



YORK
MINSTER

Collections Development Policy

Produced: November 2014

Adopted: 13 November 2014

Date of Review: 31 January 2016

Name of museum: York Minster Undercroft and Treasury

Name of governing body: Chapter of York

Date on which this policy was approved by governing body: 13 November 2014

Policy review procedure: The Collections Development Policy will be published and reviewed on a three yearly cycle.

Date at which this policy is due for review: 31 January 2016

Arts Council England will be notified of any changes to the collections development policy, and the implications of any such changes for the future of collections.

1.0 Relationship to other relevant policies/plans of the organisation:

1.1. The museum's statement of purpose is:

Working to the principles of a Collections Management Framework, the primary purpose of the museum is to make the Chapter of York's objects accessible by placing them in their religious context. Through an emphasis on Christianity and the Northern Province, the museum contributes to the fulfilment of the Chapter of York's mission by promoting knowledge and understanding of York Minster's past, present and future.

1.2. The Chapter of York will ensure that both acquisition and disposal are carried out openly and with transparency.

1.3. By definition, the museum has a long-term purpose and holds collections in trust for the benefit of the public in relation to its stated objectives. The Chapter of York therefore accepts the principle that sound curatorial reasons must be established before consideration is given to any acquisition to the collection, or the disposal of any items in the Chapter of York's collection.

1.4. Acquisitions outside the current stated policy will only be made in exceptional circumstances.

1.5. The Chapter of York recognises its responsibility, when acquiring additions to its collections, to ensure that care of collections, documentation arrangements and use of collections will meet the requirements of the Museum Accreditation Standard. This includes using SPECTRUM primary procedures for collections management. It will take into account limitations on collecting imposed by such factors as staffing, storage and care of collection arrangements.

1.6. The Chapter of York will undertake due diligence and make every effort not to acquire, whether by purchase, gift, bequest or exchange, any object or specimen unless the governing body or Collections Manager is satisfied that the Chapter of York can acquire a valid title to the item in question.

1.7. In exceptional cases, disposal may be motivated principally by financial reasons. The method of disposal will therefore be by sale and the procedures outlined below will be followed. In cases where disposal is motivated by financial reasons, the governing body will not undertake disposal unless it can be demonstrated that all the following exceptional circumstances are met in full:

- the disposal will significantly improve the long-term public benefit derived from the remaining collection

- the disposal will not be undertaken to generate short-term revenue (for example to meet a budget deficit)
- the disposal will be undertaken as a last resort after other sources of funding have been thoroughly explored
- extensive prior consultation with sector bodies has been undertaken
- the item under consideration lies outside the museum's established core collection

2.0 History of the collections

The Collection of the Chapter of York has accumulated since approximately 1020AD. Most of the objects in the Collection have been acquired for liturgical use in York Minster. Additional acquisitions have been made through personal interests, archaeological excavations and development of the building. The Collection is subdivided via material. Please refer to Appendix A for the history of each of the following collections:

- Archaeological Archives
- Archives and Manuscripts
- Displaced Glass
- Furniture
- Historic Textiles
- Monuments and Statuary
- Printed Material
- Silver
- Treasures
- Worked Stone

3.0 An overview of current collections

Consisting of over 300,000 objects, the Collection contains items that date from 89BC to the present day. The Collection is divided into three areas:

- Archives
- Library
- 3D collections

Each area is headed by a professionally qualified specialist. As a cathedral collection, the objects are subject to legislation under the Care of Cathedrals Measure 2011. All work undertaken relating to care, conservation, repair or development of the cathedral fabric or collection requires permission from the Cathedral Fabric Commission for England (CFCE) or its delegated local representatives on the Fabric Advisory Committee (FAC). An overview of the current collection can be found in Appendix A, under the collections listed in section 2.0.

4.0 Themes and priorities for future collecting

Through its 2015-2020 Collections Department Forward Plan, the Chapter of York has committed to forming a coherent, relevant and sustainable collection which meets the needs of users and potential users. During 2015 the Chapter of York will undertake collection profiling to understand the quantity, quality and usage of each collection. This information will be used to refine the core purpose of the Collection in relation to the Statement of Purpose. It will also prioritise recommendations to inform the Collections Development Policy and future programmes of work. Profiling will be complete by 31 October 2015 and a review of the Collections

Development Policy will occur by 31 January 2016. Themes and priorities for collecting during the period November 2014 to January 2016 will be limited to activity described as business as usual. Detail of this activity can be found in Appendix B.

5.0 Themes and priorities for rationalisation and disposal

5.1 The Chapter of York does not intend to dispose of collections during the period covered by this policy.

Through its 2015-2020 Collections Department Forward Plan, the Chapter of York has committed to developing a rationalisation project to form a coherent, relevant, sustainable collection that meets the needs of users and potential users. Planning and timetabling of this project will form part of the recommendations presented after collection profiling activity is complete in October 2015, and will form part of the review of the Collections Development Policy by 31 January 2016. Themes and priorities for rationalisation and disposal during the period November 2014 to January 2016 will therefore be limited to activity required for legal, safety or care and conservation reasons including:

- Spoliation
- Radiation
- Infestation
- Repatriation

6.0 Legal and ethical framework for acquisition and disposal of items

6.1 The Chapter of York recognises its responsibility to work within the parameters of the Museum Association Code of Ethics when considering acquisition and disposal.

7.0 Collecting policies of other museums

7.1 The Chapter of York will take account of the collecting policies of other museums and other organisations collecting in the same or related areas or subject 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:

- Other Cathedral collections, particularly St Paul's and Winchester
- York Archaeological Trust
- York Civic Trust
- York Museums Trust
- The University of York

7.3 Joint Acquisitions between the Chapter of York and the University of York will be considered under the York Minster Library Partnership Agreement.

8.0 Archival holdings

- 8.1** York Minster Archives is an Approved Place of Deposit under section 4(1) of the Public Records Act (1958). It was appointed by The National Archives (TNA) and is inspected against TNA's *Standard for Record Repositories*.

9.0 Acquisition

- 9.1** To agree an acquisition the relevant curator must prepare a business case, with sources of any required funding, to present at Collections Group. If it is felt an item will significantly enhance the core collection, a proposal will be submitted to the Chapter of York. Final approval for acquisition is given by the Chapter of York.
- 9.2** The Chapter of York will not acquire any object or specimen unless it is satisfied that the object or specimen has not been acquired in, or exported from, its country of origin (or any intermediate country in which it may have been legally owned) in violation of that country's laws. (For the purposes of this paragraph 'country of origin' includes the United Kingdom).
- 9.3** In accordance with the provisions of the UNESCO 1970 Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property, which the UK ratified with effect from November 1 2002, and the Dealing in Cultural Objects (Offences) Act 2003, the Chapter of York will reject any items that have been illicitly traded. The Chapter of York will be guided by the national guidance on the responsible acquisition of cultural property issued by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport in 2005.

10.0 Human remains

- 10.1** As the Chapter of York holds human remains, it will follow the procedures in the 'Guidance for the care of human remains in museums' issued by DCMS in 2005.

11.0 Biological and geological material

- 11.1** So far as biological and geological material is concerned, the Chapter of York will not acquire by any direct or indirect means any specimen that has been collected, sold or otherwise transferred in contravention of any national or international wildlife protection or natural history conservation law or treaty of the United Kingdom or any other country, except with the express consent of an appropriate outside authority.

12.0 Archaeological material

- 12.1** The Chapter of York will not acquire archaeological material (including excavated ceramics) in any case where the Chapter of York or Collections Manager has any suspicion that the circumstances of their recovery involved a failure to follow the appropriate legal procedures.

- 12.2** In England, Wales and Northern Ireland the procedures include reporting finds to the landowner or occupier of the land and to the proper authorities in the case of possible treasure (i.e. the Coroner for Treasure) as set out in the Treasure Act 1996 (as amended by the Coroners & Justice Act 2009).

13.0 Exceptions

- 13.1** Any exceptions to the above clauses will only be because the Chapter of York is:
- acting as an externally approved repository of last resort for material of local (UK) origin
 - acting with the permission of authorities with the requisite jurisdiction in the country of origin

In these cases the Chapter of York will be open and transparent in the way it makes decisions and will act only with the express consent of an appropriate outside authority. The Chapter of York will document when these exceptions occur.

14.0 Spoliation

- 14.1** The Chapter of York will use the statement of principles ‘Spoliation of Works of Art during the Nazi, Holocaust and World War II period’, issued for non-national museums in 1999 by the Museums and Galleries Commission.

15.0 The Repatriation and Restitution of objects and human remains

- 15.1** The Chapter of York, acting on the advice of the Collections Manager, may take a decision to return human remains (unless covered by the ‘Guidance for the care of human remains in museums’ issued by DCMS in 2005), objects or specimens to a country or people of origin. The Chapter of York will take such decisions on a case by case basis; within its legal position and taking into account all ethical implications and available guidance. This will mean that the procedures described in 16.1-5 will be followed but the remaining procedures are not appropriate.
- 15.2** The disposal of human remains from museums in England, Northern Ireland and Wales will follow the procedures in the ‘Guidance for the care of human remains in museums’.

16.0 Disposal procedures

- 16.1** All disposals will be undertaken with reference to the SPECTRUM Primary Procedures on disposal.
- 16.2** The Chapter of York will confirm that it is legally free to dispose of an item. Agreements on disposal made with donors will also be taken into account.
- 16.3** When disposal of a museum object is being considered, the Chapter of York will establish if it was acquired with the aid of an external funding organisation. In such cases, any conditions attached to the original grant will be followed. This may include repayment of the original grant and a proportion of the proceeds if the item is disposed of by sale.

- 16.4** When disposal is motivated by curatorial reasons the procedures outlined below will be followed and the method of disposal may be by gift, sale, exchange or as a last resort - destruction.
- 16.5** The decision to dispose of material from the collections will be taken by the Chapter of York only after full consideration of the reasons for disposal. Other factors including public benefit, the implications for the Chapter of York's collections and collections held by museums and other organisations collecting the same material or in related fields will be considered. Expert advice will be obtained and the views of stakeholders such as donors, researchers, local and source communities and others served by the museum will also be sought.
- 16.6** A decision to dispose of a specimen or object, whether by gift, exchange, sale or destruction (in the case of an item too badly damaged or deteriorated to be of any use for the purposes of the collections or for reasons of health and safety), will be the responsibility of the Chapter of York acting on the advice of the Collections Manager and any other specialist whose advice may be sought and not of the Collections Manager acting alone. The decision would be subject to approval from:
- The Fabric Advisory Committee, for items designated 'Of Interest' on the Cathedral Inventory
 - The Cathedral Fabric Commission for England, for items designated 'Outstanding' on the Cathedral Inventory
- 16.7** Once a decision to dispose of material in the Collection has been taken, priority will be given to retaining it within the public domain. It will therefore be offered in the first instance, by gift or sale, directly to other Church of England related bodies or Accredited Museums likely to be interested in its acquisition.
- 16.8** If the material is not acquired by any Accredited museum to which it was offered as a gift or for sale, then the museum community at large will be advised of the intention to dispose of the material normally through a notice on the Museum Association's Find an Object web listing service, an announcement in the Museums Association's Museums Journal or in other specialist publications and websites where appropriate.
- 16.9** The announcement relating to gift or sale will indicate the number and nature of specimens or objects involved, and the basis on which the material will be transferred to another institution. Preference will be given to expressions of interest from other Accredited Museums. A period of at least two months will be allowed for an interest in acquiring the material to be expressed. At the end of this period, if no expressions of interest have been received, the Chapter of York may consider disposing of the material to other interested individuals and organisations giving priority to organisations in the public domain.
- 16.10** Any monies received by the Chapter of York from the disposal of items will be applied solely and directly for the benefit of the collections. This normally means the purchase of further acquisitions. In exceptional cases, improvements relating to the care of collections in order to meet or exceed Accreditation requirements relating to the risk of damage to and deterioration of the collections may be justifiable. Any monies received in compensation for the damage, loss or destruction of items will be applied in the same way. Advice on those cases where the monies are intended to be used for the care of collections will be sought from the Arts Council England.
- 16.11** The proceeds of a sale will be allocated so it can be demonstrated that they are spent in a manner compatible with the requirements of the Accreditation standard. Money must be restricted to the long-term sustainability, use and development of the collection.
- 16.12** Full records will be kept of all decisions on disposals and the items involved and proper arrangements made for the preservation and/or transfer, as appropriate, of the documentation relating to the items concerned, including photographic records where practicable in accordance with SPECTRUM Procedure on deaccession and disposal.

Disposal by exchange

- 16.13** The nature of disposal by exchange means that the Chapter of York will not necessarily be in a position to exchange the material with another Accredited museum. The Chapter of York will therefore ensure that issues relating to accountability and impartiality are carefully considered to avoid undue influence on its decision-making process.
- 16.13.1** In cases where the Chapter of York wishes for sound curatorial reasons to exchange material directly with Accredited or non-Accredited museums, with other organisations or with individuals, the procedures in paragraphs 16.1-5 will apply.
- 16.13.2** If the exchange is proposed to be made with a specific Accredited museum, other Accredited museums which collect in the same or related areas will be directly notified of the proposal and their comments will be requested.
- 16.13.3** If the exchange is proposed with a non-Accredited museum, with another type of organisation or with an individual, the Chapter of York will place a notice on the Museum Association's Find an Object web listing service, or make an announcement in the Museums Association's Museums Journal or in other specialist publications and websites, where appropriate.
- 16.13.4** Both the notification and announcement must provide information on the number and nature of the specimens or objects involved both in the Chapter of York's collection and those intended to be acquired in exchange. A period of at least two months must be allowed for comments to be received. At the end of this period, the Chapter of York must consider the comments before a final decision on the exchange is made.

Disposal by destruction

- 16.14** If it is not possible to dispose of an object through transfer or sale, the Chapter of York may decide to destroy it.
- 16.15** It is acceptable to destroy material of low intrinsic significance (duplicate mass-produced articles or common specimens which lack significant provenance) where no alternative method of disposal can be found.
- 16.16** Destruction is also an acceptable method of disposal in cases where an object is in extremely poor condition, has high associated health and safety risks or is part of an approved destructive testing request identified in an organisation's research policy.
- 16.17** Where necessary, specialist advice will be sought to establish the appropriate method of destruction. Health and safety risk assessments will be carried out by trained staff where required.
- 16.18** The destruction of objects should be witnessed by the Collections Manager. In circumstances where this is not possible, e.g. the destruction of controlled substances, a police certificate should be obtained and kept in the relevant object history file.

Taken from *York Minster Conservation Management Plan, Volume 1, section 2.14*

Archaeological Archives

This collection is defined as materials (whether finds or written records) arising as a result of programmes of archaeological intervention. As a result, the 'archaeological archive' contains quantities of material that might otherwise be grouped under the subheadings of other collections, including finds of architectural stone, funerary monuments or displaced glass. Though some material was excavated before 1900, the vast majority dates from postwar programmes. The finds collection is currently stored in:

- The South West Bell Tower of the cathedral
- The Western Chair Store below the cathedral
- The 'Processing' room in the Old Palace

The written records are stored in the Archives Strongroom in the Old Palace.

Very limited excavations were undertaken by antiquarians and the simply curious in the 18th and 19th centuries. The most significant of these was John Browne, whose work after the 1829 fire in the Quire uncovered the Norman column stumps visible today in the Western Crypt. Examples of items from these earlier excavations include:

- The Norman Doomstone unearthed in Dean's Park in 1904
- The York Virgin found built into the East End, defaced and turned, during repair work following the 1829 fire

The two main programmes of archaeological intervention have been the major programme of investigation in 1967-73, and the excavation at the Old Palace in 1997. The bulk of the archaeological archive was created during the rescue excavations of 1967-73. This generated a sometimes haphazard archive of plans, finds, photographs and written records; in particular, the contextual information which have been assigned to the collection do not conform to current archaeological methodologies. Recent work by the York Archaeological Trust (YAT) focussed on the 11th and 12th century finds, has included the creation of a digital catalogue documenting each contextual provenance assigned to the 11th century or later (a total of 1114), and the materials assigned to it; integration of records relating to this period into YAT's database is ongoing. Some indexing of ceramics has been carried out, detailing sherd-by-herd the medieval ceramic from within the cathedral. The material from earlier strata has not been subject to this level of detailed study.

Further archives were created during the excavation at the Old Palace in 1997, and subsequent programmes of investigation and recording have also added to this archive. The physical archive (consisting animal bone, ceramics, stone objects, samples, slag, glass, metalwork, plaster, wood and architectural stone) has been deposited with the Chapter. The documentary record is currently retained by FAS, awaiting publication in early 2015.

Recently, archaeological excavations have centred on preparation for major works, including the lift pit for the Undercroft lift and the piazza excavation. Object finds were minimal but included a charnel burial which adds to the Chapter of York's skeletal assemblages.

Archives and Manuscripts

This collection consists of archives and collections of manuscripts, illustrations and photographs. The vast majority is held in the purpose-built Alcuin Wing of the Old Palace. At the core of the Archives' holdings are the archives of the Chapter of York and its related bodies (such as the Vicars Choral and the York Glaziers Trust). The Chapter's archives survive patchily from the mid-12th century, but are relatively full from the mid-14th century onwards. They include records of their ecclesiastical and secular jurisdictions, and of the considerable estates. Archives from more recent centuries are more complete and include, for example, records and drawings associated with fabric repairs and the construction of buildings in the Precinct. They now also include digital records.

In the 1960s the Chapter considered depositing the archive at the Borthwick Institute for Historical Research of the University of York. Diocesan records were sent there, including the Diocesan registry formerly housed at York Minster. In addition, the Borthwick received from the Church Commissioners the papers relating to the estates of the Chapter and Vicars Choral, which had been removed from the Minster as part of the reform of cathedral finances in the 1840s.

The manuscript collections consist of 101 medieval manuscripts, many of which are illustrated, and some 800 further manuscripts of varying date and importance, including texts of unpublished essays and antiquarian notes. The most significant early work is the late 10th/early 11th century York Gospels, the only survivor from the manuscript collections of the Anglo-Saxon minster. At least two of the medieval manuscripts were created for the Minster, the so-called Vicars Choral tables, but most have been either given or purchased. This process began with the gift of the Treasurer John Neuton in 1414. With the exception of one recent acquisition, the medieval manuscripts are catalogued in Ker and Piper, *Medieval Manuscripts in British Libraries* (vols. 4-5). Other significant holdings include 250 volumes of manuscript music.

The illustration collections include 35 folders of biographical prints, c.250 folders of Yorkshire topographical prints, and 66 (individual) non-Yorkshire topographical prints; these derive largely from the Hailstone Collection.

The photographs comprise a number of collections, in a variety of formats, including the Evelyn Collection of over 3,000 glass plate lantern slides of York in the 19th and early 20th centuries. This has been housed in the Archives for its owner, the Yorkshire Architectural and York Archaeological Society, since 1999. Others include Green's slides of works at the Minster; the 'main photographic collection' of York Minster and other churches; and many others relating to the life, collections and recent history of the Minster.

Displaced Glass

This collection consists of glass which has been removed from the Minster's windows in the course of restoration work over the last hundred years, particularly during interventions undertaken under the direction of Dean Milner-White (1941-1963). Another large proportion of the material is 12th century glass which was reused in the 14th century Nave before being removed in the 1970s. This is particularly significant. Further material has been recovered as part of the more recent restoration of the St William Window, completed in 2007, and is ongoing during the restoration of the Great East Window.

Furniture

This collection includes clocks and bells. Most of the items were created or adapted specifically for the Minster and remain in use. As such they are distributed around the Minster and Precinct buildings.

The most lavishly furnished part of the Minster is the Quire. Here the organ case, screens, stalls and other furniture provided by Sir Robert Smirke following the 1829 fire add a magnificence to the interior that nothing elaborate would give. The furnishings at the East End of the Quire – the High Altar and other furniture designed by Charles Peers with the help of the craftsmen, Laurence Turner and Robert Thompson – are of lesser quality but still make a significant contribution to this part of the building.

The reredos in the Lady Chapel, designed by GF Bodley with three panels carved by Laurence Turner, is a fine piece of work. The furnishings belonging to this chapel include the stalls designed by Sir Charles Peers during his Surveyorship of the Minster in the 1920s and made by Robert Thompson. These are set between the piers of the stone screen that encloses the Quire and are fine examples of late Arts and Crafts woodwork. The other important fitting at the East End is the reredos in St Stephen's Chapel, designed by GE Street incorporating a terracotta panel by George Tinworth.

Finally the fittings designed by Sir Walter Tapper when he formed the memorial chapel for the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry deserve a mention. It was he who enclosed this space with tall iron screens based on those of the

Capilla Real at Granada, introduced the Italianate altar and designed the communion rails and kneeling desks. Then, in conjunction with the art metalworker, William Bainbridge Reynolds, he designed the iron cross and candlesticks for the altar. He and Reynolds were also responsible for many of the monuments. As a result the chapel has a unity that should be retained. The same might be said of Tapper's other creation, the Chapel of St George in the South Transept.

The fires of 1829 and 1840 destroyed nearly all medieval and post medieval furnishings. The medieval furniture that does survive includes:

- A 13th century cope chest
- Two remaining 15th century stalls from the Quire (now in the Zouche)
- The 'Coronation' chair used when Archbishops are enthroned
- Three 15th century chests
- A number of 16th and 17th century chairs, English and Continental
- Two 17th century dole cupboards
- 16th century Italian cabinet
- 17th century brass eagle lectern in the Quire

There have been clocks at the Minster since the Middle Ages. By the 14th century there was a mass dial on a buttress of the South Nave. In 1370, a payment of £13 6s 8d was made to John Clarburg for a new 'clock' and a century later a large clock bell was removed to the South West Tower where a new chiming machine was installed.

The Hindley clock was re-sited to the east wall of the North Transept in 1891, and altered with reused tubes in place of bells that, at Dean Purey-Cust's express instructions, strike three minutes early to ensure the punctuality of services. An unusual remote pendulum was installed in 1928.

The most unusual timepiece in the Minster is the Astronomical Clock dedicated in 1955 to RAF airmen who have their lives whilst operating from bases in the North East during the Second World War. The mechanism is by Dr R d'E Atkinson and the case is by Sir Albert Richardson.

The Minster's bells have been subject to numerous campaigns of renewal and alteration. In the late 18th century, the 15th century peal of 12 bells was replaced by 10, with five of the medieval bells transferred to St Michael's Spurriergate. The largest of these bells dates from 1466.

The 18th century bells were destroyed by the 1840 fire. The 'Beckwith Twelve' were installed after this. 'Great Peter' was brought into use in 1845, and was the largest bell ever cast in the country. The Beckwith Twelve were recast in 1923 and Great Peter in 1927. Today it forms part of a set with six 'quarter hour' bells cast to mark the Queen Mother's centenary in 2000.

The 'Nelson chime' of 11 bells was transferred to York Minster in 1989 from the redundant church of St Mary in Nelson, Lancashire, for which they had been cast by John Taylor. In April 2008, 24 bells were cast at the Loughborough bell foundry of Taylor, Eayre and Smith.

Historic Textiles

This collection includes amices, banners, burses, carpets, stoles, tunics, copes, gloves, kneelers, cushions, palls and regimental colours. The majority date from the 19th and 20th centuries, though there are significant pieces from earlier centuries. However, these are few in number. The Minster Inventory of 1510 recorded 475 vestments alone; the inventory of 1616 only 27 items in total. Today only six fragments of pre-Reformation textiles survive: one set was discovered during the excavation of the tomb of Walter de Grey in the 1960s and includes two tablet-woven bands and the remains of a cushion; the second set comprises three fragments almost certainly originating from 12 sets of hangings for the Quire presented to the Minster by John Scrope between 1426 and 1455.

Gifts of textiles recorded in the 17th century include a 'frontclothe' and canopy given by Charles I in 1625, a velvet bound bible and prayer book of 1633, and a large quantity of textiles from Archbishop Lamplugh (1688-1691).

Vestments and frontals were used in the 18th and early 19th centuries and no vestments native to the Minster (excluding those of Walter de Grey) survive from before 1850. In 1858 an altar frontal for the High Altar was the first new textile installed for centuries, amid furious accusations of popery. Vestments began to reappear from the late 19th century, with major purchases by Dean Milner-White in the 20th century. He sought historic fabrics to create them. He also built up a collection of oriental carpets which today can be found all around the Minster and in some Precinct buildings.

Monuments and Statuary

The collection of funerary monuments ranges in date from the 13th to the 21st centuries. Among the medieval monuments, the earliest, and by far the most important, is that of Archbishop Walter de Grey who died in 1255. This has been described as the 'most shrine-like 13th century tomb anywhere in Europe'. Its innovative form coupled with the high quality of its workmanship makes it one of the finest medieval tombs in England.

Two other medieval monuments, those of the Archbishops who succeeded Walter de Grey, Archbishop de Boville and Archbishop de Ludham, also have a shrine-like feature. Both originally had 'table-tops' supported by an arcade of small columns. This would have allowed the devout to crawl into the space beneath the table in order to get closer to the buried remains. In St Nicholas Chapel is the impressive canopied tomb of Archbishop William Greenfield. The tomb chest belonging to this still retains a brass effigy of the archbishop that is one of the earliest in England. The later medieval tombs include that of Archbishop de Bowet, between the Lady Chapel and All Saints' Chapel, which has been heavily restored, the much decayed cadaver figure formerly attributed to Haxey, but now unknown, and the alabaster effigy, said to be Prince William of Hatfield, in a niche in the South Quire Aisle.

The Minster's collection of Tudor monuments is of lesser interest. The late 15th century wall tomb traditionally held to contain the remains of Archbishop Roger Pont L'Evêque who died in 1181, was extensively restored in the Victoria period. The quality of the stone carving of Archbishop Thomas Savage's large Perpendicular monument in the North Quire Aisle is high, but the design is old fashioned. The finest of the early Stuart monuments is that of Anne Bennet carved by Nicholas Stone. Pevsner describes it succinctly as "small, of alabaster; excellent". A dramatic change of style occurs at the time of the Restoration when Baroque art and architecture reach England. The Minster has three good, but not outstanding, monuments made in the workshop of Grinling Gibbons all commemorating archbishops: Sterne, Lamplugh and Dolben.

In the Romantic or late Georgian period the best monuments in the Minster were supplied by the Fishers, a local firm of stonemasons. These include Sir George Savile in the North Quire Aisle, Dr John Dealtry, Sir Thomas Davenport and members of the Sterne family. In the Victorian period, Dean Dumcombe's tomb, designed by GE Street with the effigy carved by Sir Joseph Edgar Boehm, and Archbishop Thomson's tomb designed by GF Bodley with the effigy carved by Sir John Hamo Thornycroft are described as exceptional quality.

Monuments introduced in the 20th century seem rather dull. However, the bronze and marble memorial to Major Herbert Augustine Carter, VC, designed by the Australian Sculptor, Sir Bertram Mackennel is unusual and arresting.

Printed Material

The library amassed during the time of Alcuin, for which York was famed throughout Europe, had disappeared entirely by the time Archbishop Thomas of Bayeux began his Minster in 1080. Little is known of the cathedral's library for the next three centuries save that it was not one of the eleven Yorkshire libraries mentioned in Henry of Kirkstead's 14th century *Catalogus scriptorium ecclesiae*. It is clear from the terms of the bequest of 40 manuscripts from the Treasurer John Neuton in 1414 that he was effectively refounding it. The next significant donation was that of the library of Archbishop Tobie Matthew by his widow Francis in 1628. Consisting of 'the largest private library in England' at the time, its 3,000 volumes transformed the standing of the Minster Library. By further accessions it continued to grow. The most important include the Marmaduke Fothergill collection in the 18th century, and the extensive and unique collection of Yorkshire material bequeathed by the antiquarian Edward Hailstone in 1890, total over 10,000 items.

York Minster Library is the largest cathedral library in the country with holdings numbering over 100,000, including:

- 115 volumes of incunabulae from the last quarter of the 15th century.
- The largest rare-book collection, which consists predominantly of the 25,000+ books printed before 1801.
- The Yorkshire Collection, totalling some 20,000 books and pamphlets, is the most comprehensive collection of earlier material on Yorkshire history, architecture, culture and places.
- The music collection includes unique printed material including a copy of Byrd's Gradualia (1605).
- The General Collection which includes works of theology, art history, stained glass, history literature and religion.

Silver

Medieval plate was stripped from the Minster during the Reformation, and the present collection –accumulated through bequests and gifts – dates from the 16th century onwards, and predominantly the 19th and 20th centuries. Milner-White was a particularly important collector, as part of his mission to restore the splendour of the Minster. The most recent gift, from the Friends of the Minster in 2000, is the Millennium Silver designed by:

- Jocelyn Burton
- Gerald Benney
- Michael Lloyd
- Lord Kelly
- Toby Russell
- Alex Brogden

The Minster also holds collections of plate from parish churches of the northern province. Some of these pieces are of considerable antiquity and significance. They are held here for security and to enable them to be on public display.

Treasures

The Minster has always had a concept of 'treasures'. In the medieval world the most important treasures were the relics of saints, such as St William of York. They are recorded in an inventory of 1510, but most have vanished as a consequence of the Reformation, Civil War, liturgical change, fire and time. By the 18th and 19th centuries treasures were no longer venerated as objects of spiritual or cultural power; items such as the effigial head Archbishop Thomas Rotherham were now mere 'curios'.

The contemporary meaning of 'Treasures' is a highly specific to those objects identified as Outstanding on the cathedral inventory. They include medieval tiles, jugs, an ivory horn, a wooden mazer bowl and date from the Roman occupation to the modern day. The most significant is the Horn of Ulf, given by Ulf Thoroldsson in the early 11th century to seal his gift of estates to the Chapter of York.

Worked Stone

Historically, stone and timber removed from the Minster during repair and restoration works was retained or disposed of on an ad hoc basis. Significant assemblages exist in the gardens around the Precinct, often built into rockeries; other stone was routinely sold off from the Stoneyard in auctions which raised funds for future work. The remains of St William's Shrine were given to the Yorkshire Philosophical Society around 1900.

Of the approximately 250 pieces in the collection, fragments include:

- An unprovenanced Green Man
- A figure of St William, previously in the niche over the door of St William's College
- Six angels from the old High Altar reredos
- 12th century Romanesque sculpture from the West Towers

Appendix B

The themes for collecting cover the period November 2014 to January 2016.

Archaeological Archive

There are no planned excavations for this collecting period. Collecting will therefore be restricted to:

- Handover of the 2012 archive of written records
- Unplanned exploratory excavations e.g. utilities

Archives and Manuscripts

There are no planned acquisitions for this collection during the collecting period. Material with a direct association with the Minster will be considered if it becomes available from private collections or archives.

Displaced Glass

Work will continue on the Great East Window during the collecting period. Additions to this collection are therefore possible as a result of this work. Items will be assessed for artistic, rarity, local and national importance.

Furniture

There are no planned acquisitions for this collection during the collecting period.

Historic Textiles

Acquisitions during the collecting period will be predominantly by commission from the York Minster Broderers and will focus on “everyday” vestments and altar furnishings. All acquisition designs will be considered by the Fabric Advisory Committee to gain expert advice on design, material selection and execution.

Monuments and Statuary

Planned acquisitions during the collecting period are floor slabs to commemorate donors of substantial gifts to the cathedral. Design and execution will be subject to approval by the Fabric Advisory Committee.

Printed Material

Acquisitions to the collection during the collecting period will be modern items that complement the historic collection. Additions are made via purchase or donation. Replacements for damaged printed material will be sought when its reacquisition enhances the integrity of the collection and efficiency of York Minster Library.

Silver

There are no planned acquisitions during the collecting period. Additions will result from direct approaches made from parishes and will be considered on a case by case basis to determine relevance to the core collection.

Treasures

There are no planned acquisitions for this collection during the collecting period.

Worked Stone

Any material which is removed from the building during routine restoration may be considered for entry into the collection. In addition to the age of the material being considered, the principal criteria for its acceptance include aesthetic, craftsmanship, technological merit and decay mechanisms. Additions to this collection are expected to be regular and frequent, in line with ongoing work on the building, especially the East Front.