

NMS Collections Management Dept

Samantha Johns

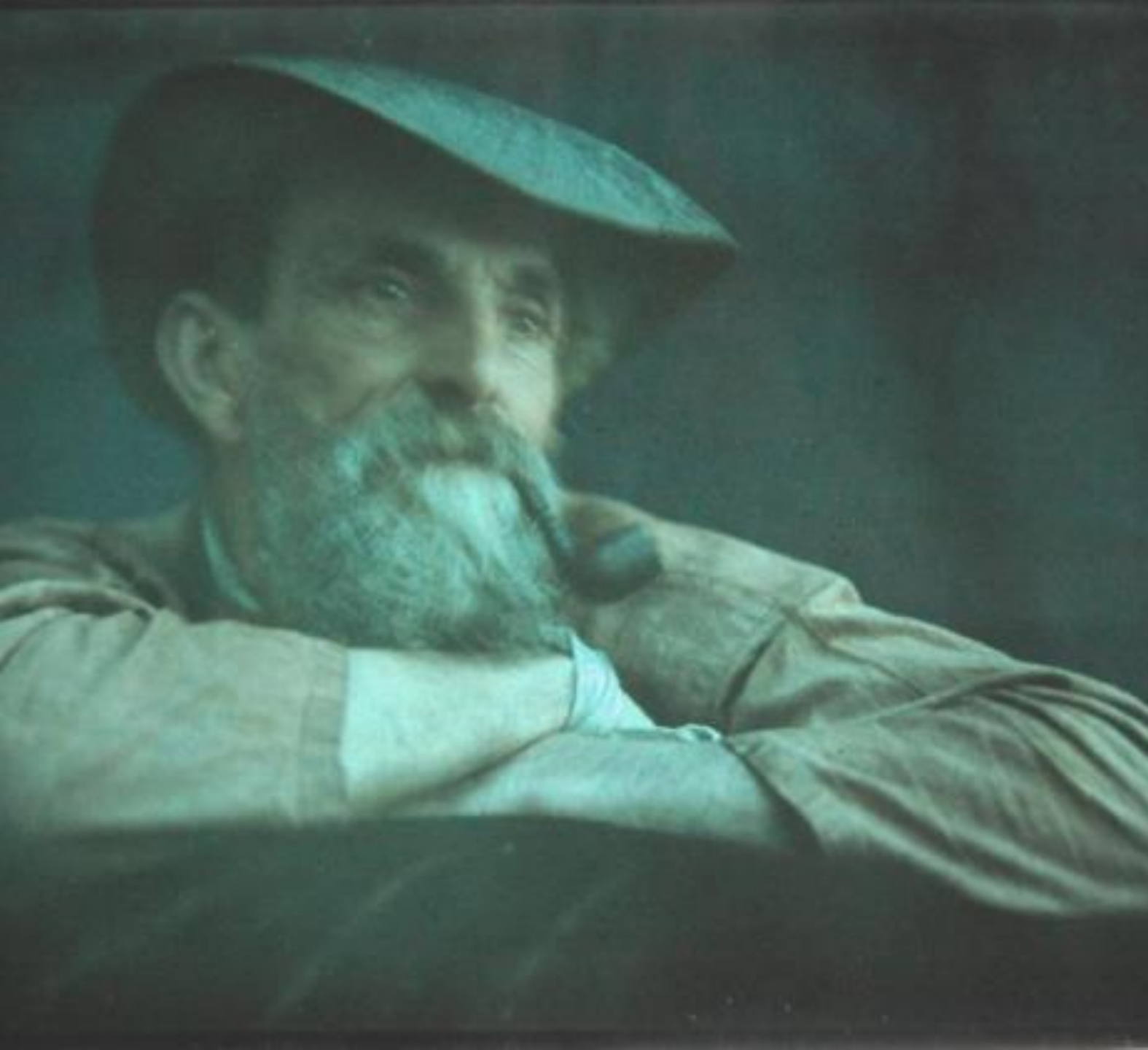
Collections Development Manager





The Department

- Small but perfectly formed team, county wide support, working closely with Conservation and Design & Technical on almost all aspects of anything which is collections related
- Collections Development Manager
- Registrar
- Collections Development Officer
- Collections Officer – Archeology Depositions
- Exhibitions Officer - Norwich



County wide
team support
all site and
activities that
involve
collections

All sites,
all collections,
every discipline



Collections development

- Collections committee
- Acquisitions, loans, collections moves supporting external events
- Insurance, GIS
- Policies and procedures. meeting national standard and legislation (cites, H&S, hazardous materials in collections)
- Emergency planning
- Coordination of ACE Accreditation returns for all sites (10 returns)



Collections Development

To stay relevant, museums need to develop their collections.

Integrated collections development makes sense of what they have and improve their holdings through considered acquisitions and in some cases carefully considered dispersals.

Collections Development

Accessioning

Acquiring

Assessing Significance

Removing

Rationalisation



Collections Access

An integrated approach to collections management gives access to museum objects now, while taking care to preserve them for future generations

Collections Access

Displaying and
exhibiting

Generating new
information

Lending and Borrowing

Producing Surrogates

Operating



Collections Information

To manage a museum collections effectively you need to know what you have and where it is – and to be able to retrieve and share that information quickly and easily.

Collections Information

Securing Intellectual
property rights

Managing Collections
information

Managing acquisition
and accession

Uniquely identifying
items

Maintaining an inventory

Retrieving Information

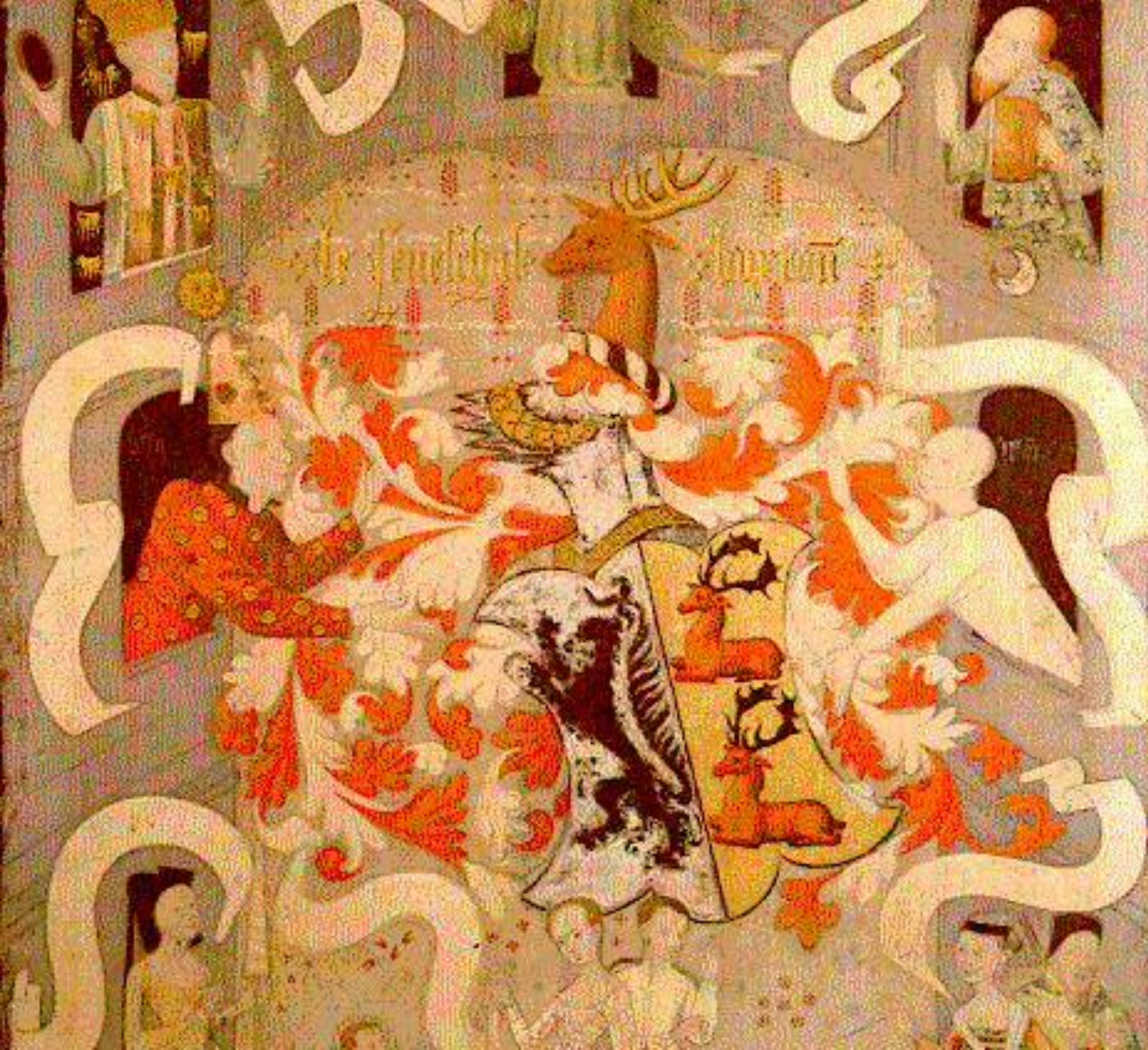
Protecting, maintaining
and improving
information

Classifying

Controlling location and
Movement

Describing groups and
collections

Cataloguing



Collections Care and Conservation

Integrated collections management takes a strategic approach to protecting and conserving objects in line with the museum's overall goals, using risk assessments to help make conservation decisions.

Collections Care and Conservation

Risk Assessing and
managing

Packing

Managing Collections
Care information

securing

transporting

Monitoring and
controlling environment

storing

Conserving

Condition Checking

Technically examining

Handling and Moving

Controlling pests



Stores and
object moves



Exhibitions

Paston Treasure:

Riches and Rarities of the known world.

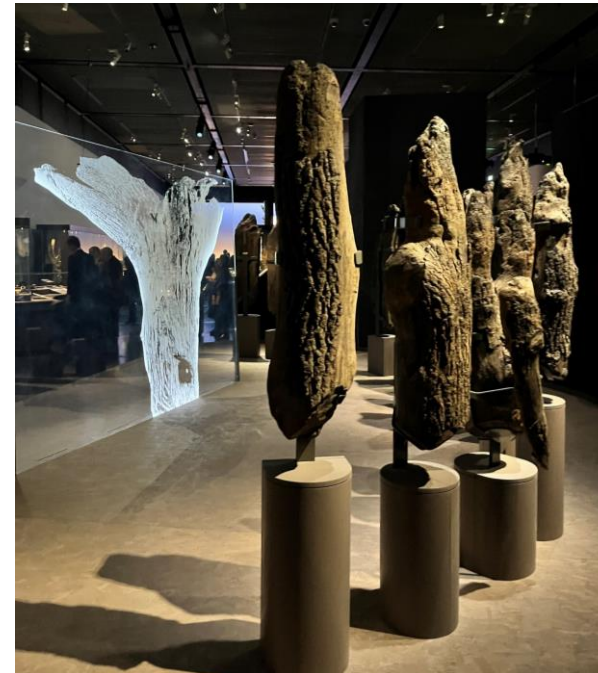
**Exhibition in 2018 at
Norwich Castle Museum,
developed in partnership
with Yale Centre for British
Art in the USA.**



Exhibitions

The World of Stonehenge

British Museum 2022





Training

Support teaching museum training

UEA

Partnerships

SHARE

Curatorial advisor



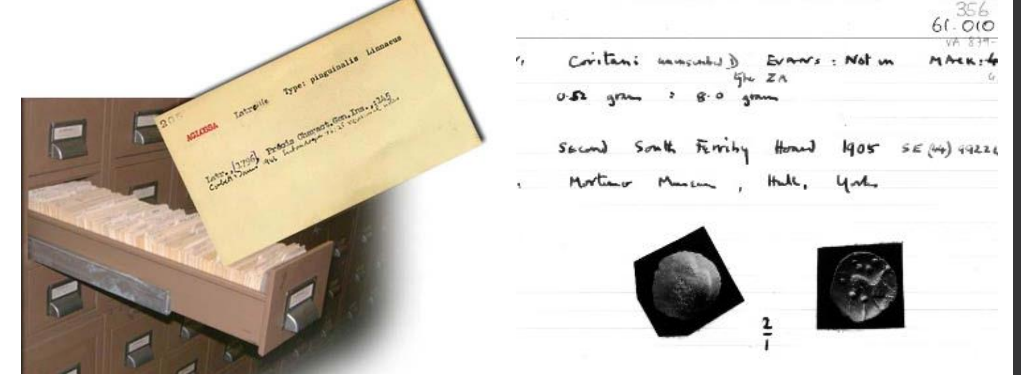
Displays

New displays,
New projects
New ideas




Data

Responsible for management of the digital collections related data





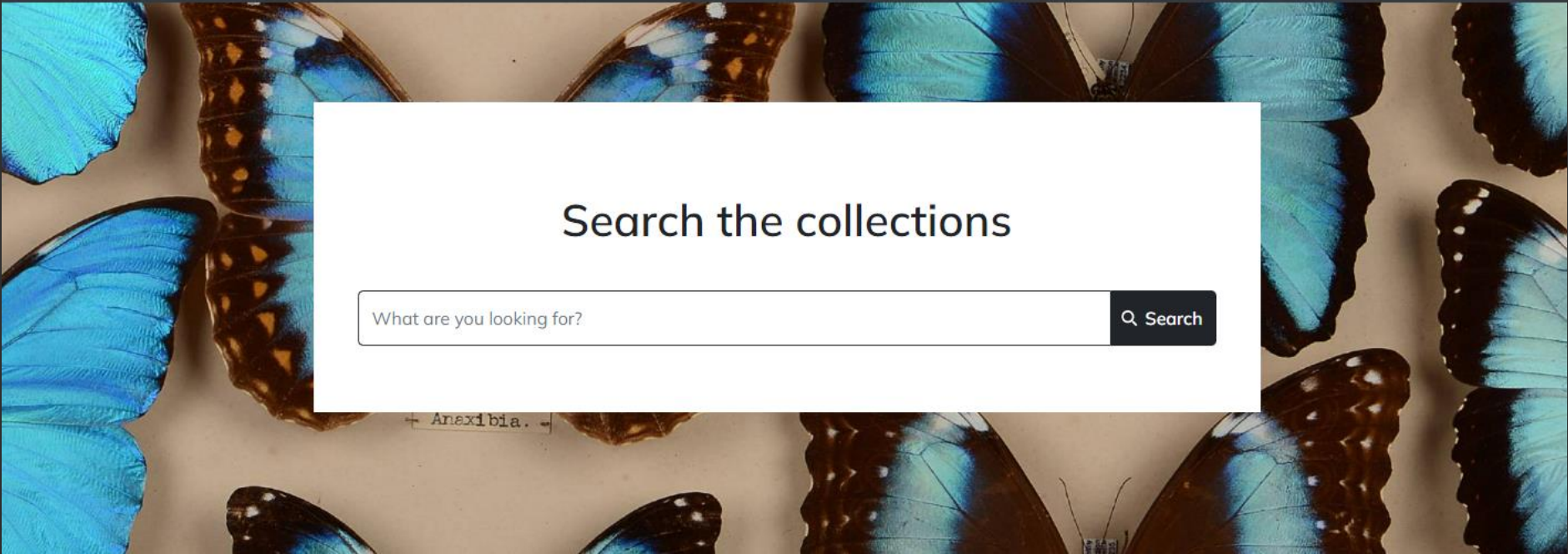
Search the collections

 Search


<https://www.museums.norfolk.gov.uk/collections>

- [Highlights](#)
- [Features](#)
- [Explore the collections](#)
- [Search the collections](#)





Search the collections

 Search

Department

Displayed at

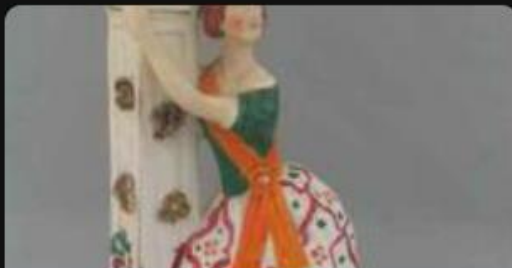
Artist/Maker



Grid view



Detailed view



Staffordshire
earthenware figure...



Whitby jet and
ammonite brooch



brooch silver agate



Norwich silver flagon

Cobbold, William



brooch gold turquoise



Stennett-Willson glass



King's Lynn silver gilt
apostle spoon



Dutch earthenware tile



Dutch earthenware tile

Accession number: NWHCM : 1998.64.101

Description

Square tin glazed earthenware tile decorated in underglaze blue and polychrome; picture of a yellowhammer-type bird in the centre of the tile; painted in blue, yellow and brown; standing on a green patch of grass; fleur-de-lys corners in underglaze blue and yellow.

This is a typical Dutch tile of the first half of the seventeenth century. The designs are usually simple and quite naïve in nature, although are always charming and attractive, showing vignettes of everyday life and biblical scenes as well as floral, animal and bird motifs. They were very often only painted in underglaze cobalt blue, but designs sometimes included other colours, as here. The opaque white surface to the earthenware is achieved by glazing with lead mixed with tin oxide. This technique originated in the Middle East around the ninth century CE to imitate Chinese porcelain and was later copied by European potters. However, it is easy to distinguish from porcelain as the glaze is brittle and prone to cracks and flaking.



John Crome (1768-1821)

'That GAINSBOROUGH, CONSTABLE, and CROME, were men of genius none can dispute,' proclaimed John Wodderspoon on the first page of 'John Crome and his Works' in 1858, while in 1923 Charles Collins Baker, Keeper of the National Gallery, stated that 'Our three greatest masters – Crome, Constable and Turner – demonstrate that landscape painting ... is peculiarly the business of the English genius.'

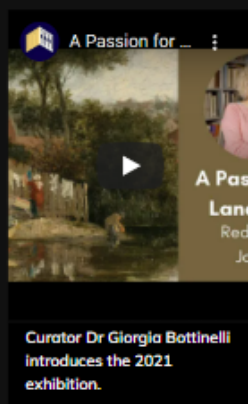
Yet, one hundred years on, Gainsborough, Turner and Constable are household names, but Crome is not. While Turner started exhibiting at the age of fifteen and Constable around twenty-six, Crome only showed his first works when he was thirty-six.

John Crome lived and worked in Norwich all his life. From humble beginnings he became a drawing master and was one of the principal founders of the Norwich Society of Artists. A careful observer of the natural world, Crome rooted his work in his local surroundings. He provided a snapshot of the Norfolk landscape, focusing on quiet corners, small streams, creaking gates and ancient trees. Crome kept his compositions simple; landscapes were rarely over-populated thus giving an overriding impression of light and air. Views of Norwich regularly feature in his oeuvre, as does the Norfolk coast.



The Royal Academy's 1878 Winter Exhibition included a section dedicated to the Norwich School. Crome's exhibits at the Academy caught the attention of the American novelist Henry James, who described him as 'a man of genius' and remarked on the historic importance of the Norwich School.

While Crome often looked to the 17th-century Dutch Old Masters, his interpretation was modern and distinctly his own. Crome's handling of the paint was seen as too modern by many reviewers who complained about the sketchy quality and want of finish of his work. Even so, the year Crome died his paintings at the British Institution were praised by at least four national publications. Soon after his death his fame appeared to gain momentum.



Crome's Norwich

Contemporary photographer Nick Stone walked in the footsteps of John Crome, along river banks and city paths, to revisit the locations which inspired him. Nick has created a self-guided walking tour which takes in some of the locations featured in his work. [Read Nick's article 'Finding Crome on the Norwich Castle blog](#), and follow in Crome's - and Nick's - footsteps to see the places which inspired them both.



Crome and copies




Crome's reputation



Works by Crome

Norfolk Museums holds a wide range of collections dating from pre-history to the present day. Browse this section to find out more about our different collections, watch introductions from our specialist curators, and see some of our most important objects.




Archaeology




Costume and
textile



Decorative
arts



Fine art




Geology



Natural
history



Royal Norfolk
Regimental
Museum



Social history



Natural history

Discover some of the highlights of our Natural History collections. From birds, butterflies, and plants, to scientific models and sea life specimens, the objects in this collection reflect our historic and current relationship with the natural world both locally and across the globe.

About our collections


The Natural History collections formed the bulk of the original material acquired by Norwich Museum when it was formed in 1825. Most of the early exhibits were private collections donated to the museum by its founders. Many of the early specimens were collected abroad; however current collecting policy now puts emphasis on local material.

Find out more about the history and contents of our internationally important Natural History collections in this video.



Search the collections

What are you looking for?

 Search

439846 results found

☐ Only objects with images

☐ Highlights from the Collections

The new Collections online database is under development. We are working to improve our records.

Grid view

Detailed view

Department

Displayed at

Artist/Maker

NMS Collections Management Dept

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