

### **3. Creswell Archaeological and Palaeontological Inventory (CAPI)**

When this project commenced in 1976 it was known that major collections of palaeontological and archaeological remains, notably from the five well known caves within Creswell Crags, were preserved within the Manchester University Museum and the British Museum. Less well known was the fact that other small collections existed, although knowledge of their current whereabouts were vague. It was also known that a number of excavations had taken place since the first discoveries but little was known of these in detail.

An initial and obvious first task in 1976 was to locate the present location of both remains and archival material and to record both. At the time it was intended to establish a central archive at the newly established Creswell Visitor Centre, located within Creswell Crags.

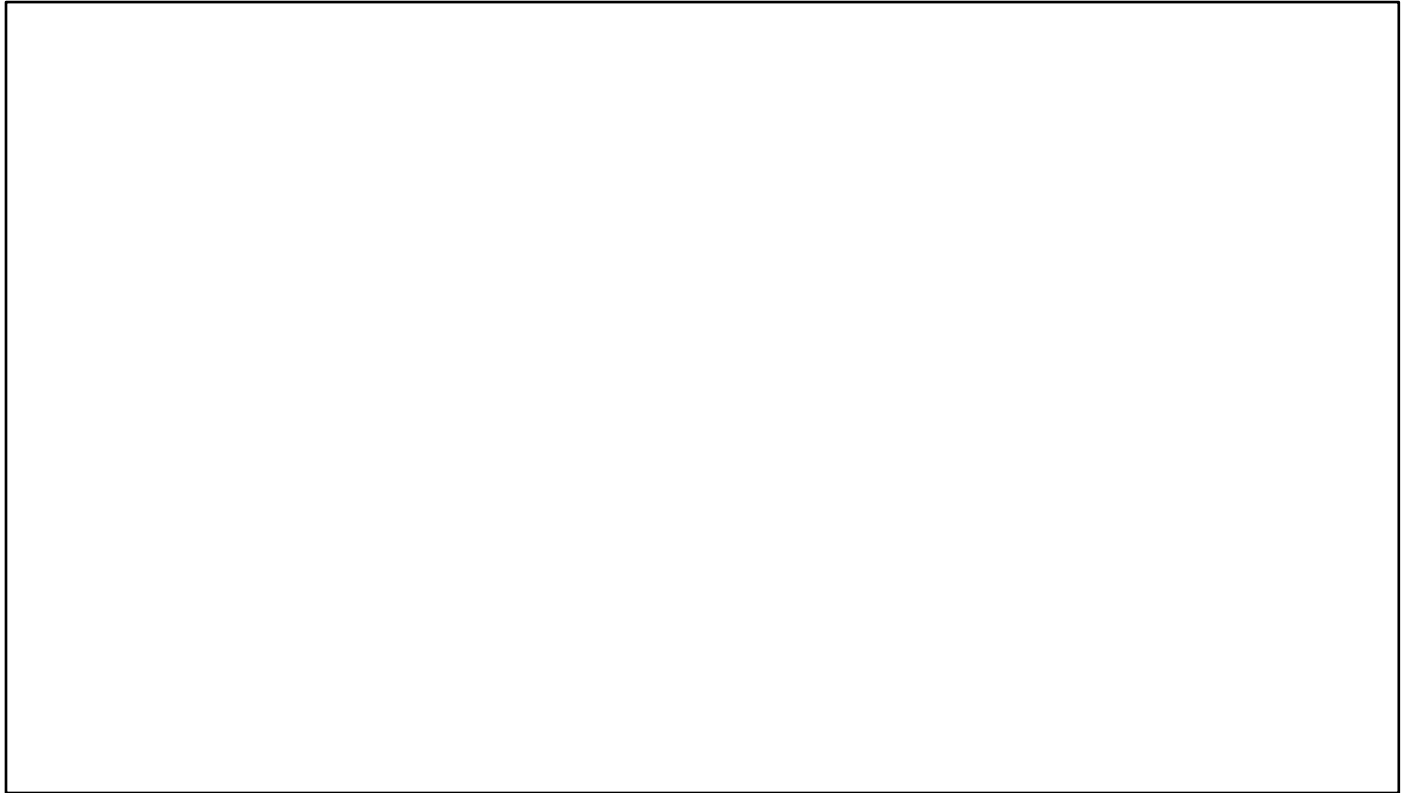
Over the years between 1976 -1980 numerous remains and archives were located and recorded. From 1980 -1992 discoveries and archives continued to be discovered and recorded but activity was significantly increased by data generated by new research at Creswell.

This record includes all archaeological and palaeontological remains located in current museum collections, from excavations and discoveries now known to have taken place between 1868-1992 within caves and rock shelters within the Creswell Heritage Area, established in 1992.

CAPI uses a specific individual numeric systems to record items known to have been discovered within the Creswell Heritage Area localities and these are unique to this inventory. Where possible individual museum accession numbers have been recorded for each item.

The accompanying inventory records remains by theme with each object or group of objects allocated a CAPI number as follows

Prefix- the initials of the locality name (eg RHC-Robin Hoods Cave} with a symbol for the type of object, F-vertebrate Remains, L- Lithics, P-Ceramics, M-miscellaneous-Sediment.



Example of a standard record card used during the collection recording project. The record is a part summary of recorded details which includes current location, item description and excavation details, where present.

Items recorded within current museum collections were recorded using a card index record, similar to the above example. In most cases the record was a basic description of location, excavator and details of the item. More detailed descriptions were recorded at the same time. The CAPI record includes both original card index details and further information where it exists. There are several small collections from specific localities or excavations which are not included within CAPI. It is intended to incorporate these in the summary of excavation reports (Jenkinson, in preparation).

The CAPI inventory is grouped by theme or species and set out below.

### 1- Yew Tree Shelter

The remains from this site were partially published by Leslie Armstrong and are thought to have been donated to Sheffield Museum. Unfortunately these could not be located for this study.

### **3e Mother Grundys Parlour**

#### **2.1- Mother Grundys Parlour,Lithics**

Lithic remains within the inventory include an extensive collection from Leslie Armstrongs work which are housed ,mainly in the British Museum. Lithic from John Campbells work are also included but evidence from Charles McBurneys excavations archives and archaeological remains,which are stored in Cambridge, were not available for study during this project(2234 items).

#### **2.2-Mother Grundys Parlour, Vertebrates**

The inventory includes vertebrate remains from the 19th century excavation of Mello and Willian Boyd Dawkins, the excavation of Leslie Armstrong and John Campbell within cave talus.A small collection of remains , from the 19th century work can be sourced to this site. It is extremely likely that many other remains were not clearly labelled and these are probably listed within the 19th century collections (ie CCD inventory} The evidence excavated by Charles Mc Burney was not available for study during the 1977-90 project. Any evidence from excavations by Simon Collcutt could not be located.(4681 items)

### **3d-Robin Hoods Cave**

**3.1 -Robin Hoods Cave,Boyd Dawkins,Vertebrates** Palaeontological remains from the excavations of Magens Mello and Boyd Dawkins are held in several large collections and in many cases are labelled or sourced to this site. Those with clear

provenance are listed within this inventory. Others which are probably from this work but lack clear provenance are listed in the CCD inventory. Also included are remains that were originally in Manchester and which have been donated to other UK museum. Material from 1888 is of particular interest as this may be from the work of Robert Laing which was not adequately annotated at the time. Accurately planning the cave and the fresh excavation of some areas were undertaken in the 1980s and the basic description of these remains is included within this inventory. (997 items}

### **3.2-Robin Hoods Cave Boyd Dawkins,Lithics**

Archaeological remains from the Mello and Boyd Dawkis work.

(602 items}

### **3.3-Robin Hoods Cave,Misc**

Remains from the 19th century work,

(5 items}

### **3.4-Robin Hoods Cave,Campbell,Vertebrates**

The collection of excavated remains from the work of John Campbell in 1969. These were given to the author in 1977 and are now housed with the Creswell Heritage Trust

(503 items}

### **3.5- Robin Hoods Cave, Verterbrates and lithics from Site C, Jenkinson 1984-85.**

(765 items} A series of archaeological and palaeontological remains which are griups by sub sites within the Robin Hoods Cave from the survey and excavation by Jenkinson 1984-85

### **3.6-Robin Hoods Cave Vertebrates,Site B,Jenkinson 1984-85(38 items}**

### **3.7-Robin Hoods Cave,Vertebrates from Site A,Jenkinson 1984-85(3404 items}**

### **3.8 -Robin Hoods Cave.Vertebrates.Cores,Site C,Jenkinson.1984-85(558 items}**

### **3.9-Robin Hoods Cave,Vertebrates.Site C and sample localities,Jenkinson 1984-85 (2313} items**

4 Cave C.7

#### **5 -Ossiferous Fissure,C8**

The inventory comprises 14 vertebrate bones and some lithic,preserved within the Cambridge Museum. These are almost certainly from the excavation of the 'Ossiferous fissure', at Creswell.

#### **6- Arch Cave**

A total of 487 vertebrates bones,collected initially by Jenkinson with later additions by Chambers and Jacobi are housed within the Creswell Heritage Trust collections. A number of vertebrate are recorded from the excavations of Simon Collcutt but these are not located and are therefore excluded from this inventory (487 items}.

#### **PinHole Cave**

The itemized inventory for this locality is based upon the major collectons at Manchester University Museum with smaller collections within the British Museums. Leslie Armstrong was in the habit of sending small sample collections from his excavations to many other museum ,including oen to America. A great deal of time has been spend attempting to locate these collections,redescribe them and include thim in the work. Studies were undertaken by the author in the mid 1980s which resulted in the addition of several thousand items from fresh excavations.

#### **CAPI-4-Pin Hole Cave**

The remains from this cave form an extremely large inventory. They are derived from the work of Mello,in 1875, the excavations of Armstrong between 1924 until the 1950s and more recently from excavations by Jenkinson. The accompaning

inventory is partially complete, remains from the lower areas of excavation are in preparation.

#### **CAPI-4.1 Pin Hole Cave- Amphibian and Reptiles**

Survey of the extant remains ,largely from Leslie Armstrongs excavation revealed 3192 Amphibian bone fragments which are described by Jenkinson in the 1976-92 survey (3192}.

#### **CAPI-4.2-Pin Hole Cave-Artiodactyla**

(2794}

CAPI-.3-Pin Hole Cave-Birds

#### **CAPI-4.4-Pin Hole Cave-Bone Flakes**

(22734}

#### **CAPI-4.5-Pin Hole Cave-Carnivores**

#### **CAPI-4.6-PHC-Pin Hole Cave-Chiroptera**

(780}

#### **CAPI-4.7-PHC-Pin Hole Cave-Fish**

(1873 items}

#### **CAPI-4.8-Pin Hole Cave-Hares**

(298 items}

#### **CAPI-4.9--Pin Hole Cave-Insectivores**

(28 items}

#### **CAPI-4.10-Pin Hole Cave-Invertebrates**

(14 items}

#### **CAPI-4.11-Pin Hole Cave-Perissodactyla**

(1300 items}

**CAPI-4.12-Pin Hole Cave-Proboscidia**

(256 items}

**CAPI-4.13-Pin Hole Cave-Rodents**

**CAPI-4.14-Pin Hole Cave-Unidentified Specimens**

(1825 items}

**CAPI-7.15-Pin Hole Cave-Lithics**

**CAPI-4.16-Pin Hole Cave-Bone Artefacts**

(45 items}

**CAPI-4.17-Pin Hole Cave-Fossils**

The inventory includes five fragments of marine fossils excavated by Leslie Armstrong (5 items}

**CAPI-4.18-Pin Hole Cave-Historic Items**

**CAPI-4.19-Pin Hole Cave-1984 Block Excavation (18 items}**

**CAPI-4.20-Pin Hole Cave-1984-Rear Section Excavation**

**CAPI-4.21 Pin Hole Cave-Sediment sample**

The inventory describes 375 limestone , quartzite and sedimentary fragments and pebbles excavated by Armstrong and which are preserved within the Manchester Museum collections(385 items}.

**CAPI-4-22, Pin Hole Cave Excavation 1985.**

The item described within this inventory were collected from the passage and rear area of the cave during survey and mapping between 1977-80. A further quantity

were recovered during the preparation of the cave for excavation during 1984-85. Documentary evidence within private correspondence (the Welbeck Estates Co) and verbal conversations with the Late George White indicate that Armstrong stored many excavated finds and limestone clasts within the 'Passage' area following its excavation. This area appears to have been disturbed during the Second World War by troops, then stationed upon the Welbeck Estate. There is further suggestion of disturbance in the decade following this period.

In the period between planning the cave and the 1984 excavations the cave floor, passage area and the 'collapsed' rear section were cleaned of limestone clast and what appeared to be disturbed sediment'. Clast material was entirely removed. All sediments were collected and sorted by eye for palaeontological remains

A total of just over 26,000 bone fragments were recovered in this way. A significant number has evidence of excavation information clearly written in Armstrong's handwriting and using his style of recording. A much larger number of remains were unmarked and were distributed in 'disturbed sediments. It was impossible to distinguish remains that were deliberately stored following excavation and recording from those that may have been within within excavated sediments but not recorded or formally excavated.

As a result a significant number of the remains have not precise provenance. They do however indicate, in conjunction with the other inventories, the sheer quantity of remains present within this relatively small area.

Within this specific inventory and some of the others grouped by order the excavators are listed as 'Armstrong-Jenkinson' to indicate that the provenance, not clear but that they have been recovered during one of the other excavations. All of the remains are housed within the Creswell Heritage Trust collections (26167 items).



A summary of archaeological , palaeontological and sedimentary remains is shown below. This represents all items that have been described within the CAPI reference attached to this report.

<b>Totals</b>	
Artefacts	435
Vertebrates	73915
Invertebrates	14
Fossils	5
Sediments	385
Historic	18

Associated information describing item provenance varies considerably and is fully described within the inventory. Individual items with sufficient information to be plotted within the suggested reconstruction of Armstrongs work and items from the authors excavations are included within the descriptive and analytical spreadsheets (sections 4 and 10} }. It is clear from this summary that in overall terms the reconstruction is based upon approximately half of the remains known from the cave.

### **CAPI-8 -Dog Hole Cave and Fissure**

The inventory includes descriptions of palaeontological remain from the excavations of Dog Hole Fissure by Jenkinson and a small number of items discovered during surveys and mapping of the cave.

### **CAPI -9 .1-Church Hole Cave, Boyd Dawkins, Vertebrates.**

**(1498 vertebrates 000 lithics}**

### **CAPI-10- Boat House Cave**

No remains from this site were located during the 1977-90 survey. The small inventory lists items reported by Armstrong and Collcutt not of which is extant today.

### **CAPI-11 -Caves C21, C22,C23**

A large inventory of the archaeological and palaeontological remains from the excavations of Cave C22 and its associated fissures.(12180 items}

### **CAPI-12 Dead Mans Cave**

Excavations by George White, recovered 608 items from his excavation of this cave and these are described by Jenkinson in this inventory (668 items}.

### **CAPI-13 -Thorpe Common Rock Shelter**

The inventory describes 2502 items recovered from the excavations of George White and described by Jenkinson (2502 items}.

### **CAPI-14.2 -Ash Tree Cave,Vertebrates**

The inventory includes collection from Armstrongs excavation which are housed in Sheffield Museum. Also included are remains from illicit excavation undertaken during the 1970-80.

(1787 vertebrates, 000 lithics}

### **15- Langwith Cave**

#### **CAPI-16- Yew Tree Cave**

Excavations by Ransom ,at this locality produced a number of remains of which a small quantity survive in collections at Wollaton Hall and the Geological Museum.Further remains mentioned in reports of the work were not located (16 items}.

#### **1CAPI-17- Pleasley Vale Cave and Gorge**

The few surviving remains from this locality are recorded from Pleasley Cave . It is likely that further remains,possibly derived at least two associated sites exist but were not located (19 items}

### **CAPI-18- Steetley Quarry Cave**

The surviving collection of remains discovered at this locality in 1926 are described by Jenkinson in 1978 (68 items}.

### **CAPI-19- Steetley Cave**

This inventory describes the remains from excavations in 1976 by Askew and those from the later excavations by Jenkinson (70013 items}.

### **CAPI-20.1- Unprovenanced from 19th Century Excavations,Lithics**

(298 items}

### **CAPI-20.2-Unprovenanced 19th Century Excavations,Vertebrates.**

Inventories 20.1 and 20.2 describes the lithics and vertebrate faunal remains recorded by Jenkinson during 1976-80, that were located in extant museum collections. All of the remains have sufficient associated details that establish that they are derived from the 19th century excavations of Magen Mello,Thomas Heath and William Boyd Dawkins.Ultra violet light was used to search for annotations on each find. The majority of items have not direct identification written upon the surface. A small number of items are annotated to 'Creswell Craggs' or 'Creswell'.In virtually all cases their incorporation into individual museum collection is recorded by date to the 1875-77 period of 19th century excavation.All of the remains are derived from work in the Pin Hole Cave,Church Hole Cave,Robin Hoods Cave or Mother Grundys Parlour.Descriptions are confined to items located in extant collections and no attempt is made to related these to published accounts (2671 items}.

### **CAPI-22. Markland and Hollinhill Grips**

Only 6 objects were located and described here. These are derived from the sampling excavations undertaken by Armstrong, Wilfred Jackson and others at various locations within the Markland and Hollinhill gorges (6 items).

**CAPI-23. Fulbeck Vertebrates**

An inventory and description of the 166 vertebrates recovered by the Trent and Peak Archaeological Group from the Nyrex exploration of Fulbeck

airfield (166 items).

**CAPI-24. Taphonomic Survey, Creswell Crags Gorge.**

An inventory of 795 vertebrates bones recorded during a taphonomic survey of sampling transects across the Creswell Crags

Gorge (795 items).