

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL NAVE CEILING AND RELATED STRUCTURES ARCHIVE

ARCHIVIST'S NOTE

The major conservation project on the Nave ceiling and the roof structure supporting it ran from 1994 to 2003 and culminated in the publication 'Conservation and Discovery: Peterborough Cathedral Nave Ceiling and Related Structures' edited by Jackie Hall and Susan M. Wright.

The Archive generated from this project is in 3 main parts. The first part consists of the Phase reports for each of the five phases of work plus the Emergency Treatment in 1997, the report on the Fire Damage following the fire in the Cathedral in 2001 and a further report on the Transept Ceiling. There is also a set of digital photographs documenting the conservation process, notes from the conservator, Hugh Harrison, some x-ray plates from an early phase of work, a database of the board-by-board survey undertaken plus film footage of the conservation work.

Secondly there are the various specialist reports commissioned for the project, existing in both digital and hard copy formats.

Finally there is the archive of correspondence, meeting minutes and other papers relating to the project set-up and progress, supplied by the project Architect, Julian Limentani. Most of these papers are referenced and a register of the documents is included.

Specific points:

1. There are 2 envelopes of large scale x-rays which were taken by Mobile Radiographic Services Ltd in March 1998. The x-rays were taken through the front ceiling and the original idea behind them was to help in identifying the underpaint but this did not work although they did prove useful in revealing aspects of the construction hidden within the 1920s laminates and beneath the hessian.
2. A photogrammetric survey of the ceiling and its supporting timber structure was carried out by the English Heritage (Now Historic England) Photogrammetric Unit and the archive for this material is stored with Historic England at their offices in York.
3. There are 9 large boxes of material and each box contains a list of its contents. There are also 3 smaller boxes containing the specialist reports – a separate list of these reports is included in the archive. Hugh Harrison's notes are contained in an A2 Melanex sleeve together with their register. The archive also contains registers for the digital photographs and the digital figures and graphics that were included in the reports. The digital archive is held by ADS

CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE – HARD COPY (NORTHAMPTON RECORDS OFFICE)

9 x bankers boxes of reports, photographic plates, slides and correspondence (Box lists included);

3 x archive records boxes of specialist reports (Register included);

2 x large envelopes of x-rays;

1 x A2 Melinex folder of Hugh Harrison's notes and drawings (Register included).

CONTENTS OF THE ARCHIVE – DIGITAL (ARCHAEOLOGY DATA SERVICE)

1 x hard drive containing film footage taken during the conservation process;

Digital versions of all the registers for the archive;

PDF/A versions of all the main Phase reports and the specialist reports;

Digital scans (uncompressed .tifs) of all the Plates from the project (3,073 plates);

Digital versions (uncompressed .tifs) of all the Figures and Graphics from the Phase reports;

Digital versions of Hugh Harrison's notes and 29 digital photographs as .jpgs;

Board-by-board database in excel format (complete original Access database also included);

Metadata for all digital records.