

2018 Funded Cataloguing Grants

Berwick Records Office (Northumberland Archives)

Twixt Thistle and Rose: Unlocking Berwick Borough's Archives

Until 1974 the Borough of Berwick-upon-Tweed administered its own affairs separate from Northumberland. This created a distinct series of records chronicling the unique history of a very independent border town from the early 1500s which are kept at Berwick Record Office which operates as part of Northumberland Archives. Twixt Thistle and Rose : Unlocking Berwick Borough's Archives is an ambitious project to recatalogue this core collection and amalgamate later uncatalogued deposits of pre 1974 records including Planning and Quarter Sessions records to form a composite online catalogue and highlight the hidden gems it contains.

Cllr Homer, Portfolio Holder for Culture and Leisure at Northumberland County Council says

"This grant is great news for Berwick and the Record Office. The project will enable this nationally important archive collection to be more accessible to all and increase knowledge of its existence worldwide. It will also form part of a wider outreach project to engage local people with Berwick's history in the past 500 years. "

British Motor Industry Heritage Trust

The British Leyland Collection: The Art of Selling

The Archive Collections of the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust comprise the most significant body of material relating to the social, industrial and product history of the British motor industry in existence. Our *Archives Revealed* project, entitled 'The Art of Selling', is based on a unique collection of Sales and Press Material originating from British Leyland. It is a fine example of an esoteric body of material which should not have survived, and yet its preservation opens up a rich vein of social and industrial history which has wide appeal. This funding will enable us to recruit a professional Archivist and a small team of specialist volunteers who will sort and re-package the Collection. A comprehensive electronic catalogue will be created and made available online on *Discovery*, opening the Collection up to public view for the first time. Running in parallel will be a social media campaign, new outreach programmes, and the forging of new relationships with community groups.

Tim Bryan, Head of Collections for the British Motor Industry Heritage Trust said: "We are delighted that this generous support from Archives Revealed will help us unlock the stories hidden in our nationally-significant archive collections, helping people to learn more about the social and industrial history of the British motor industry and its impact on local communities."

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Media Archive for Central England

Midland Community Video Collection: Rewind - Playback

The 'Rewind – Playback' project celebrates hidden voices, revealing how the democratising potential of video was realised by diverse communities across the Midlands from the late 1970s.

Over the next year, the Media Archive for Central England (MACE), the regional public film archive for the Midlands, will catalogue its Midlands Community Video collection, comprising some 1,500 obsolete and at-risk videotapes. Originally produced by individuals and collectives involved in a range of activities from trade unionism to community activism, independent local television and creative projects, the collection both tells the important story of regional independent media and highlights a key moment of technological change internationally with the emergence and subsequent wholesale adoption of videotape technologies by professionals and amateurs. Part of an alternate media movement, the videos record the attempts made across the Midlands to give voice to the marginalised through their own adoption, use of and interaction with the new technology.

To maximise access to the newly-catalogued collection, MACE will produce an online catalogue and digital resources, and will work with partners to deliver screenings.

Sue Malden, Chair of MACE's Board of Trustees said, "Videotape collections are hugely at risk and we are delighted that Archives Revealed are recognising this critical area of work for MACE that holds significant benefits for users in revealing some of the most richly diverse elements of its collection."

University of St Andrews

Hidden Burgh: Restoring Cupar's place at the heart of Fife

The project will catalogue the records of the administration of the burgh of Cupar, Fife, 1364-1975, created by the local administration in the course of its business. One of the six medieval royal burghs of Fife, Cupar was the county town until 1975 and the home of the sheriff court of Fife from 1213 to 2014. The collection is held by the Special Collections Division of the University of St Andrews Library under the charge and superintendence of the Keeper of the Records of Scotland. The project will also engage the research community and wider public. The project will work with community and special interest groups in support of initiatives to revive civic pride in Cupar's history and help with plans for regeneration of the town centre. The archive

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will also be assessed for conservation needs and preventive preservation measures highlighted and put in place.

'I am delighted that the University of St Andrews Library has been awarded funding from the 'Archives Revealed' grant funding programme run by The National Archives and The Pilgrim Trust. The project will allow us to fulfil a long-held wish to make available for research the records of this important market town just a few miles from St Andrews. We await with anticipation what evidence of turbulence, hardship and prosperity might be revealed by the records of this bustling little town set in the rich farmland of North East Fife.' John MacColl, University Librarian and Director of Library Services, University of St Andrews.

Staffordshire Record Office

The 'Bawdy Courts' of Lichfield: scandal laid bare, strife uncovered and beautiful buildings revealed.

The Lichfield 'Bawdy' Courts Project will widen access to the history of people and places across the Midlands, through cataloguing and promoting vastly under-exploited church court records. As archivists, volunteers and academic partners work together, this hugely important collection will be revealed to new audiences. At its heart this project has a straightforward outcome: a catalogue of a major series of highly engaging and information-rich court case papers, 1534-1900. The court papers reveal the voices of ordinary people, telling the story in their own words with detail which may be informative, amusing, or even scurrilous, about the dispute and disputants, hence the contemporary nickname 'bawdy courts'. The completed catalogue will identify case-type, names, occupations, places and key features of the cases. Importantly, the project will facilitate an ambitious engagement plan, ensuring that the project has a significantly wider impact. The output will include easy-to-use online indexes for family historians and community groups; a 'Bawdy Courts Blog' and a collaborative local history research project. In addition, the cataloguing project will offer development opportunities for our staff and volunteers which will enable us to consolidate and embed the former Lichfield Record Office collections at Staffordshire Record Office.

'This is an exciting time for Staffordshire's cultural development as we work towards creating the Staffordshire History Centre. The Archives Revealed grant offers us a unique opportunity to bring together an enthusiastic team to deliver a wide-ranging, exciting project that will be of lasting benefit to the Council and its community and support the development of the History Centre'. Janene Cox OBE, Commissioner for Culture, Communities and Rural County

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Derbyshire Record Office

The Franklin Papers: Discovering Franklin

In 1845 Sir John Franklin led a disastrous expedition to discover the North West Passage. The disappearance and ultimate fate of the ships and crew has inspired countless artists, writers and dramatists, and the recent discovery of his ships in the Canadian Arctic continues to fuel interest in Franklin and his expedition.

The Discovering Franklin project will create a detailed catalogue of the archive of Franklin and his family to reveal Franklin's story and explore the women around him: his daughter Eleanor and his wives Eleanor Anne Porden and Jane Griffin.

Derbyshire County Council Leader and Cabinet Member for Strategic Leadership, Culture and Tourism Councillor Barry Lewis said "Derbyshire County Council holds archive collections with global significance and is delighted to receive this grant which will enable our important collections to be used and enjoyed by many more people around the world."

Aerospace Bristol

'Out of the Aircraft Hold': The History of Aerospace Companies

Aerospace Bristol tells the remarkable story of the Bristol Aeroplane Company founded in 1910 in Filton, North Bristol, that grew to employ hundreds of thousands of people and shape the region that is today a hub of aerospace engineering and the birthplace of Concorde. The museum holds a number of nationally significant early company records and technical documents relating to aircraft and engines that have never been seen before, previously hidden away in company archives without ever being properly documented or catalogued. The project will reveal more of the Aerospace Bristol story, one that is close to the hearts of many people in this region and this hugely significant global industry.

With the help of the Archives Revealed grant a Project Archivist will now be able to catalogue a hugely significant part of the archive, a collection comprising hundreds of technical records, historic advertising brochures and fascinating correspondence and notes. The Archivist will run discovery sessions for visitors and researchers to uncover the wealth of material within the archive as part of Aerospace Bristol's learning programme.

Much of the archival material has, until now, lain undiscovered, the potential unrealised. The boxes have basic titles giving little indication of the rich documentation held within, the project will ensure that the rich information that is contained within will

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be an invaluable resource for researchers and those interested in the many companies that put Filton, Bristol, on the world engineering and aerospace map.

“This generous grant from Archives Revealed will allow us to catalogue a wealth of material within an archive that has never before been used by the public for research. Cataloguing will allow us to make the most of the rich archive for the benefit of our visitors, future exhibitions and for researchers. I’m very much looking forward to seeing the treasures and untold stories that will be uncovered.” Zoe Watson, Archive Manager

Explore York Libraries and Archives

City of York Engineers and Architects Drawings: On The Drawing Board

‘On the Drawing Board’ is a 14 month project to begin to catalogue the collection of Engineers’ and Architects’ drawings created by City of York Council and its predecessor bodies between the early 19th century and the late 20th century. The cataloguing grant will allow the appointment of a Project Archivist to lead the project, working in conjunction with a team of volunteers. The collection extensively documents the history of York’s built environment post 1800. They document the evolution of York’s building landscape as well as important social changes such as clearance of slums, creation of new streets, roads and bridges and the building of homes for heroes. The built environment fosters a sense of place, both for existing residents, new residents (including temporary students) and the city’s many visitors and Explore are very excited about cataloguing these records and making them accessible to the wider public.

“Explore York Libraries and Archives are delighted to be successful in our application to the Archives Revealed funding scheme and grateful to The National Archives, The Pilgrim Trust and the Archives Revealed panel for recognising the value in our project. In a city that prides itself on its internationally recognisable built environment and history, these plans are of immense research and practical importance to a very wide ranging audience and will offer enormous outreach potential once catalogued. We are very excited to begin work on the project and to make this fascinating collection available to the wider public.” Fiona Williams, Chief Executive of Explore York Libraries and Archives

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Seven Stories, The National Centre for Children's Books

'Notes in the margins': opening up the papers of children's literary editors and agents.

Seven Stories' Archives Revealed project aims to open up two collections – the Aidan and Nancy Chambers collection and the Laura Cecil collection – which will offer a new understanding of children's publishing in the 20th century. The creators of these archives are pioneering figures in children's literature who, over the last 50 years, have helped reshape the perception of children's books and expose young audiences to new and diverse writing. Their combined wealth of papers give a unique perspective on the changing face of children's publishing in Britain and the impact that wider social trends have had on ideas about children's culture.

Our project will involve staff from Newcastle University to help us to explore and document these papers, leading to new models of collaboration between academics and heritage professionals around the cataloguing of archives. A series of dynamic public engagement activities will be developed alongside the cataloguing of these collections, exploring challenging new histories of children's culture and helping us engage new and diverse audiences of all ages with the Seven Stories archive.

"We are delighted that The National Archives and The Pilgrim Trust have chosen to support our project to catalogue and make available these two significant collections, both of which will enrich the Seven Stories archive and enhance its status as a world-class resource. These papers provide valuable insights into the roles of the literary agent and reviewer in shaping the work of some of the most accomplished writers and illustrators for children of the last forty years. They also offer the prospect of new perspectives on diversity in children's publishing that will help us in our mission to embed inclusivity and representation at the heart of our engagement programme." Sarah Lawrance, Collection and Exhibitions Director



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