

Site Collections Development Policy

Name of Museum: English Heritage – Chesters Roman Fort and

Museum Name of Governing Body: English Heritage Trust

Date on which this policy was approved by the Acquisitions, Loans and Disposals Committee: 25 September 2019

Policy review procedure: The Site Collections Development Policy is owned by the Senior Curator for the geographical area. It will be reviewed at least once every five years as part of a cyclical process managed through Registry.

Date at which this policy is due for review: September 2024

Arts Council England will be notified of any changes to the Site Collections Development Policy, and the implications of any such changes for the future of the collections.

1. Management Arrangements and scope

- 1.1. This policy covers the all museum artefacts managed by English Heritage from or associated with the site whether they are held on site, at another English Heritage site or store, or on loan to a third party. This policy does not cover artefacts associated with other English Heritage sites which are stored or displayed at this site.
- 1.2. The site and its collections form part of the National Collection of English Heritage.
- 1.3. Almost the entire collection is owned by the Trustees of the Clayton Collection, founded in 1930 by Deed of Trust to safeguard the collection from imminent sale. Since 1983 English Heritage has managed, cared for and displayed the collection on their behalf. The loan agreement with the Clayton Trustees runs up to 2036, and a copy will be submitted with the application online (LI_2010_0125).

2. Relationships to other relevant policies/plans of the organisation

- 2.1. The national *Collections Development Policy* approved by the Board of Trustees on 9 November 2016, (together with any amendments to, or replacements for, the policy approved by Trustees), apply to the site. In the event of any disagreement between this site policy and the national policy the national policy will apply.
- 2.2. Without limitation to the above all the procedures, and ethical and legal considerations set out in the national policy apply to acquisitions, disposals and loans from or to the sites collection.
- 2.3. Acquisitions outside the current stated policy will only be made in

exceptional circumstances.

3. History of the collections

- 3.1. The Clayton Collection was mostly formed in the 19th century through excavations by John Clayton (1792-1890). It comes from multiple sites along the Central Sector of Hadrian's Wall as John Clayton owned five forts and almost 20 miles of the Wall and excavated over 40 years across his land. Almost all of the material is from Hadrian's Wall, although there are some pieces from elsewhere either bought by, or gifted to, John.
- 3.2. After John's death the archaeological estate remained intact until 1930, and further small excavations on this land led to some minor additions to the collection.

4. An overview of the collections

- 4.1. The Collection database currently stands at 22,800 records, of which all bar 14 items are on long term loan. The items owned by English Heritage are a 19th century portrait of John Clayton and an 18th century bust of Hadrian and 12 photographs of Coventina's Well coins.
- 4.2. The only art items are the portrait and bust mentioned above AND photographs.
- 4.3. There is a small supporting archive, c.3000 records, which along with the reserve collection, is held in the store at Corbridge Museum.
- 4.4. The remainder of the collection is archaeology, including sculpted and inscribed stone, architectural pieces, jewellery, tools, pottery and the usual items expected at a Roman fort on Hadrian's Wall.
- 4.5. Highlights of the Collections include;
 - The large number of sculpted and inscribed religious altars and statues
 - The material from Coventina's Well, a temple and votive deposit, including 9344 coins, two rare ceramic incense burners and stone reliefs and altars
 - Painted wall plaster from Chesters
 - The bronze Modius (grain measure) from Carvoran

5. Themes and priorities for future collecting

- 5.1. The current collecting policy for the Clayton Trustees includes;
 - Material which once belonged to the collection but was separated from the main collection, particularly either during the lifetime of John Clayton, or in the House Sale of 1930.
 - Material found on the site at Chesters Roman Fort, within the Scheduled Area

5.2 English Heritage will collect items relating to the history of the site which fall outside of the Clayton Trustees collecting policy

6. Themes and priorities for rationalisation and disposal

6.1. No review/rationalization/disposal is necessary, or relevant. A PhD was completed in 2017 on the Collection which reviewed the material and so the understanding of the collection is good.

7. Collecting policies of other museums

7.1. English Heritage will take account of the collecting policies of other museums and other organisations collecting in the same or related subject areas or fields. It will consult with these organisations where conflicts of interest may arise or to define areas of specialism in order to avoid unnecessary duplication and waste of resources.

7.2. Specific reference is made to the following museums and organisations:

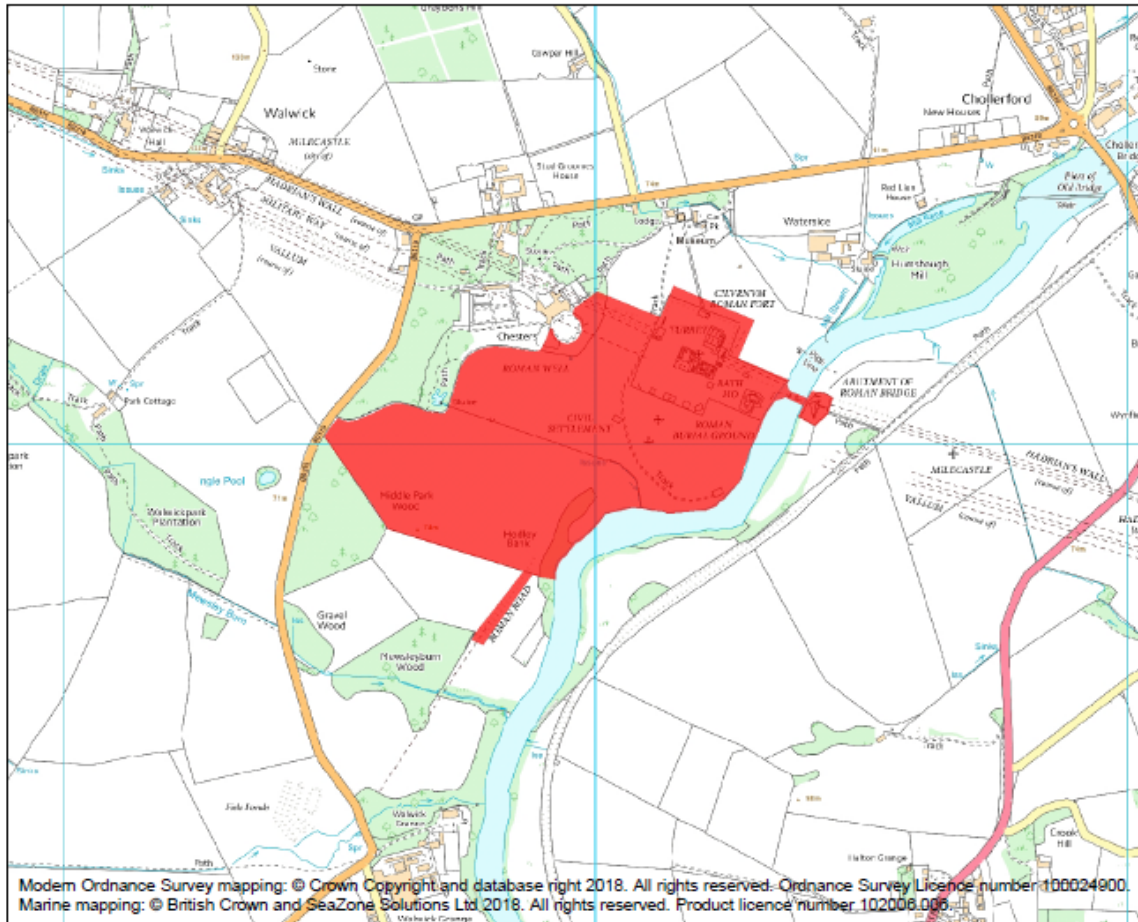
7.2.1 Trustees of the Clayton Collection

7.2.2 Great North Museum: Hancock, part of Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums

7.2.3 Society of Antiquaries of Newcastle upon Tyne

7.2.4 Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery

7.2.5 The Historic England Archives- with reference to archive material.



Heritage Category: Scheduling
List Entry No : 1010959

County:
District: Northumberland
Parish: Humshaugh, Wall

Each official record of a scheduled monument contains a map. New entries on the schedule from 1988 onwards include a digitally created map which forms part of the official record. For entries created in the years up to and including 1987 a hand-drawn map forms part of the official record. The map here has been translated from the official map and that process may have introduced inaccuracies. Copies of maps that form part of the official record can be obtained from Historic England.

This map was delivered electronically and when printed may not be to scale and may be subject to distortions. All maps and grid references are for identification purposes only and must be read in conjunction with other information in the record.

List Entry NGR: NY 90968 70009
Map Scale: 1:10000
Print Date: 29 May 2019



This is an A4 sized map and should be printed full size at A4 with no page scaling set.
Name: The Roman fort, vicus, bridge abutments and associated remains of Hadrian's Wall at Chesters in wall mile 27