

Acquisitions April 2019 – March 2020

Each year the museums, gallery and archive in Lincolnshire County Council's Cultural Service are fortunate to receive funding from a variety of sources to assist with acquiring artworks, artefacts and archival material for their collections. Details of the acquisitions made possible by external funding in the past year are summarised below.

Fine Art



Old Houses on the High Bridge, Lincoln is a watercolour painted by the artist Peter De Wint. It is a depiction of an iconic Lincoln landmark, known as the Glory Hole, with the houses standing on the stone bridge over the River Witham, flowing through the centre of Lincoln. Peter De Wint had a close association with the county, after marriage to Harriet Hilton, the sister of his close friend and fellow artist William Hilton, and he spent time in the county each year.

Acquired with assistance from the Friends of Lincoln Museums and Art Gallery.

Archaeology

The Ewerby Hoard is the largest and most valuable Civil War era coin hoard discovered in Lincolnshire. It comprises 1200 silver coins dating from the 16th and 17th Centuries, including the reigns of Edward VI, Philip and Mary, Elizabeth I, James I, and Charles I, and including English, Irish and Scottish coins. Analysis of the hoard indicates it was deposited around 1641-1643 during the turbulent years of the English Civil



War. A selection of coins, over 300, was acquired by The Collection, with the remaining being returned to the finder and landowner. The purchase was made possible with a grant from the Arts Council England/V&A Purchase Grant Fund.

A silver mount dating from the Early Medieval period (8th-9th Century) found at Leasingham, Lincolnshire by a metal detectorist. It is a hollow dome decorated in relief with an interlaced dragon/beast design with a tail. It has traces of black niello inlay. It demonstrates some of the best 'chip-carved' artwork found in the county. The mount is possibly from a strap, perhaps from a sword scabbard. The mount was purchased with the assistance of grants from the Arts Council England/V&A Purchase Grant Fund and The Headley Trust.



Grave assemblage of late 7th Century artefacts found at Maltby le Marsh.



A number of artefacts were discovered in the same area, and fragments of human bone also discovered in the plough zone strongly suggest the assemblage once furnished a high status female burial of 7th Century date. The assemblage includes fragments of a copper alloy hanging bowl and a set of three openwork hanging bowl escutcheons plus a set of three enamelled hanging bowl escutcheons, two copper alloy buckles, a Woden headed implement, a gold and garnet pendant, and a scale pan. This assemblage was purchased with assistance from grants from The Headley Trust and the Arts Council England/V&A Purchase Grant Fund.

Early Medieval period (7th Century) **gold and garnet pendant**. Found in the Horncastle area this pendant is shaped like an axe, inset with gold foil and a cut garnet. It is an example of high status jewellery from this period, and with a less common shape than other pendants from this period. Purchased with assistance from the Friends of Lincoln Museums and Art Gallery.



Numismatics



Late Iron Age coin hoard, Riseholme. A significant hoard of 282 late Iron Age gold and silver coins, discovered at Riseholme, Lincolnshire attributed to the Corieltavi tribe. The hoard was deposited between AD35-45, at the time when Claudius and his army entered Britain. The hoard is, therefore, of great importance to our understanding of political change in the East Midlands. A grant from the Arts Council

England/V&A Purchase Grant Fund assisted The Collection to acquire this important hoard.

Iron Age coins from the Bardney area

Two late Iron Age gold scyphate quarter staters and one gold stater, depicting classic Iron Age imagery such as a wild boar and stylised horse design from the Bardney area.



Iron Age coins from Stainfield

Two late Iron Age gold staters, of the Lindsey scyphate type, unique to the Corieltavi, struck 60-30 BC. Purchased with assistance from the Friends of Lincoln Museums and Art Gallery.



Three late Roman silver siliquae from 4th Century AD found in the Bardney area, two of Valens and one of Constantius II. Purchased with assistance from the Friends of Lincoln Museums and Art Gallery.



Tennyson Collection

A letter from Queen Victoria to Alfred, Lord Tennyson. In the letter, dating from 31 March 1884, Victoria writes of her 'terrible sorrows' after her youngest son Prince Leopold was killed in an accident three days earlier. A grant from The Tennyson Society assisted with the purchase of this letter, which was sold in New York.

