AN ANALYSIS OF A COLLECTOR—HERBERT DRUITT (1876-1943)
Jo Bailey

INTRODUCTION
By the time of his death, Herbert Druitt had amassed one of the biggest private collections in the south of England. He had filled three substantial buildings in the small port of Christchurch, Hampshire (in Dorset since 1974), literally from floor to ceiling, with local flint implements, pottery, fossils, shells, coins, birds' eggs, prints, watercolours, books, pamphlets and many other objects of local and historical interest. His diverse collection eventually formed the core of The Red House Museum, Christchurch, which opened its doors permanently to the public in 1951, eight years after Druitt's death. It began as an independent trustee museum but has been managed by the Hampshire County Museums Service since 1972.

This paper will attempt, firstly, to identify which phase Druitt belongs to in the history of collecting and secondly, to distinguish the intellectual or psychological mode of collection formation that dominated his work.

DRUITT'S PLACE IN THE HISTORY OF COLLECTING
Druitt only catalogued a small proportion of his collection and published even less. Most of the information available is in his diaries, miscellaneous papers, and press cuttings, or one catalogue of archaeological material put together by local historian, Bernard Calkin, after Druitt's death. It is apparent even from this piecemeal evidence, that the way in which he dealt with the various classes of material places him in the phase of 'classical collecting' but aspects of his activities are reminiscent of the 'early' phase of collecting.

FEATURES OF CLASSIC COLLECTING

1. Scientific Principles
Examination of Druitt's treatment of his archaeological material reveals that certain scientific principles are adhered to in his work. A catalogue of some of his flint implements survives, in which some of the objects have been classified according to the Three Age System and then by tool type within each period (HCMS a). In Druitt's only publication that refers to archaeological objects in his collection (Druitt 1934), he demonstrates further knowledge of typology by drawing parallels between one of his bronze spear-heads and a similar example from Cambridgeshire. He also quotes Abercromby, the well-known archaeologist, who appears to have examined one of his beakers and used both its form and decoration to compare it with examples from elsewhere in Europe in order to give it a date. An understanding of stratigraphy is also revealed by a small number of annotated archaeological section drawings that survive in Druitt's diaries (RHM a).

Although less well documented, Druitt's approach to the classification of his natural history material shows a similar understanding of scientific principles. His labels for geological specimens, for example, include their stratigraphic nomenclature.

2. Access to the Truth
In common with other 'classic collectors', Druitt considers that it is possible to make objective interpretations of evidence. In a letter to the Mayor of Christchurch, in which he was trying to persuade the Borough to establish a museum, Druitt lists one of the requirements of a museum to be labels that are of an 'instructive'[my emphasis] and accurate character' (RHM b).
FEATURES UNTYPICAL OF CLASSIC COLLECTING

There are two features of his collecting that make Druitt an untypical example of a 'classic collector', one of which is more reminiscent of the 'Early' phase of collecting.

1. Unsystematic Collecting
   Druitt did not appear to collect in order to demonstrate a particular intellectual concept.

2. Holistic Collecting
   The diversity of his material suggests that he planned to create a collection that was more characteristic of the 'Early-period of collecting, a microcosm of the universe, with particular reference to the area around Christchurch! He aimed to bring together all of the elements listed by Francis Bacon in *Gesta Grayorum* (Impey and MacGregor 1985), including the garden but excluding the live animals. His collection embraced works of art and curiosities both natural and artificial.

DRUITT’S PSYCHOLOGICAL MODE OF COLLECTION FORMATION

Features of a Fetishistic Collector
Herbert Druitt exhibits many of the characteristics of a fetishistic collector,

1. Samples not Examples
   The most obvious of these features was the desire to bring together an enormous quantity of similar objects, demonstrated most strikingly by his collections of archaeological material and books. He appeared to make no attempt to systematically select samples of particular classes of objects to demonstrate a particular intellectual concept, but to collect more and more examples of the same things, many of which were unlabelled and unlisted or catalogued. For example, when Calkin sorted through the archaeological collection after Druitt died, he found 140 unlisted neolithic flint arrowheads, in addition to the 161 examples mentioned in Druitt's papers. Calkin threw away lorry loads of unlisted prehistoric flint flakes and pottery sherds, and about 1500 fossil echinoids from the local gravels (HCMS b).

2. Quality of the Collection
   In spite of the unsystematic nature of Druitt's collecting, the result of his work is, to quote the current Keeper of Archaeology, 'the most amazing collection of Prehistoric flint and pottery' (Allen pers. comm.).

3. Public or Private?
   The second most obvious trait of fetishistic collecting detectable in Druitt was the tension surrounding the showing of his objects to the public. His enthusiasm for the creation of a regional museum based on his material is well documented (RHM b, HCMS b-press cutting) and yet Calkin records Druitt's extreme reluctance to allow others access to the collections.
   H. D. was most secret about his local archaeological material, & jealous of other collectors. I first met him on May 21st 1924, & subsequently after many rebuffs & disappointments was able to see the RHM [Red House Museum] collection on about a dozen occasions and to see round the other houses about six times. I used to make notes on my return home. (HCMS b).
   The virtual absence of published work by Druitt referring to his collections is further testament to his unwillingness to share his treasures with others. He does not appear to have been very enthusiastic about providing the contribution which was to be the only published reference to his archaeological material. His editor, S. Watson Smith, went as far as to record this reluctance in an appreciation of Herbert Druitt:
   His contribution to the "Book of Bournemouth" was a fine achievement, though extracted with some difficulty by the editor of that production ... (Bournemouth Daily Echo, 1943).

4. Financial Problems
   Financial problems are often a feature of the fetishistic collector and Druitt seems to be no exception. He bought many of his objects from local workmen, other collectors and at auction and, despite being from a wealthy family, he claims to have been a poor man (RHM b). Further research would be necessary to establish whether it was his collecting that led to his declared poverty.
CONCLUSION

Herbert Druitt demonstrated a knowledge of the scientific principles of several disciplines whose source material he collected and yet showed no apparent desire to use his knowledge to promote particular intellectual concepts. Instead he focused on the objects themselves. It was important for him to assemble as many of them around him for his own personal use. There is evidence (Bournemouth Daily Echo 1943, HCMS b-press cutting, RHM a) to suggest he was a complex man whose purpose for collecting in this fetishistic manner was probably to fulfil an emotional need that only a psychoanalyst would be in a position to identify.

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Druitt, H., 1934, 'Christchurch - a few notes on early Christchurch to the reign of Henry I' in S. Watson-Smith (ed.) The Book of Bournemouth, 67-108
HCMS a, Druitt's Catalogue of Flint Implements, Hampshire County Museum Service.
HCMS b, Catalogue of Herbert Druitt's Collection of Local Prehistoric and R-B Antiquities, compiled by J. B. Calkin, Hampshire County Museums Service Library, (includes death).
RHM a, Druitt's Diaries, Red House Museum Library.
This quote is an extended metaphor comparing Clegg's capture of Miranda to the capture of a butterfly. Since Clegg is indeed an avid butterfly collector, the ideas of collection and of Miranda as a specimen are prominent themes of the novel. This quote reveals a lot about Clegg's mindset: the imagery indicates that he views Miranda almost as another one of his butterflies, meant to be enjoyed from afar but not really interacted with once collected. 'I hate scientists,' she said. 'I hate people who collect things, and classify things and give them names and then forget Herbert Druitt (1876–1943). Author of A Manual of Costume as Illustrated by Monumental Brasses. Members. Reviews. Herbert Druitt is currently considered a "single author." If one or more works are by a distinct, homonymous authors, go ahead and split the author. Includes. Herbert Druitt is composed of 1 name. Combine with| No authors suggested. Portrait of a Collector is a painting by the Italian Mannerist artist Parmigianino, executed around 1524. The work, together with other four attributed to Parmigianino, was listed in the "wardrobe" of Ranuccio Farnese in 1587, as a Portrait of a Priest. A more detailed description from 1670, of the works in the Palazzo del Giardino at Parma, also identifies the subject as religious man. The painting arrived in England in the early 19th century, in the collections of Lord Radstock, and was later