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A LIST OF ZOOLOGICAL COLLECTIONS OF NOTE IN BOLTON MUSEUM

E. G. HANCOCK
BOLTON MUSEUM

The first public museum in Bolton, (Greater Bolton, Bolton-le-Moors) Lancashire was fairly late, being opened to visitors in 1884. It was atypical of local authority museums in that no Literary and Philosophical Society collections preceded it, but typical in that it was originally founded as a natural history museum. It rapidly branched out, fortunately, realising that relics of the early history of cotton spinning were even then disappearing fast. Called the Chadwick Museum, after its philanthropic benefactor, who left a sum of money to be used for a museum building to be constructed, it had a curator from the start. The collections which had accumulated in the Library since 1852 were handed over, including two of some natural history importance. Dawes' fossils and Carpenter's shells, but the main fillip at this time to the development of the reference collections were the entire contents of the Castleton Museum, Derbyshire, negotiated by its curator, Rooke Pennington, who retired to Bolton. Pleistocene fossil vertebrates formed the bulk of this and it was not until the early 1900's that the curator of Bolton decided to build up more natural history reference material.

The private collections of Philip Brookes Mason of Burton-on-Trent acquired between 1904-1911 formed the basis of this intention. Mason is well known as a private collector of the 1850-1900 period. His various obituaries and biographical references all pay tribute to his private museum which was built as an extension to his house. He employed a curator, John Sang, an illustrator of insects to manage the material. When he died, his widow held on to the collection for a long time, trying to obtain the highest possible prices. Some parts of the collection were picked over by the British Museum (Natural History) and the birds, macrolepidoptera, molluscs and library were auctioned. Bolton obtained a small number of fossils, the complete herbarium and the majority of the insect collections.

By the 1920's, the reference collections were virtually complete as they are found today, except for the bird and mammal skins. These were built up by the staff themselves, mainly post World War II. Hazelwood, the post-war curator, was responsible for initiating this development and this work has continued under the auspices of Eric Gorton from 1950 to the present day. These collections now number 500 mammal skins and over 8,000 bird skins. Although some small collections of skins have been purchased or donated, this number requires skins to have been made up at an average rate of one per working day over the last 26 years. It relies on contacts sending material from all over the British Isles which gives coverage nationwide.

Immediately after the war, the museum was moved in its entirety to new premises built around the Town Hall to form a Civic Centre. The magnificent building in Queen's Park was demolished in the 1950's.

Phylum or Order	Content	Name of Collector or Source of Material	Comments (date in brackets, if any, gives acquisition period).
Protozoa	Models	P. B. Mason	Made by Chaffer of Manchester (1908).
Crustacea	14 drawers and microscope slides	P. B. Mason	Includes more rare material, many specimens from J. Sinel of Jersey (1908).
Polyzoa	c. 600 sheets	P. B. Mason	Mounted herbarium style (1907). Lived in Heaton, Bolton. Author of British Zoophytes, Reeve & Co., London 1885. (1894 and 1898).
	c. 100 glass topped boxes	A. S. Pennington	
Other marine groups			Poor.
Mollusca	80 drawers	J. W. Baldwin	Lived in Bromley Cross, Bolton. Includes the types of the varieties he described. It is a good general collection, a fair portion of local material (1912).
Mollusca	358 items	Carl Bulow	Bought at auction, Stevens Sale Rooms, 27th February, 1931.
Mollusca	799 specimens from Mazatlan, N. America	Philip Pearsall Carpenter	The history of this collection is quite interesting. The original collection was made by a Belgian, Frederick Reigen, between 1848-50. They were shipped to England (Liverpool) and eventually P. P. Carpenter bought the whole lot (c. 9,000 spms.). He presented the majority of them to the B.M. (N.H.), and then produced the 'Catalogue of the Collection of Mazatlan Shells' London 1857, which was printed in Warrington, his home town. Warrington Museum obtained the non-molluscan residue and some duplicates and this collection is another duplicate series. It is highly likely that many of them will prove to be type material as over 222 new 'species' were described by Carpenter (c. 1860).

Phylum or Order	Content	Name of Collector or Source of Material	Comments (date in brackets, if any, gives acquisition period).
Mollusca	2 lots	Rev. C. Cradshaw	Purchased from Stevens Sale, 11th March 1919 of the genera Mitra and Cypraea.
Mollusca	several lots	Robert F. Damon	Purchased Helicidae and Clausiliidae from one of this dealer's sales (?1910).
Mollusca	?	Colonel Gordon	'A fine collection of rare Mollusca' states the accession book. Presented by a relative in 1888.
Mollusca	50 species	Grindrod, W.W.	North American freshwater bivalves.
Mollusca	?	J. Frederick Neck	Foreign Mollusca, purchased Stevens Sale (1910). Nothing is known of the above 3 collectors.
Mollusca	100 spms	J. F. Ogle-Skan	British material purchased from his executors. He was a well-known northern conchologist (1975).
Mollusca	c.160 drawers	John Ray Hardy (1884-1921)	This is the largest collection of molluscs forming the basis of the referential series. The collection includes material from Lewis J. Shackelford, R. Standen, J.W. Jackson, C.F. Adams, etc. Worldwide in coverage, and a lot without data. Contains type material (1922).
Insecta Minor Orders		See Beaumont Diptera	
Hemiptera	1600 spms	W.C. Chancy	Purchased from the dealer A. Ford, of various addresses from Hampshire and the Isle of Wight (1904).
Hemiptera	648 spms	Rev. T.A. Marshall	British Homoptera (via Mason 1911).

Phylum or Order	Content	Name of Collector or Source of Material	Comments (date in brackets, if any, gives acquisition period).
Hemiptera	4 boxes	C. H. Schill	From Didsbury in Manchester, this small collection is only part of his material. Manchester Museum have large collections of Coleoptera of his. Purchased at Stevens Sale, 15 May 1909.
Hemiptera	24 drawer cabinet	John Scott	A complete collection of all British Hemiptera although the B.M.(N.H.) picked out some of the types. Scott was well known for his work in Hemiptera in conjunction with J. W. Douglas (via Mason 1911).
Hemiptera	281 micro-scope slides	Francis Walker	This is the infamous Walker in taxonomic terms. This collection includes 17 species of his which now count as paralectotype material with some paratypes. The nomenclature has been clarified since Doncaster, 1961 (via Mason, 1911).
Minor Orders (various)	Several thousand	Benjamin Cooke	A Lancashire entomologist who lived in Southport for a long time. A very active collector although poor in the use of data labels. His brother, Nicholas Cooke, had a well known collection of Lepidoptera, which was destroyed during 2nd World War, at Liverpool Museum.
Coleoptera	484 spms	Dr. Richard Brauer	Collection of <i>exotica Rhynchophora</i> (Weevils) purchased 1905. Brauer was reported living at Knutsford, Cheshire.
Coleoptera	5,753 spms	A. Ford	British Coleoptera, purchased 1897. These do not now appear to exist.

Phylum or Order	Content	Name of Collector or Source of Material	Comments (date in brackets, if any, gives acquisition period).
Hymenoptera	20 drawer cabinet	John Gray	species being represented by types needs to be investigated. We would naturally welcome enquiries concerning it, and also any biographical or other information on the collectors named above, many of whom remain as nonentities at the present time. The Mason Collection has been quite misrepresented in the past, on one occasion going under Matthew's name, according to old correspondence files.
Hymenoptera	?	Dr. Hamlyn-Harris	Already mentioned under Coleoptera. Incorporated with this material are the following two names.
Hymenoptera	?	Dr. Otto Schmeiderknechte	Principally european hymenoptera from Tubingen, Blankenberg, Germany although some from Britain (e.g. Hunstanton, Norfolk) (1903).
Hymenoptera	45 drawer cabinet. 30 Store boxes.	P. B. Mason	Same european localities as Hamlyn-Harris. Mainly Ichneumonidae. Incorporated material from the following well-known collectors - Edward Saunders Dr. Capron Rev. F. D. Morice Francis Walker P. Cameron Frederick Smith

Phylum or Order	Content	Name of Collector or Source of Material	Comments (date in brackets, if any gives acquisition period).
Lepidoptera	15 drawers	? J. W. Douglas	This collection needs researching by a specialist. Smith's are mainly in the Tenthredinidae. We know that Mason bought a 12 drawer cabinet of Smith's in 1879 but not sure whether all are incorporated here. It was supposed to contain the types of his various publications. Similarly with a collection of Chalcids of Francis Walker.
Lepidoptera	7,500	A. Ford	Mason had a collection of microlepidoptera containing Douglas' types. Not sure whether the collection without data we obtained from Mason is the same.
Lepidoptera	1,200 spms	George E. Hyde	Purchased from this dealer 1894. Reputed to be Ford's own personal collection.
Diptera	Six store boxes	F. C. Adams	Macrolepidoptera. A representative selection to form a basic series. Mainly from South Yorkshire, Doncaster area. (1936).
Diptera	25 drawers	Alfred Beaumont	New Forest Diptera purchased Stevens Sale, 1919.
Diptera	3,500 spms Mainly British some Dutch	E. Brunetti	2,000 Diptera and 100 Orthoptera and Neuroptera. Bought at Stevens Sale, 1906. Includes several rare species. Worked near York but retired to Essex where the bulk of the collection was made. Brunetti is most known for his entomological work in India. This collection was obtained from a 'man who joined up for the 1st World War and could not store them, but obtained them from Brunetti, who was living abroad at the time' according to the dealer Janson from whom they were purchased (1919).

Phylum or Order	Content	Name of Collector or Source of Material	Comments (date in brackets, if any, gives acquisition period).
Diptera	Several thousand	B. Cooke	As referred to in minor orders and Coleoptera (via Mason 1909).
Diptera	Several hundred	A. L. Montandon	Mainly from Hungary and Roumania. The B.M. (N.H.) have Hemiptera of his.
Diptera	138 spms	G. G. Verrall	Obtained via Mason. Verrall was a famous entomologist. Several of the specimens of his Tipulidae appear to be syntypes.
Vertebrates			
Aves	Mounted		The bird gallery is the work of Birmingham taxidermist, W. Bettridge.
Aves	8,000 skins	A. Hazelwood and E. Gorton	British Collection. Very comprehensive and used for several articles on subspecific variation by Hazelwood and Gorton, Bannerman, etc., (1950 - present day).
Aves	Eggs c.4,000 clutches	F. W. Peaples F. Murton J. P. Thomason	Incorporated into a single series. Also about 400 nests from Peaples. All Lancashire collectors, but eggs palaeoarchticholarctic in distribution.
Mammalia	c500 skins	Hazelwood & Gorton	British reference series.
	Skeletal material is poor.		

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Full references to all aspects of the collectors, collections and specimens would be too unwieldy. It is intended to publish full accounts of the collections group by group. The Collection of Walker's Aphids, for example, has been prepared for publication already.