

Summary Project Number: 5439 MAIN

The Cattewater Wreck was discovered in 1973 during channel dredging in the Cattewater, Plymouth, Devon. The site was the first wreck to be designated by the UK Government under the 1973 Protection of Wreck Act and is believed to be an unidentified armed merchantman of the first half of the 16th century.

The site was partly excavated between 1975 and 1978. Most of the site documentary archive and much of the material archive were later deposited with the Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery. The Archive as presently organised does not meet the current recognised archival storage standards and has not been organised for the benefit of researchers.

Aims and Objectives

This Project aims to improve the long term care and management of the Cattewater Wreck Excavation Archive held by Plymouth City Museum with improvements to the documentation and storage.

The main aim of the Project is Archive consolidation – a formal audit and indexing of the documentary archive and all associated artefacts to create a formal record of the present archive. A secondary aim is the improvement of the physical storage of the archive to better meet modern physical collection management standards.

Outcome

The principal outcome of the Project will be a more accessible Archive better able to survive in the long-term.