

**I like to move it, move it.....into archive suitable
boxes:**

*Collaborative approaches to implementing
retention/disposal strategies for museums*

Hazel O'Neill Cotswold Archaeology



The project aims:

- to sort and repackage the documentary, drawn and photographic archives to approved modern standards
- to sort and repackage the bulk finds archives to approved modern standards
- to deposit these archives at the Gloucester City Museum and Art Gallery (now The Museum of Gloucester)



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£88,000!**



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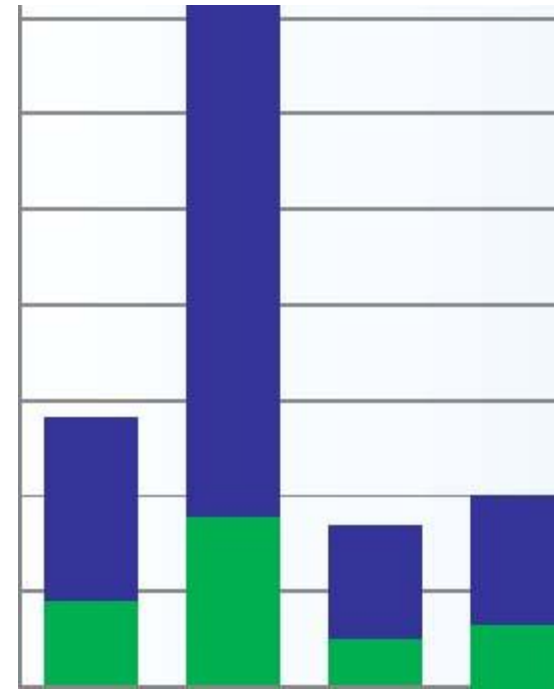


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Before and after box numbers

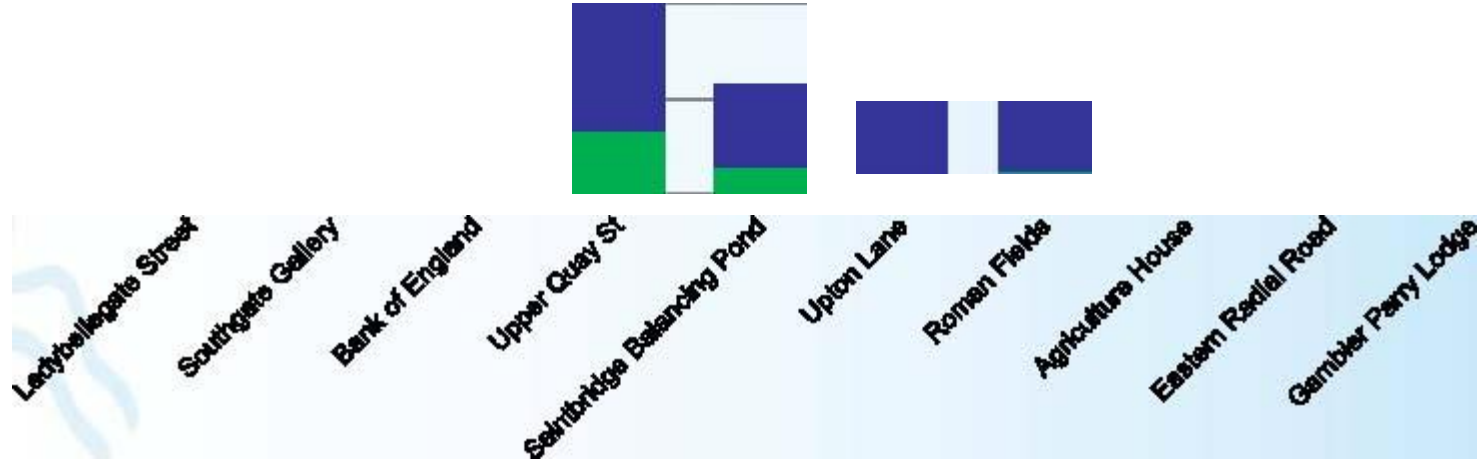
400 350 300 250



No. of boxes start 200 No. of boxes

end

150 100 50 0





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Ta-dah!



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A photographic interlude



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The project aims:

- to audit the quantity and quality of archaeological archives in its stores
- to establish retention/disposal criteria
- to calculate the amount of storage space that could be freed if those criteria were to be applied
- to produce a report summarising the above, along with the strengths and weaknesses of the exercise and recommendations for the compilation of national guidelines



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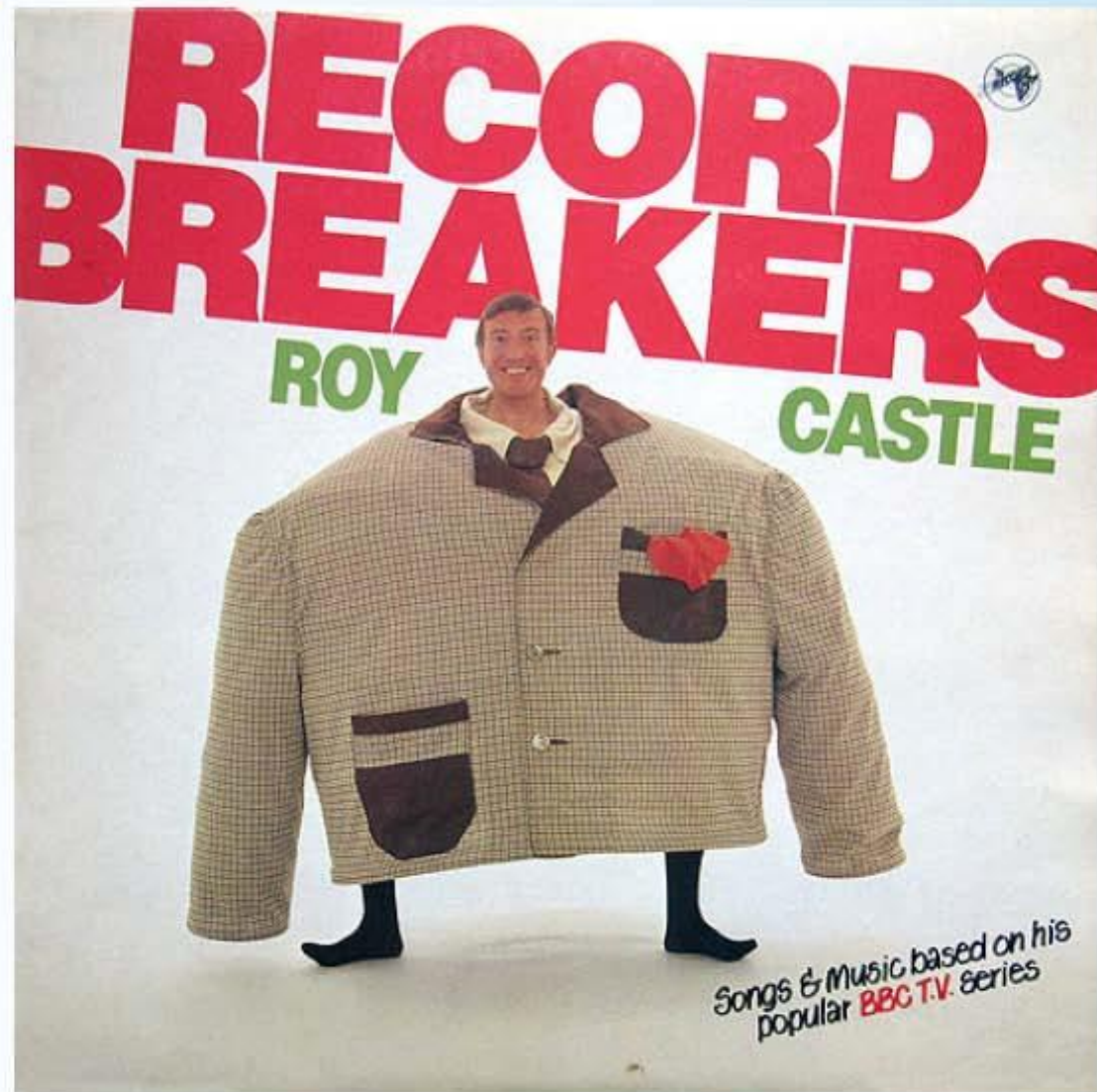




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“Volunteering with Cotswold Archaeology has given me the opportunity to work on museum projects which I find fascinating; I was able to see things that may never be on display to the general public.

It was also incredibly rewarding to know I was helping to secure the future of these archives for generations now and in the future of my home county of Gloucestershire . I have gained new knowledge, with good company and I’ve found it very enjoyable”

Sue Clemmitt



“When we first began to look at our archaeological collections we quickly realised that we were facing a cataloguing backlog of nightmarish proportions.

Bringing Hazel and her team on board helped so much – she enabled us to see that the task was manageable, and that in fact perhaps our collections weren’t quite as badly neglected as we might have thought.....the work that her team did has left us in a much stronger position – knowing what we have in the archaeology collections, and what needs to be done to get it up to current best practice standards.

We are also much more confident about what we should be continuing to collect and how we are prepared to accept it”

Alexia Clark, Stroud Museum

“The work completed by the volunteers and Hazel has brought much needed order to the stores of the Museum of Gloucester.

This has enabled important sites to finally be reported on and given the museum a guide on how to correctly deal with finds and archives from now on”

Andrew Armstrong, Gloucester City Archaeologist