Introduction
The Special Collections and Museums of Durham University Library are home to a wide range of material of interest to students of Archaeology. Many of the printed collections have volumes relating to archaeological sites, there are several archival collections that contain relevant material and both the Old Fulling Mill Museum of Archaeology and Oriental Museum contain important collections of artefacts.

The main collections are listed below and have been broken down into printed and archival and museums collections for ease of access.

All special collections material is consulted in the Search Room in Palace Green Library. For details about using the search room and information about opening times etc, please see the Special Collections home page http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/.

Printed collections
Searches for printed material should be made on the Library catalogue. Searches can be narrowed down by restricting a search to ‘Special Collections.’ Special mention should be made of the Local Collection which contains many useful books, pamphlets and tracts of use to archaeologists.

Local collection
A large and expanding collection covering Co. Durham (with particular emphasis on Durham city, university and cathedral) and, in less depth, Northumberland, and the historic counties of Cumberland, Westmorland and the North Riding of Yorkshire. The collection contains over 6,000 books and pamphlets and 3,000 serial volumes.

http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/resources/heritage/local/

Amongst the early printed books are a good selection of original editions of the publications of the early antiquaries such as Leland, Camden, Selden, Spelman and Stukeley. The University owns the library of the Elizabethan antiquary, Lord William Howard (1563-1640) with over 70 historical and geographical works printed before 1640. Later antiquaries are represented by Akerman, Collingwood Bruce and Layard and there is an excellent collection of 19th and early 20th century well-illustrated books on the collections from Egyptian and Near Eastern excavations. Early publications on the Roman Wall are also well represented in the collection.

Archival and Museum collections
Non-printed material can be searched for using the Special Collections catalogue http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/catalogues/, although it should be borne in mind that not all collections are catalogued and not all are available online. Specific advice on accessing and using the archival collections can be obtained in the Search Room. Enquiries about accessing and using objects from the Museums should be addressed in the first instance to the Museum Curator. A non-definitive list of useful collections for archaeologists can be found below and has been broken down into the following categories: Pre-history; Roman archaeology; Ancient Egypt, India, Near and Middle East; Africa, medieval archaeology; history of archaeology; and landscape.

Pre-history
Neolithic and Bronze Age collections
Relevant Neolithic material in the collection of the Old Fulling Mill Museum includes locally excavated flints and cup and ring marked stones (including the capstone of a cist from Witton Gilbert). Bronze Age materials include a cist from Brandon and a wide range of bronze tools and weapons from sites located throughout the region.
Roman archaeology

Oswald-Plique collection
A collection of nearly 5000 sherds of figured samian, 90% of which is Central Gaulish and 10% of which is South Gaulish material. Dr. Oswald identified 99 potters’ styles and the collection has examples of many more, ranging in date from the first century material of Lezoux and South Gaul to the latest products of Lezoux. In addition to the samian itself, the collection includes 4646 samian drawings by Dr. Oswald. This collection is also housed at the Old Fulling Mill.

Collection of Roman Inscriptions
A collection of over fifty inscribed and sculptured Roman stones is on long term loan to the museum from the Dean and Chapter of Durham Cathedral. The collection is remarkably comprehensive and forms the earliest group in public ownership in the North of England. It has exhibits from the main forts in (pre-1974) County Durham and in Northumberland from Corbridge and High Rochester along the line of Dere Street, the Roman Great North Road. It also contains one or more inscriptions from nearly every fort along the line of Hadrian’s Wall in Northumberland. This collection is housed at the Old Fulling Mill.

Additional Manuscripts
Add Ms 281
A collection of 83 items including a volume of correspondence, notes, drawings, offprints and cuttings on antiquarian and archaeological topics, chiefly relating to the Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods.
See separate catalogue

Add Ms 258
Collection of material that includes a letter of R. Boss, London, describing his discovery of the camp and 2 Roman keys, their possible significance as the keys to the gates of “Old London”, and his offering them to the British Museum and “The Antiquarian Society” 21 October 1833; an additional note about other Roman finds on the back of part of a ledger entry for “MacKenzie”; and a letter from W[illiam] Buckland (?professor of geology at Corpus Christi College Oxford), London, about possibly inspecting Roman antiquities at London and not being in Oxford for some time, 9 June 1845.

University of Durham Department of Archaeology Photographic Deposit
Photographic accumulation in a variety of formats (principally glass negatives and lantern slides) from the University of Durham’s Department of Archaeology. Material chiefly relating to the teaching and research of Prof. Eric Birley and Prof. Rosemary Cramp on, respectively, the Roman and the Anglo-Saxon and early medieval periods, together with research materials of Joyce Kewley (on Roman altars) and Eric Parsons (on Hart, Hartlepool and clay pipes) and a miscellany of glass negatives largely from the stock of the Edis firm of Durham photographers.
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=33

Wiper photographs
Black and white photographs by Alan Wiper (1932-1973), largely of architecture and antiquities of the north of England, especially from the Roman and Anglo-Saxon periods.
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=161

Ancient Egypt, South Asia, China, Near and Middle East

Ancient Egypt
The University’s Ancient Egyptian collection ranges from the Pre-Dynastic to the Coptic periods in date and includes a wide selection of objects ranging from monumental sculpture to woven sandals and is housed at the Oriental Museum. The majority of the museum’s Ancient Egyptian collection comes from two sources; the Northumberland Collection and the Wellcome Collection.
South Asia
The Indian and South Asian collections contain artefacts that relate to the major religions to emerge from the sub-continent: Buddhism, Hinduism, Sikhism and Jainism. In addition, the Museum holds a set of nearly 5000 photographs of archaeological sites and monuments made between 1902 and 1923 by Sir John Marshall, Director General of Archaeology in India. The University also hold a significant collection of Gandharan sculpture from present-day Pakistan. These collections are housed at the Oriental Museum.

China
The Oriental Museum is home to a major MLA-Designated collection of Chinese art and archaeology. The Chinese archaeology collection includes significant collections of funerary jades, tomb models and figures, weapons, chariot fittings. Of particular significance is a large collection of ceramics, which has been developed around a core collection created by the Rt. Hon. Malcolm MacDonald.

Near East
The Ancient Near East is well represented by excavated material from Jerusalem, Jericho, Lachish, Ur and Nimrud, and includes two reliefs, thought to be from Nineveh. There is also an extensive collection of seals. Unfortunately, at present the Museum does not have a gallery displaying our pre-Islamic collections from the Near East. If you would like to see any of this material, please contact us to make an appointment to view the stored collections. This collection is housed at the Oriental Museum.

Foster Albums (Early Christian architecture and antiquities)
A photographic collection reflecting Foster’s research interest in early Church architecture, including pictures of sites in the Middle East, Turkey, Greece and Italy.
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=63

Africa
A.E.Robinson papers
Personal correspondence; notes on the possibilities of trade in the Eastern Sudan, 1908; notes from printed sources; anthropological and archaeological notes; notes on weapons; draft articles for a history of the Sudan, with illustrations; 98 maps; 398 photographs and negatives, Egypt and the Sudan.
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=419

Sudan Archive Museum objects
A number of museum objects, including material of archaeological interest, is included in the Sudan Archive. Please enquire in the Search Room for further information.

Medieval Archaeology
Gibby Papers
Research and teaching materials assembled by Gibby during the course of his career, relating chiefly to the history of the North-East of England.
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=69

Robert Blair Papers
A miscellaneous collection of material relating chiefly to the history and antiquities of a number of churches, parishes and places in Co. Durham.
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=14

Greatorex Photographs
A collection of architectural photographs, largely of churches, monastic buildings, and later structures on monastic sites, in the British Isles, formed and probably partly taken by Canon Edward Greatorex (ca.1823-1900).
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=73
University of Durham Department of Archaeology Photographic Deposit
Photographic accumulation in a variety of formats (principally glass negatives and lantern slides) from the University of Durham’s Department of Archaeology. Material chiefly relating to the teaching and research of Prof. Eric Birley and Prof. Rosemary Cramp on, respectively, the Roman and the Anglo-Saxon and early medieval periods, together with research materials of Joyce Kewley (on Roman altars) and Eric Parsons (on Hart, Hartlepool and clay pipes) and a miscellany of glass negatives largely from the stock of the Edis firm of Durham photographers.
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=33

Add MS 301
A collection of 38 letters, the bulk of which are addressed to Charles Clement Hodges (1852-1932), an archaeologist, architect and antiquarian who had a wide knowledge of the Saxon and medieval ecclesiastical and military architecture of northern England.

Saddler Street Excavation Archive
This Medieval archaeological archive comprises the finds from a well-preserved sequence of craftsmen’s premises and their associated refuse found in three tenements off Saddler Street in Durham City. Finds comprise a significant amount of pottery, the remains of a thriving leather working industry (mainly shoes), ten or more fragments of textile and many other organic artefacts including a bone skate and an ash bowl. This collection is found at the Old Fulling Mill.

Medieval and Later Collections
As the designated repository for archaeological finds from the City of Durham, the Old Fulling Mill Museum is home to several important medieval site archives. These include important collections of material throughout the town, including Claypath, and from outlying sites such as from Bearpark.

Durham City Survey
The Durham City Survey was a major piece of research and development work undertaken by the Archaeology Department at the University of Durham at the request of English Heritage. Between 1988 and 1991, the project was one of three pilot studies investigating ways of producing and managing archaeological information about urban archaeology. The Survey produced a database and gazetteer summarising all known sites and finds within the study area. The project was summarised by P. Lowther et al, ‘The City of Durham: An Archaeological Survey’, Durham Archaeological Journal 9 (1992), 27-119. The original records used as the basis of the survey are housed at the Old Fulling Mill.

History of Archaeology
Records of the Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham and Northumberland
The records consist of minute books, subscriptions and account books, rules and programmes, 1897-1989.
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=5

University Archaeology Department Records
Material relating to and created by the Archaeology Department can be found amongst the University Archive. Specific references include UND/CB1/A12, CC2/43, CC3/A10, UND/BB56 and UND/DB815.
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=150

Landscape and Topography
Willis Papers
Working materials for Dr. Willis's researches on landscape architecture and gardens and architectural history. The contents of the collection are chiefly photographs and negatives, transcripts and facsimiles of manuscript sources, correspondence, notes, bibliographical references, offprints, guidebooks, pamphlets, etc.
http://www.dur.ac.uk/library/asc/collection_information/clldload/?collno=158
Add Ms 200
A topographical account of Durham, its immediate environs, and institutions, by [Thomas Woodness], incorporating descriptions of buildings and the history and people associated with them, with transcripts and extracts of documents and others’ accounts, possibly intended for publication.

Local Maps
Special Collections is home to a wide range of maps covering the Durham and the North East. This includes local surveys, Ordnance Survey, Tithe maps and Enclosure maps. For advice on accessing these maps please visit our search room.

How we can help: support for teaching and learning

Research skills training
Accessing material in Special Collections can be a daunting prospect for both undergraduates and postgraduates. Library and Museum staff can help by offering training in research skills. These sessions can be tailored to meet the requirements of different subject areas and demonstrate how students can best access material found in archives, special collections libraries and museums across the country.

Resource classes
These classes provide an easy way to introduce students to using primary source material. We are always happy to advise on selection of suitable items or can work to agreed lists.

Conferences
If you are holding a conference and would like delegates to see some of the items we have in our collections, please get in touch to see how we can help.

For all enquires please contact Sarah Price—sarah.price@durham.ac.uk