of Monumental Brasses led up to Mr Griffin's work on the collection, which is now the best in the country. He bequeathed the sum of £50 to the Museum, besides those of his books and notes which were there when he died.
6. The chief advance in the re-arrangement of the Museum has been the clearing of the old entrance hall where the Anglo-Saxon and Medieval exhibits are being arranged. The cases which were bought with the Braybrooke Collection by the University have been re-erected there and some of them have been reconstructed. It is difficult to imagine how adequate cases for this room could have been obtained at present, if these had not been available. The Andrews Gallery is complete except for some labelling. The Maudslay Hall, the Bevan Hall, and the Andrews Gallery have been open to the public since July. The transport and housing of the Braybrooke Collection, which involved a good deal of organization, were undertaken late in 1947. The outer walls of the temporary extension between the Museum and the Botany School were almost complete at the end of the period under review, and it is expected that the building will be ready for occupation early in 1949. Preparations for its erection involved the clearing and demolition of the old storage hut. The disposal of its contents was a matter of some difficulty, but the problem was solved by the provision of temporary storage in the Fitzwilliam Museum basement.
7. *Stone Age Collections.* Mr M. C. Burkitt, the Honorary Keeper, reports that the Stone Age collections in the Keyser Hall are now arranged as far as they can be until the lay-out of the later archaeological collections has been settled. It has not yet been possible to enter the Desmond Clark collection from British Somaliland, but a representative series in stratigraphical order is on view in drawers in the gallery. Mr H. V. Noone has selected from the collection of palaeolithic implements he has given the Museum a number of specimens to be set apart in a special cabinet as a memorial to his son, a former pupil of the school, who died in Malaya during the Japanese war.