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## Biology Curators Group Newsletter

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A REFERENCE LIST OF MUSEUMS IN THE BRITISH ISLES  
WITH MOLLUSCAN COLLECTIONS

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MUSEUMS.

There has long been a need for a comprehensive list of museum natural history collections and R.J. Cleevely of the British Museum (Natural History) and the Society for the Bibliography of Natural History are currently engaged (B.C.G. Newsletter 2, March 1976) in producing a sequel to C. Davies Sherborn's 'Where is the .... collection' (1940, Cambridge University Press). This is to be produced as an index of collectors and their collections rather than the holdings of each museum, although the feasibility of reproducing the data in the latter form is currently being investigated (R.J. Cleevely - Personal Communication).

The following list of museums with molluscan collections has therefore been produced to compliment the molluscan section of Mr Cleevely's more detailed work. This list has been compiled from a number of reference works and is accurate to 1970. It is intended simply as a guide to the location of the larger molluscan collections and has been tabulated for ease of reference.

Only limited details of size and type of collection are given; details of addresses, telephone number etc., can be located in the current Museums Year Book. A list including the above information together with times of opening and current admission charges (if any) is to appear in the Newsletter of the Conchological Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Both fossil and recent material have been included because the division between the two is indistinct and to some extent artificial.

The largest collections, as might be expected, are housed in the national and university museums, although the collections of the provincial museums are also important. It is hoped that the smaller provincial and local museums will be covered by a subsequent article listing all museums with any sort of molluscan material; whether large and fully documented or just a box hidden in an odd corner! Although the majority of such material may be of little but local interest, it is possible that it may contain nationally or even internationally important specimens. The proposed list may therefore help in tracing 'lost' specimens and collections.

Whilst I have taken every care in compiling this list there may well be error and omissions. I would therefore be delighted to hear of any corrections and additions that would improve it, or details (i.e. location, recent or fossil, exhibit or research, approximate size) of collections not mentioned which might be included in the proposed list.

A REFERENCE LIST OF MUSEUMS IN THE BRITISH ISLES WITH MAJOR MOLLUSCAN COLLECTIONS.

MUSEUM.	EXHIBITS		RECENT.		FOSSIL		FOSSIL	
	RECENT	FOSSIL	SIZE	TYPES	SIZE	TYPES	SIZE	TYPES
ENGLAND.								
BATH. Victoria Art Gallery and Museum.	R		***					
BIRMINGHAM. Birmingham City Museum and Art Gallery.	R		X					
BRIGHTON. The Booth Museum of Natural History.	R	F	***					
BRISTOL. Bristol City Museum.	R							
BRISTOL. Geology Museum, Department of Geology, University of Bristol.					***			
CAMBRIDGE. Sedgwick Museum of Geology.		F			****			
CAMBRIDGE. University Museum of Zoology.	R		**					
COLCHESTER. Colchester and Essex Museum of Natural History.	R	F	*		*			
DORCHESTER. Dorset County Museum.	R	F	*		*		9	
EXETER. Royal Albert Memorial Museum and Art Gallery.	R	F	***		**			
HALIFAX. Bankfield Museum and Art Gallery.	R	F	*		*			
HUDDERSFIELD. Tolson Memorial Museum.	R		*					
HULL. Wilberforce House.			**					50 (some doubtful)
IPSWICH. Ipswich Museum.	R	F	**		***			6
LEEDS. City Museum.	R	F	**		**			
LEICESTER. Leicestershire Museum and Art Gallery.	R	F	**		***			
LINCOLN. Lincoln City and County Museum.			**		**			
LIVERPOOL. Merseyside County Museums.		F	****		**		400	

MUSEUM.	EXHIBITS.		RESEARCH COLLECTIONS.			
	RECENT.	FOSSIL.	RECENT.		FOSSIL.	
			SIZE.	TYPES.	SIZE.	TYPES.
LONDON. British Museum (Natural History)	R	F	****	25,000	****	
LONDON. The Passmore Edwards Museum. (Essex Museum of Natural History)	R	F	**			
LUTON. Luton Museum and Art Gallery.			*			
MANCHESTER. Manchester Museum.	R	F	***	500	****	300
NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE. Hancock Museum.			*			
NORWICH. Norwich Castle Museum.	R	F	****	600	***	7
OXFORD. Oxford University Museum.	R	F	***		****	
PLYMOUTH. City Museum and Art Gallery.	R		**		****	
PORTSMOUTH. Cumberland House Museum and Aquarium.			*			
READING. Museum and Art Gallery.			*			
SCARBOROUGH. Woodend Museum.	R		***		**	
SHEFFIELD. Sheffield City Museum.	R	F	**		**	
TAUNTON. Somerset County Museum.	R	F	*		**	
YORK. The Yorkshire Museum.		F	**		***	103
SCOTLAND.						
DUNDEE. Dundee Museum and Art Gallery.	R		**			
EDINBURGH. Royal Scottish Museum.	R		****		***	
GLASGOW. Hunterian Museum.					***	

MUSEUM.	EXHIBITS.		RESEARCH COLLECTIONS.		FOSSIL.	
	RECENT.	FOSSIL	RECENT.	FOSSIL.		
			SIZE.	TYPES.	SIZE.	TYPES.
<p>WALES.</p> <p>CARDIFF. National Museum of Wales. (Amgueddfa Genedlaethol Cymru)</p>	R	F	***	2,500	***	4
<p>IRELAND.</p> <p>BELFAST. Ulster Museum.</p> <p>DUBLIN. Department of Zoology, Trinity College.</p> <p>DUBLIN. National Museum of Ireland.</p>	R R	F	*** *		*** *	

KEY

R, Recent F, Fossil

Size of research collections;

\* less than 1,000 specimens

\*\* 1,000 - 10,000 specimens

\*\*\* 10,000 - 100,000 specimens

\*\*\*\* over 100,000 specimens

X present, but size not known

The number of type specimens is included only where known.