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Securing a Future for Maritime Archaeological Archives

Element One: Mapping Maritime Collection Areas



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i. Acknowledgements

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Cover image acknowledgements:

Main background image: Diver working on the *Invincible* Protected Wreck Site (Invincible Project)

Inset images:

Work on the archive of the Warship *Hazardous* (Hampshire & Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology)

Extract from the *Invincible* archive database (HWTMA/ Invincible Project)

Selection of artefacts from the *Stirling Castle* held by Thanet Archaeological Trust (HWTMA)

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1. Executive Summary

Roles and responsibilities of museums and archives in relation to maritime archaeological archives are currently unclear. A lack of a structured system for the deposition of maritime archaeological archives in secure facilities to ensure long-term curation results in collections being dispersed, deteriorating, remaining un-interpreted, being sold or sometimes simply abandoned. This project sought to understand issues related to museums and the collection of maritime archaeological archives, particularly:

- To map the collecting areas of those museums and repositories that accept maritime archaeological archives;
- To identify those museums and repositories that consider maritime archaeological archives within their policies but are unable to accept them at present; and
- To demonstrate the issue of unresolved responsibility for maritime archaeological archives from the off-shore/marine zone, which do not fit easily into the model of local and regional collection areas.

Through an on-line questionnaire, which was backed up by email correspondence and phone calls, 161 museums across England and Scotland were targeted to answer questions relating to their collection policies, collection areas, whether they had been offered maritime archaeological archives, whether they actively collected them, and if they are unable to collect them reasons why this might be the case.

The survey gained an 82% response rate and provided a range of information related to museums and the collection of maritime archaeological archives. This information has significantly aided understanding of the key issues related to museums and the collection of maritime archaeological archives.

Survey responses indicated that:

- Only 17% of museum collection policies include maritime archaeological archives;
- 64% of museum collection areas include the coastal and/or marine zone (although a large number of these are the coastal zone to the low water mark rather than the marine zone);
- 29% of museums have been approached to accession maritime archaeological archives;
- 41% of museums currently hold maritime archaeological archives;
- 22% of museums actively collect maritime archaeological archives;
- Museums which do not actively collect maritime archaeological archives were asked to provide reasons why, 51 (of 104) museums provided further information which indicated lack of collection was due to:
 - Never been asked – 27%
 - Lack of remit – 20%
 - Lack of facilities – 14.4%
 - Lack of financial resources – 11.5%

- Lack of expertise – 10.5%; and
- Of the museums which do not collect maritime archaeological archives only 19 (18%) indicated they would collect if issues over why they do not collect were resolved.

Analysis of the results demonstrated a range of issues related to maritime archaeological archives which have contributed to the current situation whereby archives are very poorly represented in policy and practice. The result of which is a lack of coordinated approach and facilities for the long-term curation of this vital area of national heritage. The key issues to be addressed and potential actions required include:

Issues In Policy:

- The urgent need to determine and articulate roles and responsibilities for archaeological archives from the marine zone, on which future policy and best practice can be based. The current absence of clear routes for the deposition of maritime archaeological archives is exacerbated by a lack of clear policy from UK level to local and regional museums;
- The need to define responsibility for areas of collection so these can be articulated within the policy and guidance; and
- The need to provide guidance on the definition of maritime archaeological archive and their potential component parts.

Issues In Practice:

- There are no receiving museums for large areas of the marine zone, meaning that archaeological best practice often cannot be adhered to;
- There are no maritime reference collections or coordinated approach to collection;
- Experience of larger maritime archaeological archives may make museum approaches in relation to policy and collection more positive;
- Few archives from maritime archaeological investigations are currently being deposited, leading to a potential back-log problem; and
- The general response to developing capacity for maritime archaeological archives by museums was negative.

In response to these issues a number of required action points have been put forward:

Developing Policy, Guidance and Best Practice, actions required include:

- Recognising the extent to which maritime cultural heritage is not included within current policy and practice and treating it as a priority in order to fulfil Government obligations to adhere to established best practice such as IfA Standards and Guidance and particularly in light of the adoption of the rules of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage as policy;
- Urgent need to clarify the roles and remits of museums and archives in relation to the marine zone from the UK level, to the local and regional level;

- Recognition that maritime archaeological archives may have special requirements or ‘differences’ from terrestrial archives that involve the development of appropriate responses and/or guidance;
- Development of guidance notes for best practice; and
- Recognition that development of capacity for maritime archaeological archives will require the investment of resources.

Developing Capacity, potential solutions include:

- Expanding number of currently established coastal museums that could accession maritime archaeological archives, although many of the survey respondents indicated they would not be willing to collect maritime archaeological archives even if the resources were made available; and
- Developing national or specialist solutions that could include maritime archaeological archive resource centres or the expansion of the facilities and capacity of a currently established museum with maritime holdings that could house a specialist centre.

The results of the survey provide the first set of comprehensive data relating to museums and the collection of maritime archaeological archives. This baseline provides the opportunity on which to develop appropriate responses to the dire situation which currently faces maritime archaeological archives. Without urgent action to address the issues raised within the survey there is a real threat that even more of our maritime cultural heritage will be lost to researchers, schools, community groups and members of the public.

2. Project Background

The *Securing a Future for Maritime Archaeological Archives* Project was formulated in response to work by the IFA Maritime Affairs Group (MAG) which highlighted the dire situation facing maritime archaeological archives. At present there are a lack of museums and archive repositories willing or able to take collections from the marine environment. Thus our maritime heritage is ‘slipping through the net’; it is being dispersed, is deteriorating, remains un-interpreted and un-curated, is sold or sometimes simply abandoned. As this continues more of our past is placed beyond the reach of the research community, of schools, of community groups, and of the public as a whole.

The maritime heritage community is in agreement on the urgent need to develop approaches to maritime archaeological archives at all levels from strategic policy to local or regional repositories. Without the enforcement of ‘best practice’ and development of the capacity to accession maritime archaeological material, collections are likely to remain in their current precarious situation, considered neither by archaeological archive organisations nor by maritime museums.

In order to address this situation there is a need to have a firm knowledge base on which to base future initiatives. *Securing a Future for Maritime Archaeological Archives* aims to address this through:

- Understanding how museum and archive repository collection areas and collection policies consider the marine zone;
- Reviewing where maritime archaeological archives are currently held and assessing their public accessibility; and
- Analysing present maritime archive creation and assessing the scale and nature of future maritime archives.

This report presents the results of Element One of this project – *Mapping Maritime Collection Areas*. The aim of this element was to understand how museum and archive repository collection policies address maritime archaeological archives and to quantify the areas that do not have facilities to accept such archives. The objectives were:

- To map the collecting areas of those museums and repositories that accept maritime archives;
- To identify those museums and repositories that consider maritime archives within their policies but are unable to accept them at present; and
- To demonstrate the issue of unresolved responsibility for maritime archives from the off-shore/marine zone, which do not fit easily into the model of local and regional collection areas.

3. Survey and Methodology

Element One of the project has been primarily desk based, it was designed to establish which areas of England and Scotland have public museums or archive repositories willing and/or able to accession maritime archives and to gather information on issues related to capacity. It focused on the zone between the high water mark and the limit of territorial waters (12 nautical miles).

3.1 Defining maritime archaeological archives

To avoid confusion over the scope of the project which is primarily focused on the results of archaeological investigations, collections and material from the marine zone, the following definition of ‘archive’ was developed and included within survey correspondence.

Maritime archaeological archives considered include:

- Material relating to shipwrecks and associated artefacts (whether single finds or collections), aircraft remains, prehistoric landscapes, now submerged terrestrial sites and any other types of sites or finds lying below the high water mark;
- Archive material might be documentary including field notes, reports, photographs, drawings and slides (including site reports held by HERs and NMRs), object (both artefactual and environmental samples) or digital. This includes grey literature reports; and
- Records of investigations, or archaeological interventions, which have produced any of the above types of archive including desk based assessments, survey (direct and remote), evaluation, excavation and artefact recovery/salvage.

The phrase ‘maritime archives’ has been adopted throughout the rest of this document and should be considered as including all archives in the above definition.

Types of archive NOT included within the project include:

- Inventories or ‘records’ not focused on cultural heritage such as the UKHO;
- Documentary records of shipping losses and or maritime related trades;
- Records derived from historic ships which are still afloat; and
- Archives from projects undertaken outside of UK territorial waters.

3.2 Scope and survey recipients

The mapping exercise adopted methods that complimented those used for both the ‘*English Museums and the Collection of Archaeological Archives*’ project undertaken by the Society of Museum Archaeologists (SMA) (Bott 2003) which mapped terrestrial collection areas (http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/specColl/sma_map/) and the subsequent follow-up project ‘*Archaeology Collecting Areas Survey*’ (Edwards 2006). These SMA funded projects had successfully utilised questionnaires which were then followed up with phone calls as necessary.

Due to our funding support, *Mapping Maritime Collections* has focused on England and Scotland in detail. In England those museums included within the SMA projects that are located adjacent to the coast or major rivers were all contacted. Additional input was provided from other museums who responded online to the Element One survey and who are Accredited under the Museums, Libraries and Archives scheme. The results were then

analysed by region, which have been split down into county, district and/or city areas depending on museum coverage and collection areas. For Scotland the regions as defined on the Scottish Museums Council website (http://www.scottishmuseums.org.uk/museums/by_area/index.asp) were used (it should be noted that the information that was held on this website is now accessible via Museums Galleries Scotland <http://www.museumsgalleriesscotland.org.uk/search-for-museums-&-galleries/results/?all>). All those museums included on this website were contacted to take part in the survey.

It became a relatively complex task to determine which museums should or should not be included in terms of their proximity to the coast or major tidal rivers. If there was any question over this, museums were included rather than excluded. It proved difficult to have a 'definitive' list of museums and inevitably some of those included may not necessarily be the first 'port of call' for curators when deposition becomes an issue. Also it is entirely possible that some museums and archives which do collect maritime material have been missed.

Although Wales, Northern Ireland, Isle of Man and Channel Islands have not been targeted with the detailed survey of museums, contact has been made with relevant heritage professionals to gain information on the situation regarding maritime archaeological archives. This has allowed a broad assessment of the situation across the UK and adjacent territories.

It has been recognised that maritime archaeological archives have often 'fallen between' the remits of those museums collecting archaeological archives and those specialising in maritime collections (Ransley & Satchell 2006; Satchell & Ransley). To account for this the project also targeted museums and archives with national coverage and those with relevant specialist collections (eg Royal Naval Museum, Science Museum, fisheries collections etc).

There are also a large number of private museums and exhibits which hold maritime archive material. When these are privately owned and not accredited within the MLA Scheme (and hence not regulated through ethical codes and best practice models) their responses have not been included within Element One, but have been included within Element Two which considers more detailed aspects of the types, distributions and access to collections.

3.3 The survey questionnaire

The survey questionnaire was designed to be simple to use to encourage participation. As museums were also being asked to provide details of any maritime archives that they held as part of Element Two of the project, a combined Element One and Two survey was developed. Questions asked for Element One of the project were:

1.1 Does your collection policy specifically refer to maritime archaeological archives?

Yes (tick box). Please provide extract of text or attach policy via email

No (tick box). If no, Can you collect maritime archives under your policy? Yes/ No (tick box).

1.2. *Does your collection area include the coastal and/ or marine zone?*

No (tick box)

Yes (tick box) How is this defined?

1.3. *Have you ever been approached to accession maritime archives?*

No (tick box)

Yes (tick box), Please give brief details (text field).

1.4. *Do you have any maritime archaeological archives?*

No (tick box)

Yes (tick box) If yes see Phase two questions

1.5. *Do you actively collect maritime archives?*

Yes (tick box)

No (tick box)

1.5.1 *If you do not actively collect maritime archives is this due to:*

Lack of financial resources (tick box)

Lack of facilities (tick box)

Lack of expertise (tick box)

Lack of remit (tick box)

Never been asked (tick box)

If these issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives? (text field)

Survey and data formats

The survey questions were initially developed in Microsoft Word and circulated to the project steering group for comment. The revised questions were then made available online using Survey Monkey software. All target museums were then emailed to request their participation in the survey, they were encouraged to use the online version, although were also given the option of a hard copy. Participants were asked to respond within a set timescale and a reminder email was sent out before and after the deadline.

In response to feed back from respondents to both Element One and Element Two sections of the survey an Excel version was created. This could be downloaded and saved onto individual computers so those with larger or multiple collections could add information and return to it over time until it was complete. This was made available from the project website (<http://www.hwtma.org.uk/index.php?page=maritime-archaeological-archives>).

The Survey Monkey software collated online responses into spread sheets, which were downloaded and added into the main project database which was created in Microsoft Access. When responses were provided in hard copy or verbally over the phone these were inputted manually into the project database. This database was then used to query the responses for reporting.

3.4 Survey responses

The responses to the survey raised a number of issues and questions. Some of these responses resulted in changes to the original project timetable and methodology.

Response rate

The number of museums and archives responding by the original survey deadline was relatively low at only around 15%. This was improved after an initial chasing email was sent out as a reminder. A further email reminder was sent out to try to raise the response rate. The deadline for responses to the survey was extended. However, when this deadline had passed there were still a relatively high number of museums who had not responded (around 40% of those targeted). In order to complete the survey the remaining museums were phoned and asked to provide answers verbally.

Failure to reply / respond

Despite the efforts made to gain responses from the total 161 museums and archives targeted it was not possible to achieve 100% response rate. There were a number of reasons why individual museums could not be included, the most common were:

- Museum was in the process of moving premises;
- Museum closed for the winter; and
- Appropriate person was unavailable after email requests and numerous phone calls.

To gain as complete a picture as possible in relation to maritime archives considerable extra time was invested attempting to gain as many responses as possible. Due to the need to complete the project the decision was made to discontinue attempts to gain responses after email correspondence and at least two chasing phone calls. Of the 161 museums targeted it was not possible to gain responses from 30 of these, giving an 18% non-response rate. Figure One (located in Section 8) shows the location of the museums taking part in the survey.

Accuracy/ completeness

The levels of information provided by respondents within the online questionnaire was generally very good, with some providing extensive amounts of information within the text boxes and some as attachments that were emailed. There were a number of queries about the online survey software and the inability to save an 'in progress' draft, this was resolved with the development of a version in Excel.

The issue of definition of 'maritime' was raised by a number of respondents. Some indicated that 'marine' would have been more appropriate for the survey. Efforts to minimise any misunderstanding about definitions of what should be included within the survey had been made through information sent out within covering emails. However, it may have been advantageous to also have this repeated within the online survey software.

In general the responses have provided high quality information on which to base the reporting. The gathering of this baseline data on museums and maritime archive deposition will allow issues highlighted to be addressed from an informed position.

4. Results

This section presents the results of each of the main survey questions, it examines the responses given and analyses issues raised. Further detail of the responses of individual museums are contained within the Appendices (Section 9).

4.1 Collection policies

One of the key issues raised in relation to maritime archives is how they are included within the collection policies of individual museums and archives. This section of the survey sought to determine whether maritime archives were referenced in policy and gain extracts of these policies for comparison.

4.1.1 Summary of responses to collection policy question

<i>Q1: Does your Collection Policy specifically refer to maritime archaeological archives?</i>		
<i>Yes</i>	22	17%
<i>No</i>	111	83%

Q1: Does your Collection Policy specifically refer to maritime archaeological archives?

The majority of responses to this question were ‘no’ (83%), with only one ‘no’ respondent (Cornwall) offering any accompanying note – in this case it was that the policy was currently under review. Due to the small number of ‘yes’ responses there has not been an analysis by region, instead a review by country has been presented. This considers the detailed responses provided by these museums. The full collection of comments and policy extracts have been included as Appendix 9.2, they include information on the way in which maritime material is referenced.

Figure Two (located in Section 8) provides a visual interpretation of the results from this question and demonstrates the large number of museums which do not specifically refer to maritime archives within their collection policies.

4.1.2 England

Regional

It is clear that few museums within England have collection policies which refer to maritime archives. The greatest number of museums answering ‘yes’ to referencing maritime archives were located within the south west and south east regions. Although it is only a small sample of policies that have been reviewed the ways in which they include and refer to maritime archives highlights a range of approaches and issues.

The ways maritime archives were referenced within policies ranged from simple statements such as ‘encompasses maritime archaeology and records from that’ to the most extensive consideration such as that of the National Museums Liverpool (see appendix 9.2).

A number of museums which are pro-active in the inclusion of maritime archives within policies already hold archives related to specific wreck sites. Poole, Plymouth and the Isle of Wight all hold shipwreck archives, some of which are specifically referenced within their collection policies, indicating that having experience of maritime archives makes it more likely for them to be included in museum collection policies.

Not all policies are prescriptive in referencing shipwrecks, some are more broad including statements referring to evidence of trading links (Plymouth) and 'local history in any form' (Thurrock Museum). The Isle of Wight is most encompassing in its policy stating that it 'will acquire archaeological material and associated evidence from the topographical area of the island of the Isle of Wight and its coastal waters, and record, preserve and interpret the culture and activities of people on the Isle of Wight from prehistoric times to the industrial revolution'. This is the only reference within any collection policies to the existence of submerged prehistoric material, this is a reflection of the developing nature of this area of research as there are very few archaeological investigations of these sites yet undertaken. The recovery of prehistoric material by fisherman from the Southern North Sea has been common for many years (Murphy 2007), but it would seem this has not prompted inclusion of this material within collection policies.

Some museums make reference to archaeological archives which does not appear to distinguish between whether archaeological archives come from the terrestrial zone or the maritime zone. However, there are often additions to the policy indicating that acquisition would consider whether the museum had the ability to store and conserve material from underwater. For instance Plymouth states 'Marine archaeology items will only be accepted subject to appropriate conservation, storage and display facilities' and Lancaster outlines that 'Due regard will also be given to the ability to conserve and store artefacts from underwater archaeology'. This raises this issue of conservation requirements for maritime archives and the perception this may involve extra cost and specific facilities. The National Museums Liverpool go as far to state that there is 'Generally a presumption against acquiring excavated material and against direct involvement or sponsoring of excavations, in favour of collecting survey results and records'.

A number of policies refer to relevant guidance documents and codes of practice, those featured include:

- The Code of Practice on Archives for Museums & Galleries in the UK (3rd ed. 2002) (Ramsgate Museum)
- ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance, the UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property and the ICMM Guidelines. (National Museums Liverpool)

While the content of some of these policies appears to be positive in relation to the inclusion of maritime archaeological archives, it must be remembered they are only a very small proportion of the museums around the English coastline. In practice maritime archives are poorly represented within the policies of coastal museums.

National

The only national archive to respond to the survey was the National Monuments Record (NMR). The NMR collection policy does not specifically include maritime archives.

4.1.3 Scotland

Regional

The only detailed response in relation to collection areas from a regional museum in Scotland was from Dundee Industrial Heritage. This organisation is primarily associated with the historic vessel of RRS Discovery, so is not strictly within the definition of maritime archives provided for this project. Orkney Museum answered ‘yes’ to having a collection policy which specifically referred to maritime archives, but did not provide further details of this.

The lack of specific mention of maritime archives within regional Scottish Museum policy may be due to the more structured approach to archives within Scotland. Generally material archives are held by the National Museums of Scotland while the documentary elements of the archive are deposited with the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS).

National

Contrasting with the regional collection policies maritime archives are well represented within museums and archives with a national remit for Scotland.

- RCAHMS states ‘As the national record of the archaeological, buildings and maritime heritage of Scotland, the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) will acquire, catalogue, research and conserve material within these subject areas, and make it available to members of the public’.
- Scottish Maritime Museum states that its collection area will be ‘the maritime heritage of Scotland. Maritime heritage includes the commercial, industrial, social and cultural aspects of man’s relationship with the seas, lochs, rivers, and inland waterways of Scotland’.
- Scottish Fisheries Museum included an extract from its Acquisition and disposal policy: ‘The Museum will not acquire archaeological antiquities (including excavated ceramics) in any case where the governing body or responsible officer has any suspicion that the circumstances of their recovery involved a failure to follow the appropriate legal procedures, such as reporting finds through the Treasure Trove procedure, or any other relevant body such as the Receiver of Wreck in the case of finds from within the UK territorial seas’.

The clear inclusion of archaeology and maritime heritage in the collection policy of the RCAHMS indicates the inclusive approach to material from above or below the water. The collection policy of the Maritime Museum appears to be similarly inclusive, although focusing on ‘maritime’ in relation to ships and shipping.

The Scottish Fisheries Museum is the only policy which references the Receiver of Wreck system, which is part of the Merchant Shipping Act 1995, and is the primary mechanism for the reporting of finds from below the high water mark. The legislation

was originally drafted in the late 19th century to protect the property of owners whose ships were wrecked. The Act applies to all objects from shipwrecks, whether cargo, hull structure or personal apparel and of any date – from the Bronze Age to yesterday.

4.1.4 UK wide and Special Interest Collections

The only UK wide museum which responded positively of having maritime archives within its collection policy was the National Maritime Museum. During research for this project there have been several occasions when other institutions have assumed that the NMM would have a remit to collect maritime archives, especially those related to shipwrecks. However, as stated ‘The NMM’s Archaeological Research Centre, which closed in the 1980s, obtained through loans and acquisitions a reference collection for early boat and ship technology, and assemblages from excavation. After the return of the loans, this did not constitute a coherent collection. NMM’s policy since 1995 has been one of disposal, attempting to ensure that items are put to best use for display or research in other institutions in the UK able to provide maximum public access and sympathetic interpretation’. This has resulted in the action of ‘no further acquisition or loan-in of maritime archaeological material’. Although the NMM did state that it would collect particular objects from archaeological contexts if they fitted specific policies, as long as ‘due diligence in regard to the protection of the underwater cultural heritage’ had been followed.

The only specific area of the NMMs Collection Development Policy 2008-2012 that mentions maritime archaeology is under the ‘Commerce and Conflict’ subject area. It states ‘Maritime archaeology: We have no dedicated curatorial expertise in this area and extremely limited holdings, which we are seeking to disperse or dispose of. We have no plans to collect maritime archaeology although if an object were to be relevant to this collecting area we might pursue acquisition’.

The approach to maritime archives by the NMM raises some issues in terms of collection policies. If the museum which many assume to be the ‘natural home’ for the archives of shipwreck excavations does not collect them as part of policy, then where should these archives be deposited?

In addition, as the NMM response outlined, in the 1980s they had developed a reference collection for boat and ship technology. Now this has been disposed of, there is no such reference collection available to researchers.

4.1.5 Devolved Nations and adjacent territories

While the survey concentrated on gathering detailed information from England and Scotland there were also responses from other devolved nations and adjacent territories. This information is useful for providing a broader picture of how collection policies include maritime archives.

Wales: Both the Royal Commission for the Ancient and Historic Monuments of Wales (RCAHMW) and National Museum Wales do not specifically mention maritime archives

within their collection policy. The RCAHMW is best set up to take paper and digital archives, but would not take artefacts.

Northern Ireland: Although specific information on the collection policy was not gained from NI, information was provided on the approach to maritime archives: ‘The Centre for Maritime Archaeology (CMA), based at the University of Ulster (UU), Coleraine, Co. Londonderry, was formed in February 1999. It is jointly funded by NIEA and by UU. Part of the role of the Centre is to undertake the development and maintenance of an archive of maritime-related sites, and to provide advice and recommendations for the protection and management of the maritime heritage’. It is understood that the majority of this archive is digital and documentary.

Channel Islands: Guernsey Museum and Gallery replied that its collection policy did not refer to maritime archives, but it does refer to marine archaeology and to archives. This raises the issue of definition (see section 4.1.6 below).

Isle of Man: Does not specifically refer to maritime archives.

Of the devolved nations and adjacent territories that replied only Guernsey has specific reference to collections from the marine zone. This lack of inclusion demonstrates a similar situation to that within England.

4.1.6 Summary and Issues

The review of collection policies has demonstrated that maritime archives do not feature prominently within these documents. It has highlighted a range of issues:

- **Lack of inclusion**

It is clear that few coastal museum and archive collection policies include maritime archives, as demonstrated by Figure Two. A possible reason for this could be the remit of particular museums being defined by Local Authority boundaries (see section 4.2). Although it could be argued that with a lack of maritime archaeological excavations and/or investigations having been undertaken within particular areas and a significant number of those that have being undertaken by amateur groups, there has not been the requirement for museums to consider these in their collection policies.

At a national level the situation is slightly different with Scotland’s national museums and archives having an inclusive approach to maritime. Whereas in England the situation differs with no specific reference to maritime archives and a much less structured approach to the roles and remits of museums and archives.

There are cases where lack of inclusion within collection policy does not mean a museum would not collect maritime archives, they are just not specifically included within policy. At the other extreme some museums, such as the National Maritime Museum which has an action point of ‘no further collection of maritime archaeological material’ (although would potentially accept individual items), and the National Museums Liverpool with a

presumption against acquiring maritime excavation archives, have policy which excludes maritime archives.

- **Experience of maritime archives, conservation, storage and display**

Those museums which currently hold maritime archives appear most likely to reference them specifically within their collection policies. Having experience of maritime archives seems to influence attitudes towards them. If this is compared to the number of instances where entries within collection policies refer to conservation, storage and display requirements, it indicates there is a general feeling that maritime archives require extra resources and facilities (these issues are examined further in section 4.4).

- **Definitions**

Maritime, marine and underwater have all been used within different collection policies, despite the relatively small number of policies which have been considered. The issue of definition while outside of the scope of this study is relevant. One respondent (Guernsey) pointed out that their policy did refer to ‘marine’ archaeology and archives, but had answered no to having a policy that referred to ‘maritime’ archives. Another (Suffolk) asked for more information on the definition of ‘maritime’.

There has long been a debate over the use of ‘maritime’ or ‘marine’ in relation to the cultural heritage resource that lies below the low water mark (Dellino-Musgrave 2006: 22-23; Flatman & Staniforth 2006: 168-169). The strict definition of ‘maritime’ is related to the study of ships, seafaring, trade and exchange utilising watercraft, whereas ‘marine’ is broader and would encompass any sites below the water including prehistoric landscapes, crashed aircraft etc. However, in practice the use of either term is common place when referring to underwater archaeology. This discourse, which may appear from outside of the discipline to be ‘naval gazing’, does permeate into issues of archives and how they are defined, referenced and collected, so should not be ignored in terms of collection policies.

Many respondents and collection policies do seem to focus on ‘maritime’ as referring to ships and shipping. This is partly a product of shipwrecks being by far the most common type of site investigated in the marine zone. The Isle of Wight has the only collection policy which references the existence of prehistoric material below water, this may be a reflection of specific regional circumstances as the most extensive in-situ prehistoric landscapes and occupation evidence yet located are off the Island. The development of the study of submerged prehistoric landscapes (Momber 2004, Murphy 2007, Gaffney et al 2007; Wessex Archaeology 2004; Gupta *et al* 2004) raises further questions of the remit of museums and archives to collect and curate this material.

- **Lack of clarity over responsibility**

There are potential issues raised in terms of overlapping collection policies between regional or national museums and special interest collections. Although this is a situation which is common within the museums field it is an issue that has not been debated for maritime archives. Due to the general lack of inclusion of maritime archives within policy it is more likely that no museum will have applicable policy.

4.2 Collection Areas

The review of collection policies has demonstrated that maritime archives do not feature highly, although a number of museums can and do collect maritime archives, but are not specifically referenced in their policy. To clarify how the seaward extent of collection areas is defined all survey respondents were asked to provide information on their geographical remit.

4.2.1 Summary of responses to Collection Area questions

<i>Q2: Does your Collection Area include the coastal and/or marine zone?</i>		
<i>Yes</i>	84	64%
<i>No</i>	49	36%

Q2: Does your collection area include the coastal and/or marine zone?

Most of the museums answering ‘yes’ to this question also provided further text explaining the definition of the collection area in more detail. A pattern emerged showing three main responses:

- Low Water Mark or Local Authority Area
- Territorial waters (12 miles)
- Undefined

Figure Three (located in Section 8) includes these three main distinctions when mapping the collection areas of museums.

4.2.2 Analysis of Collection Areas

4.2.2.1 England

Figure Three showing detail of the collection areas has been included within Section 8.

North East England: This area is relatively well served with museums having collection areas which go beyond the low water mark into the marine zone.

North West England: North West of England is perhaps the least well covered in terms of having museums whose collection areas include the coastal and marine zone.

South East England: As can be seen in Figure Three the south east is one of the areas with the most museums which define their collection area as including the coastal and marine zone.

South West England: This region is generally relatively well covered for museums which collect down to the low water mark or have collection areas that are undefined.

In England the coverage of museum collection areas often includes the coastal zone, although there is some significant regional variation in coverage. Quite a large number of

museums can collect to the low water mark, which is often the boundary of the local authority, although this can be contrasted within directly adjacent areas where they are able to collect out to the 12 mile territorial waters limit.

National Bodies: The National Monuments Record is the only national archive in England which responded to the survey. It does hold a number of records from maritime archaeological projects and can collect within the 12 mile territorial waters area.

4.2.2.2 Scotland

Within Scotland's museums there was a relatively high incidence of collection areas which include the marine zone (Figure Three). There are some regional differences over whether this is defined by territorial waters or will go beyond this distinction.

National: With the remit of the RCAHMS extending to 70 miles from the coastline this is an extensive area of marine zone that is covered by a national organisation. With the system in Scotland where the object archive is held by the National Museum of Scotland and any associated paper, image or digital archive held by the RCAHMS this provides a structured approach across the marine zone.

Of the responses from special interest museums with a national remit for Scotland two responses demonstrated issues which can arise over collection areas.

Museum of Scottish lighthouses: only collects from areas close to lighthouses, but this could be from the marine zone. This could result in coverage for a very specific area which may generate a collection with geographical focus but this could also include shipwreck material of an international nature.

Scottish Fisheries Museum: defines its collection area as within UK territorial waters, highlighting the potential overlap between regional and/or national collection areas and that of special interest collections.

4.2.2.3 UK wide and special interest collections

With a number of large institutions with UK wide collection areas, including a range of special interest collections there is potential overlap of collection areas. Three museums with UK wide coverage provided further detail on their collection areas – the British Museum was the most extensive with 'the whole of the world' being within their collection area. The Fleet Air Arm and Royal Air Force museums indicated their collection area does include the marine zone, the former concentrates more on records, the latter does have some material from the sea, although this is generally an exception.

The UK wide situation reflects that within England and Wales; while a number of museums have collection areas that mean they can, and occasionally do, collect from the coastal and marine zone there is confusion over where specific responsibility for this lies.

4.2.2.4 Other Devolved Nations and adjacent territories

While the following respondents had not been specifically targeted for detailed assessment within the survey which concentrated on England and Scotland they were asked to provide details of approaches and policy in relation to maritime archives. The

information gained has been very useful in providing a broader picture across the whole of the UK.

Wales: ‘We have made a collection policy decision to take the scope of the NMRW out to the median line between ourselves and Ireland (UK share of the Continental shelf) rather than just to 12nm, because of the increasing devolved responsibilities that the Welsh Assembly Government for marine spatial planning. Also a great many of the recent offshore development proposals are spanning the 12nm limit which makes for rather an odd situation. The primary focus for record enhancement remains the limit of territorial waters at 12nm as specified in our Royal Warrant’.

Channel Islands: Guernsey was the only Channel Island to take part in the survey. Their collection area does include the coastal and marine zone, but this isn’t specifically defined within a certain area.

Isle of Man: ‘Manx National Heritage has responsibility up to the High Water Mark. Below that, the land (and sea bed) are owned by the Department of Transport, Isle of Man Government. We also have our own Receiver of Wreck’.

The information provided by Wales highlights the increasing focus on responsibilities within the marine zone that has been prompted by the development of marine spatial planning and draft Marine Bills. It also mentions the expansion of offshore development, which is one of the catalysts for turning the spotlight onto roles and responsibilities in relation to maritime archives.

4.2.3 Summary and Issues

The range of responses related to collection areas has shown inconsistency in terms of the marine extent of collection areas. Detailed responses to this question have also highlighted a number of issues over roles and responsibilities.

- **No collection area coverage**

While some museums can collect beyond the low water mark there is still a large area with no collection area coverage. There is confusion over the remit of national and special interest collections in relation to local and regional museums, with a presumption against responsibility for the marine area.

Edwards 2006 study of archaeological collection areas of England highlighted that ‘Although museum accreditation now requires the definition of collection policies in geographical terms, it is apparent that this has yet to reach all museums and all areas in England. Whilst this is undoubtedly improving the definition of and agreement about archaeology collecting areas, in some areas gaps or overlaps have survived undetected between mapped collecting areas’ Edwards (2006: 9). This situation is certainly the case in the marine zone where the long-term lack of consideration of maritime archives due to the dislocation of archaeological study in this area from that in the terrestrial zone has resulted in large gaps in coverage – both in geographical terms as demonstrated by this survey question, and in policy (see Section 4.1).

The 2006 study demonstrated that in the three years since the 2003 (Bott) study there had been changes in collection areas and that these definitions were not static. With increased focus on the roles and remits of museums in relation to maritime archives, it is possible that these boundaries may change in the future.

- **Differences between collection areas and collection policies**

Comparing the number of museums that have collection areas that cover the coastal and marine zone with the responses to question one on collection policy, there appears to be significantly more museums whose collection areas cover the marine zone than the number with policies that specifically reference maritime archives. While there are still areas without museums with collection policies or areas that cover maritime archives, it appears that not having reference within policy is potentially not a barrier to collection from this zone. Although it should be remembered that a number of museums with policies that reference maritime archives have specifically presumed against the collection of this material (see section 4.1.6).

- **Boundaries and overlaps**

There are clear differences between the definition of boundaries in the marine zone. A large number use local authority boundaries – which are usually the low water mark, although this is not consistent across areas. The inclusion of the marine area out to the limit of territorial waters by some museums is encouraging, although there are then questions over how local authority boundaries are extended out into the marine zone where there are no obvious features to base ‘mapping’ on.

There are differences in national approaches to the marine zone with Scotland and Wales having the more structured approach of channelling archives through their respective Royal Commissions. This situation is less clear in England, however, this observation can also be made in relation to terrestrial archives, so it is not a problem that is specific to maritime.

The issue of overlapping collection policies arises when comparing the regional and national approach, which is clearly based on geographical boundaries, to that of special interest collections which can have UK wide, or even international ‘boundaries’. Although on paper (Figure Three) there appears to be some overlap, in practice few of these museums see the collection of maritime archives as part of their remit. In general there is an assumption that the collection of maritime archaeological archives is the responsibility of another organisation. So the situation has arisen that quite a large number of museums may have one or two maritime archives, but there is no coordinated approach across the UK.

- **Maritime ‘differences’**

The division of maritime archives from archaeological archives has been highlighted through the collection area responses. There are a number of special interest museums that may collect archives related to a certain maritime activity such as ships, fishing,

lighthouses or shipbuilding. The collection areas of these museums are usually very broad and hence there is some confusion over where archives should be deposited.

There are also issues raised by the nature of maritime archives. Material from the marine zone, particularly shipwreck, can be from a wide range of periods and, importantly have international connections and significance. The wrecking of a vessel within the collection area of a particular coastal museum means that the ship itself may not have had any specific relevance to that area. This generates two main issues; how to define museum collection areas offshore where there are no obvious boundaries and, one of the significant differences with maritime archaeological archives, the international nature of shipwrecks.

There are a few examples around the UK where the wreck of an historic vessel from another nation results in coordinated approaches between the UK and other countries. The Dutch East India vessel *Amsterdam*, which lies just beyond the low water mark on a beach near Hastings is an example of this (Gawronski 1991). There may be issues over the ownership of material between several countries within a single vessel which require cross-partner agreement on long term curation. To date the number of sites where this has been a particular issue is relatively low, however, with growing awareness of responsibilities towards maritime cultural heritage (Dromgoole 2006 & 2006 (ed)) there is a need to have a coordinated approach.

4.3 Maritime Archive Demand

Although not all museums specifically reference maritime archives in their collection policies or collection area, as they are located adjacent to the coast some have been offered maritime archaeological archives.

4.3.1 Summary of responses to accessioning question

<i>Q3: Have you ever been approached to accession maritime archaeological archives?</i>		
<i>Yes</i>	38	29%
<i>No</i>	95	71%

Q3: Have you ever been approached to accession maritime archaeological archives?

Only 29% of respondent museums have been approached to accession maritime archaeological archives. Considering the coastal location of many museums this is a relatively low number. Many of the museums provided further information on the circumstances in which they had been offered maritime archives, the full collection of comments and have been included as Appendix 8.4 and the results are displayed in Figure Four (located in Section 8).

4.3.2 Analysis of information on where people are trying to deposit archives

Although only a relatively small number of museums have been offered maritime archives it is possible to see some patterning within these responses. The south and east coast of England is well represented. This is not surprising as this area has high levels of recreational diving as well as a range of offshore industries and activities.

A number of regional museums in Scotland provided details of material they had been offered, however, this was often documentary material such as port books which are outside of the scope of this survey. Many of the national museums and archives and those with UK wide and special interest collections had been contacted in relation to accessioning maritime archives. This may indicate there is a general perception that maritime material does not naturally go to regional museums, although as this review is based on a relatively small amount of data further research would be required to confirm this.

4.3.3 Analysis of types of archives people are trying to deposit

A review of the information provided on the types of archive that had been offered for accession demonstrated that material could be classed in three main categories:

- Collections from archaeological investigations
- Finds from shipwrecks – largely recovered by divers
- Finds dredged/trawled up by fishermen

Archaeological archives

There are a number of museums with archaeological archives, these respondents are often the ones that have provided most detail for this survey, and hence are most familiar with these collections. The majority of these archives are from individual shipwrecks with many museums holding the archive of a single vessel. A few hold multiple maritime archives – such as Ramsgate Museum (the future of which is currently uncertain) which is the repository for artefacts recovered from wrecks on the Goodwin Sands. Although there are clearly notable exceptions it would seem that the archives from some of the most important historic shipwrecks have not been accessioned by museums. This is likely to be due to two main factors – lack of understanding of the archive process by those that involved in maritime archaeological investigations and lack of capacity, remit or resources within museums (this is explored further in section 4.5).

Of those shipwreck archives specifically mentioned within the responses there is approximately a 50/50 split between those that have been investigated by amateur teams and those investigated by professional teams. This raises the issue of understanding of the archiving process within the maritime archaeological community at large. While archaeological training should provide the understanding that excavation destroys the resource and hence the archive must be made available to the general public, this is not always the case with those involved on an amateur basis. Hence the strong amateur involvement in maritime archaeology since the beginning of the discipline is likely to have affected the process of deposition of a number of archives (this issue is being explored further in Element Two of this project).

Diver recoveries

It has been assumed that the single shipwreck artefacts offered to museums are usually from divers. The distribution of those museums being offered these finds ties in with the distribution of the most frequently dived areas around England and Scotland. For many years divers actively sought the recovery of items from shipwrecks as an integral part of their sport diving hobby. However, there have been a range of initiatives which have helped change to a 'look but don't touch' approach to all shipwrecks, not only those designated as being of particular historic significance. The raising of awareness of conservation issues may be encouraging more divers to offer finds to museums, although this process is generally regulated through the Receiver of Wreck system. Element Two of this project is assessing the distribution of archives held by sport divers in more detail, however, responses to element one of the project have shown a correlation between popular diving areas and the offering of objects to museums.

Fishermen's recoveries

The recovery of items by fishermen appears to be one of the most common ways in which maritime archive material is offered to museums. As fishermen are often local to an area (as opposed to divers who often travel considerable distances to the coast) it is more likely they would know where the local museum was, and hence offer items they have trawled up to collections.

4.3.4 Summary and Issues

Although the number of museums responding to this survey question was relatively few it is still possible to see patterning in the responses, with three main sources of archive. There are a range of issues associated with each of these sources which have been briefly outlined above. These issues are being explored in more detail as part of Element Two of this project, which is showing there are many archives held in private collections or 'on hold' with no identified repository.

The key issues raised in relation to this element of the project are:

- **Maritime archives are being offered to regional, national, UK wide and special interest museums**

The majority of museums appear to have taken the material offered, although some have provided responses indicating that they had to refer the offer to another museum as they did not have the appropriate facilities to take it.

- **Most of the approaches to museums to accession archives have been from chance recoveries or archaeological work undertaken outside of the planning process**

As many archives offered are chance discoveries or from amateur-led archaeological investigations it means they will not come with any form of funding or box grants. There is currently a high level of chance involved in whether this material is actually offered to a museum. Conversely with the expansion of commercially-led maritime work it is surprising that more archives generated from this work are not being offered to museums.

- **There does not seem to be a clearly established route whereby archives from archaeological investigations proceed to a museum**

Whether through chance finds, amateur investigations, professional research or commercially-driven work there does not seem to be a clearly established route for these archives to be offered to museums. This is slightly different in Scotland where the system is more structured. It is a concern that in England, where so much coastal development and offshore work is taking place that so few of these archives have been offered to museums. It appears that the approaches for accessioning do not correlate well with the amount of work that is being undertaken in the marine zone, indicating that expected current demand is not reflected in the responses to this survey.

4.4 Current Maritime Archaeological Archive Collections

Although a number of respondents had been approached to accession maritime archives it also became clear that there were a larger number of museums who already held maritime archaeological archives.

4.4.1 Summary of responses to current collections question

<i>Q4: Do you currently hold any maritime archaeological archives?</i>		
<i>Yes</i>	54	41%
<i>No</i>	78	59%

Q4: Do you currently hold any maritime archaeological archives?

Considering the number of responses to the survey question on approaches for accessioning (only 29% have been asked to take maritime archives) a comparatively large number of museums answered yes to currently holding maritime archives (41%). Some provided further details of the number of different archives they hold (full details of these have been included as Appendix 9.5), others just answered ‘yes’ without providing further details. Many respondents have provided more extensive detail of collections as part of Element Two of this project. The results of this question have been presented in Figure Five.

4.4.2 Analysis of Museums Holding Maritime Archives

54 museums answered ‘yes’ to holding maritime archives, 29 of these provided the approximate number that they held. The following analysis of numbers of archive is based on a relatively small sample of detailed responses, however, it does allow some regional and national variations to be examined.

England

The south east of England, specifically the Solent region, demonstrated the greatest regional concentration of maritime archives with Portsmouth City Museum holding 21

and the Isle of Wight Museums service holding 9. This situation is not entirely surprising as the Solent is recognised as holding a particular wealth of maritime archaeological sites and has a well established tradition of maritime archaeology through projects such as the Mary Rose excavations and the presence of the Hampshire & Wight Trust for Maritime Archaeology. Also within the south east region is Ramsgate Museum, which although answered that it only holds two maritime archives, is the repository for much of the material from the Goodwin Sands, one of the most renowned 'shipwreck graveyards' in UK waters. This area includes a number of designated historic wreck sites.

All the other regions of England had a number of museums which answered 'yes' to holding maritime archives, of those that provided quantities of archive, the north west and south west were also well represented, although most of these only held one archive. The exception to this is the National Museums Liverpool which holds 11 maritime archives.

On a national scale the National Monuments Record indicated that it holds one maritime archive, as this is the archive from the Archaeological Diving Unit (the former government contracted inspection and reporting team for designated historic wreck sites) this actually includes items from a large number of individual sites around England.

Scotland

In Scotland there were fewer regional museums which answered 'yes' to holding maritime archives. From the detailed information available the numbers involved are generally low, with one being the most common response to the survey.

Nationally the RCAHMS answered 'yes' to currently holding maritime archives, they currently hold in excess of 50 archives, these include those from the Sound of Mull Archaeological Project (SoMAP) and the ADU archives for Scottish sites. The Scottish Fisheries Museum indicated that it holds one maritime archive.

UK Wide and Special Interest Collections

One of the museums with the highest number of maritime archaeological archives is the National Maritime Museum which holds 18. From the detailed information provided by the museum in response to earlier questions it appears that these archives date to the 1980s when it had an active archaeological unit and collection policy. With the current presumption against acquiring any further archaeological archives it would appear the number of archives held by the museum is unlikely to increase.

The British Museum holds five maritime archives, although it also indicated that it holds around 300 finds from the maritime environment. The five archives refer to specific investigations of sites and hence include object and documentary archive.

4.4.3 Summary and Issues

Comparison of museums holding maritime archives to the distribution of the Designated Historic Wreck sites around the UK (Figure Six) shows some correlation between the density of sites and the museums which currently hold maritime archives. Although

considering the number of designated wreck sites around the UK stands at 61 it would seem that very few of these are represented within museums which responded to this survey. As indicated by the National Monuments Record and the Royal Commission for the Ancient and Historic Monuments Scotland the ADU archive from the monitoring of the Protected Wreck sites is split between Swindon and Edinburgh, these include documentary and image archive. This situation demonstrates the fragmentary approach to maritime archives, even for the most important historic wreck sites (it should be noted that designation should be compared to the highest level of significance for sites or buildings on land). The lack of a clear framework and responsibility for archives means that there is an ‘ad-hoc’ approach to the depositing of material, often resulting in the splitting of archives between institutions.

The situation where the NMM holds one of the largest numbers of maritime archaeological archives reflects its once active maritime archaeological unit and active collection policy. The presence of this unit resulted in an assumption that the National Maritime Museum would be the relevant museum to hold maritime archaeological archives, however, due to the disbanding of the unit and change in collection policy this is no longer the case.

Some of the museums responding to the survey indicated they only hold one maritime archive even when it is understood that they actually hold material from a range of different sites. It may be the case that some museums have classed all material from the marine zone under one ‘maritime archive’ which means the results do not necessarily reflect accurately the number held.

4.5 Approaches to Maritime Archive Collection

The range of responses to the survey questions related to policy, collection areas, and maritime holdings have demonstrated large variations in approaches to maritime archives. This section of the survey sought to examine reasons why museums might not collect maritime archives.

4.5.1 Summary of responses to questions on approaches to collecting

<i>Q5: Do you actively collect maritime archaeological archives?</i>		
<i>Yes</i>	29	22%
<i>No</i>	104	78%

<i>Q6: (for ‘No’ respondents to Q5) If you do not actively collect maritime archives is this due to:</i>		
<i>Lack of financial resources</i>	12	11.5%

<i>Lack of facilities</i>	15	14.4%
<i>Lack of expertise</i>	11	10.5%
<i>Lack of remit</i>	21	20%
<i>Never been asked</i>	28	27%

<i>Q7: (for respondents to Q6) If these issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives?</i>		
<i>Yes</i>	19	18%

Those museums responding ‘no’ to actively collecting maritime archives were given a range of tick box options for possible reasons why they do not (they were able to tick more than one box).

4.5.2 Analysis of numbers actively collecting maritime archives

78% of museums indicated that they do not actively collect maritime archives. This is a high percentage which is backed up by responses to previous survey questions, particularly through the numbers of maritime archives that are currently held by museums.

The greatest number of positive responses to this question were received from regions of England, with the south east, south west and east having the greatest concentrations of museums which actively collect maritime archives (Figure Seven).

Very few of the regional museums in Scotland actively collect. Within these responses there is little patterning in terms of distribution.

4.5.3 Analysis of reasons why museums do not collect maritime archives

The detailed responses to why museums do not actively collect maritime archives have provided important qualitative information. Of the 104 museums which do not actively collect archives only 51 provided further detail that was prompted by question six. Although not all museums completed this section all of the possible listed reasons for not collecting were selected by some, providing an indication of attitudes and approaches to maritime archives. The following break down of responses lists the most common first:

- Never been asked – 27%
- Lack of remit – 20%
- Lack of facilities – 14.4%
- Lack of financial resources – 11.5%
- Lack of expertise – 10.5%

The results of responses to question six have been represented in figures eight to thirteen which provide detail on a regional scale.

Never been asked: Almost 30% of respondents indicated they had never been asked to take maritime archives. Comparing this figure to the results of question three when 70% of museums had not been approached to accession maritime archives it could be interpreted as a lack of demand for museums for maritime archive. However, other factors influencing these figures include the lack of clarity over where maritime archives should be offered and the long term lack of available advice on the archiving process for the range of individuals and groups, both professional and amateur involved in underwater investigation (as discussed in section 4.3.3). The results also appear to indicate that the archives from increased levels of commercially-driven maritime archaeological work are not being offered to regional museums.

Lack of remit: This issue has also been highlighted by question two which examined collection areas. It is understandable that many museums do not collect maritime archives when their collection boundaries mirror the Local Authority areas. This is a serious issue which must be addressed in relation to maritime archives. If areas are not currently covered by museum collection areas it is not possible to follow archaeological best practice, and hence archives are being put at risk.

Lack of facilities: Around 15% of respondents indicated they do not have the facilities to collect maritime archives. Some maritime archives do have special requirements for controlled conditions, but these are facilities commonly required for some materials from terrestrial collections. There is often a perception that maritime archives include large pieces of wooden structure from ships hulls, when in practice this is often not the case. It is not possible to determine from this brief summary whether the specific lack of facilities is related to space, conservation or storage. However, capacity is clearly an issue.

Lack of financial resources: Only 11% of respondents indicated that a lack of financial resources is hampering the collection of maritime archives. These responses may be based on the expectation that an archive from an archaeological investigation would be deposited in a conserved, stable and ordered state and may be accompanied by a box grant. While this is relatively well established for terrestrial excavations, it is less so for maritime. Recent archaeological work in the marine zone, particularly commercially-driven projects and those with grant aid support, should be resulting in ordered, stable archives. However, there is a legacy of past work and work being undertaken outside of any curatorial control that has and is creating archives that may not be stable and would not be supported by any form of box grant. There is also an issue of artefacts that are raised and reported through the Receiver of Wreck system. While historic material is often offered to museums in practice this is usually un-conserved and the museum may have to pay the individual or organisation who recovered it a salvage award.

Lack of expertise: With only 10% of respondents indicating they do not have the expertise to collect maritime archives this appears to be an encouraging statistic.

Although when comparing this result with other studies of the archaeological conservation profession (Panter 2007) there is some discrepancy.

In summary, all of the possible reasons why museums might not collect maritime archives were selected by some participants. The relatively small numbers who provided detailed information means these results can only be seen as an indication of potential barriers to collection, rather than in-depth analysis of all coastal museums.

4.5.4 Resolving collection issues

Question 7 asked museums who responded 'no' to actively collecting maritime archives (question 5) whether if the issues outlined in question 6 were resolved, they would collect maritime archives. Of the 104 negative responses to question 5 only 19 (18%) indicated that they would collect if the issues were resolved. This is a very low percentage and is a concern in terms of improving the current situation facing maritime archives. With the museums sector under continued pressure due to available resources, it appears there is little chance of significantly increasing the number of museums which collect maritime archives.

5. Outcomes and Future Work

The responses to the survey have provided baseline information to quantify the current situation in relation to the collection of maritime archaeological archives. While it had been recognised by those working within maritime archaeology and marine heritage management that archiving was an issue there had not been any factual basis on which to fully assess the situation. Key outcomes from the survey have been summarised in terms of policy and practice in order to consider potential solutions for increasing archiving capacity and clarifying the process by which maritime archives should reach museums. Elements Two and Three of the project will add to these findings by considering the number of archives held by individuals and organisations and access to these, and potential future archive demand.

5.1 Current Situation: In Policy

Key Facts:

- 17% of museum collection policies refer to maritime archives
- 64% of museum collection areas include the coastal and/or marine zone (although a large number of these are the coastal zone to the low water mark rather than the marine zone)

The survey provided evidence that there is a lack of clarity over roles and responsibilities within the marine zone. This was demonstrated within the results from Questions 1 and 2 on the inclusion of maritime archives in policy and the extent of museum collection areas. Of the 17% of museum collection policies that referred to maritime archives, a number of these did so to indicate non-collection and others included caveats relating to the requirement for resources and/or facilities. While the results from Question 2, with 64% of museums having collection areas which covered the coastal and/or marine zone, initially appeared relatively high, on closer inspection many of these areas included the coastal zone down to the low water mark, leaving the majority of the marine zone without receiving repositories.

The lack of clarity within policy and the long-term lack of guidance in relation to maritime archaeological archives have resulted in:

- No clear policy or understanding of boundaries and overlaps both geographically and in remit

When museums can collect within the marine zone there are questions relating to how boundaries are extended beyond the low water mark when there are no clear features to 'map' precise areas. There is also some overlap between those local and regional museums that do collect maritime archives and the remit of national and special interest museums.

- Lack of understanding of definitions and what constitutes a maritime archaeological archive

There were queries over the use of the term 'maritime' within the survey. This highlights some confusion over whether maritime, marine or underwater should be used in relation to collections from the marine zone and inland waterways. In the development of future responses to maritime archives clarification of definitions should clearly be included.

Some responses provided appear to lump all material from the marine zone, whether single finds or more extensive collections, into a single category of ‘maritime archive’. This indicates that the numbers of individual archives included within the survey responses may actually represent a number of sites and/or finds. Misunderstanding of what actually constitutes a maritime archaeological archive is linked to long-term lack of consideration in policy and practice and is an issue that requires attention.

In summary, as maritime archaeological archives have fallen outside of the remit and responsibility of any particular organisation, agency or institution the result has been a highly fragmentary approach to their inclusion and consideration within policy. Although there are a few notable exceptions, for instance Scottish national policy is inclusive of an extensive area of the marine zone, this is generally an issue across the board from UK wide policy to local museum policy.

5.2 Current Situation: In Practice

Key Facts:

- 29% of museums have been approached to accession maritime archives
- 41% of museums currently hold maritime archive/s
- 22% of museums actively collect maritime archives
- Lack of resources, facilities, expertise and remit are all significant reasons why museums do not collect maritime archives
- Only 19 museums (18%) indicated they would collect maritime archives if issues over why they do not collect were resolved

The lack of clarity in relation to maritime archives within museum policy has inevitably had an effect on how archives have been treated in practice:

- No receiving museums for large areas of the marine zone

Although 41% of museums answered positively to holding maritime archives, only 22% indicated that they actively collect archives and 29% have been approached to accession maritime archives. The resulting situation is a lack of receiving museums for large parts of the marine zone. This is also likely to indicate there are few sources of advice available on a local or regional scale in terms of the care of maritime material and the development of archives in a format suitable for deposition.

- No maritime reference collections or coordinated approach to collection

Of the 41% of museums holding maritime archives many of these only hold a single archive, with a very small number indicating that they hold more than two. Even with the National Maritime Museum holding 18 maritime archives it has become clear that no single institution holds any form of reference collections or type series for maritime material. When considering future approaches to policy and enhancing capacity for the deposition of maritime archives the creation of reference collections must be included. This is vital for the long-term development of the study of the human past in relation to the cultural resource found within the marine zone, whether this relates to early human colonisation of Britain from submerged prehistoric landscapes or the long history of maritime trade, transport, warfare and connections that have helped shaped Britain today.

- Experience of larger maritime archives may make museum approaches more positive

Detailed responses to the survey appeared to indicate that having experience of larger maritime archives generated from archaeological investigations made it more likely other maritime archives would be included within policy and/or actively collected. This situation reflects the general lack of understanding of the nature and requirements for material from the marine zone by those unfamiliar with their handling and curation.

- Few archives from maritime archaeological investigations are being deposited

Of the 29% of museums that indicated they had been approached to accession maritime archives most of these tended to be items recovered by fishermen or divers rather than from archaeological investigations. It is concerning that much of the recent work that has been undertaken through commercially-driven projects and/or research based investigations do not appear to have been offered to museums. With a large number of projects in the offshore and nearshore areas being undertaken, e.g. in relation to aggregate extraction, renewable energy developments, ports and marinas, it is concerning that more of these archives are not featuring within museum collections. This raises the issue of how maritime archives are being incorporated within conditions of development consents and the need to embed the archiving process within conditions to ensure best practice is followed and maintained.

These results highlight the need for training and awareness-raising for museums, archaeological curators and archaeologists in relation to maritime archives and best practice. Although it is recognised that the development of detailed guidance would require the resolution of questions over roles and remits in relation to archives from the marine zone. Increased guidance in this area is likely to result in a number of maritime archives being offered for deposition, the provision of facilities or capacity to accept these must be developed in tandem with awareness-raising and best practice guidance.

- The general response to developing capacity for maritime archives by museums was negative

Questioning on the reasons why museums may not collect maritime archives saw a lack of remit, facilities, financial resources and expertise all featuring in responses. It is interesting to note when museums were asked whether they would collect maritime archives if these issues were resolved only 18% replied positively.

As demonstrated by survey responses, there is no clear route for archives from maritime investigations to reach secure long-term curation. This raises questions of where archives are currently being held (something that will be explored as part of Element Two of this project) and how to develop policy and practice to secure their future. With few museums willing or able to accession maritime archives and few that would consider changing this position even if resources were made available to them, it may be necessary to develop short-term responses to the archive 'backlog' situation while longer term solutions are formulated.

5.3 Current Situation: Finding Solutions

There are a range of issues related to the treatment of maritime archives that have been articulated through the survey. These have been examined in detail within the results of each survey question and summarised above. There is clearly an urgent need to address these issues through the development of coherent policy and advice and increasing capacity for the deposition of maritime archives.

5.3.1 Developing Policy, Guidance and Best Practice

- **Action required:** Recognising the extent to which maritime cultural heritage is not included within current policy and practice and prioritising it, in order to fulfil Government obligations to adhere to established best practice (such as IfA Standards and Guidance) and particularly in light of the adoption of the rules of the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of Underwater Cultural Heritage as policy.

While many organisations and individuals are in agreement that the dire situation facing maritime archives requires action, this must be translated into urgent and effective consideration of the issues involved and devising appropriate responses. This urgency should be further highlighted after Barbara Follett (Minister for Culture, Creative Industries & Tourism) stated on 24 November 2008 that the Government's maritime heritage policy recognises the 2001 UNESCO Convention Annex as best practice for underwater archaeology and have advocated adherence to the principles of this Annex which are compatible with existing UK legislation. In order to adhere to the annex of the UNESCO Convention (http://portal.unesco.org/en/ev.php-URL_ID=13520&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html) in relation to maritime archives there is a need to develop policy and practice to ensure rules 32, 33 and 34 which relate to the curation of project archives are applied.

- **Action required:** Urgent need to clarify the roles and remits of museums and archives in relation to the marine zone from the UK level, to the local and regional level.

It must be an immediate priority to clearly establish roles and remits for maritime archives. This is likely to include consideration by, and consultation with, a number of organisations, agencies and institutions who are involved with museums, archives, maritime museums, archaeology and curatorial advice. Potential differences of remits between local authority boundaries, which are often the low water mark, the near shore zone and the offshore zone should be debated and defined.

- **Action required:** Recognition that maritime archives may have special requirements or 'differences' from terrestrial archives that involve the development of appropriate responses and/or guidance.

This is particularly relevant to shipwrecks which may have a wide range of international connections and significance and may involve liaison with heritage bodies in other countries over the deposition and care of collections. Shipwrecks may end up on the seabed of an area to which they have no direct cultural link from their time of active use. However, it must be recognised that development of holistic approaches to the marine zone are encouraging the consideration of 'Seascape' which recognises areas prone to

shipwrecks as area based heritage assets. Another key difference in the nature of maritime archives is the inclusion of large geophysical survey data sets, which produce particularly large file sizes and high numbers of files, which require considerable capacity to enable the digital archiving of these results.

- **Action required:** Development of guidance notes for best practice, particularly for curators to help deliver the much-needed clear route for archives from project to museum through ensuring appropriate conditions are applied to consents

The resolution of role and responsibilities of maritime archives must be closely followed by the development of guidance notes. This is particularly important to help establish clear routes for maritime archives to reach museums and ensure their long-term security.

- **Action required:** Recognition that development of capacity for maritime archives will require the investment of resources

The long-term lack of consideration of and investment in maritime archaeology as a whole has resulted in the loss of archive collections of relevance to the development and history of Britain. While the situation in relation to the management of marine heritage is slowly beginning to improve with the extension of the remit of heritage agencies to the marine zone and the associated requirement to feed into wider government initiatives related to marine management, this has yet to translate into improved consideration of archives and the required sources of advice and facilities. While it is recognised that this project is a first step in improving this situation it should be highlight that finding solutions will require additional resources.

5.3.2 Developing Capacity

The survey responses have provided some indication of the number of maritime archives that are held by museums and/or have been offered to them and also issues affecting capacity to accession archives. The situation whereby the archives of commercially-driven archaeological do not appear to have been offered to museums raises questions of how much archive material is currently waiting to be archived if and when there is an appropriate facility. Element Two of this project will consider what archives are held where and their current accessibility, and hence will help quantify this situation. However, in the short term there is clearly a need to develop capacity to archive maritime collections, or at the very least provide a short-term solution to the back-log situation. Possible solutions could include:

- **Expanding number of coastal museums that could accession maritime archives**

Some museums taking part in the survey did indicate they would be willing to collect maritime archives if resource issues were addressed, although this was only 19 museums out of the total of 104 which do not currently collect maritime archives. Added to the 29 museums which do collect maritime archives that gives a potential total of 48 out of 133 museums which took part in the survey. This is a low percentage of the coast that could be covered by existing museums, subject to further resources being provided for at least 19 of these, this would only provide coverage for a small area of the marine zone.

This lack of willingness to collect maritime archives is perhaps not surprising when many museums are facing exceptional resource pressures (Edwards 2006), and indeed there are projects being undertaken looking at possible long term solutions for the storage of terrestrial archaeological archives in newly created regional resource centres (Brown 2007). This further highlights that there may be problems associated with attempting to develop the capacity of local and regional coastal museums to collect maritime archives.

- **National or specialist solutions**

As an alternative to a local or regional approach there may be a need to look at solutions at a national level, particularly within England where vast areas of submerged territory and cultural heritage currently have no receiving museums. The establishment of national maritime archaeological archives may be a possible solution, or the enlargement of an existing maritime-focused collection to become a centre for maritime archives and a home for much needed reference collections. This would be following a ‘special interest’ route and would involve setting up a new facility which would be able to take a coordinated approach to maritime archaeological material. It would be essential for such a facility to be publicly owned and hence adhere to established best practice and standards.

While there are a number of possible approaches to expanding capacity for maritime archives, and the most appropriate solution will need to be based on further evidence of the numbers and size of archives which are currently awaiting deposition, it is vital that the debate over possible solutions begins.

6. Conclusions

The *Mapping Maritime Collection Areas* project sought to:

- Map the collecting areas of those museums and repositories that accept maritime archives;
- Identify those museums and repositories that consider maritime archives within their policies but are unable to accept them at present; and
- Demonstrate the issue of unresolved responsibility for maritime archives from the off-shore/marine zone, which do not fit easily into the model of local and regional collection areas.

With a response rate of 82% of museums contacted to be involved in the survey, the results provide a good representation of the current situation in relation to the collection of maritime archives. It has clearly shown that there are distinct differences in the coverage of maritime collection policies and areas throughout the UK, with England having the poorest coverage of the marine zone. Further information gathered indicates that many coastal museums are not willing to collect maritime archives even if resources were made available to help solve capacity issues. The results provide demonstrable evidence of how the roles and responsibility for maritime archives is currently unclear and how this has permeated into current policy and practice.

Maritime archaeology has been seen as slightly separate from terrestrial archaeology for many years and hence there has been no direct link established between maritime

archaeological investigations and recipient museums. The gathering of this baseline information has allowed the dire situation facing maritime archives to be quantified for the first time. The articulation of key issues has been based on evidence from museums and hence provides a firm basis on which a number of priorities for actions have been put forward.

There is an urgent need to develop policy and practice in relation to maritime archaeological archives. If we fail to develop the capacity to provide secure, long-term repositories for the results of archaeological investigations within the marine zone, more of our maritime cultural heritage will be lost to researchers, members of the public, school children and community groups.

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8. Figures

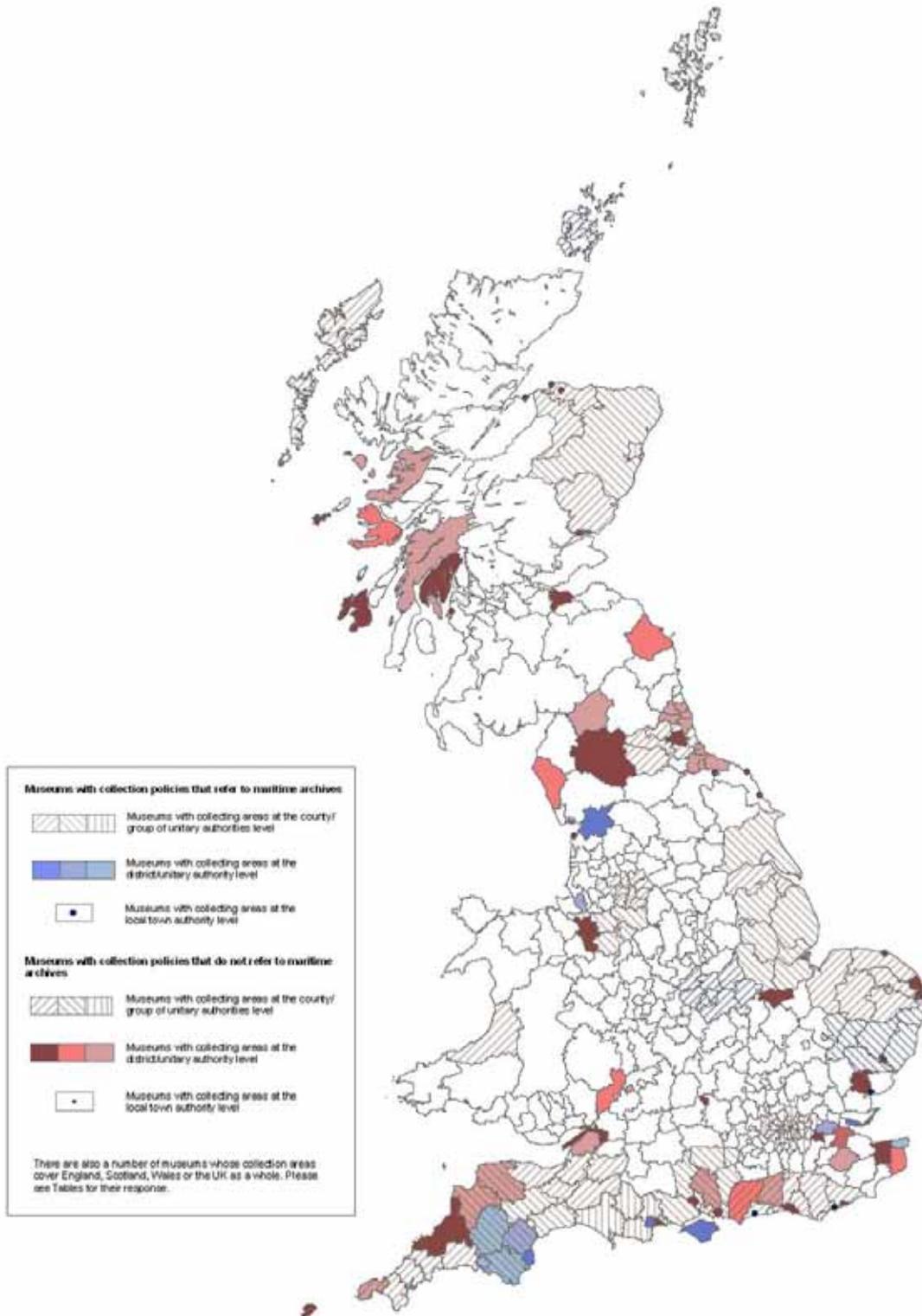


Figure One: Map showing museums which responded to the survey

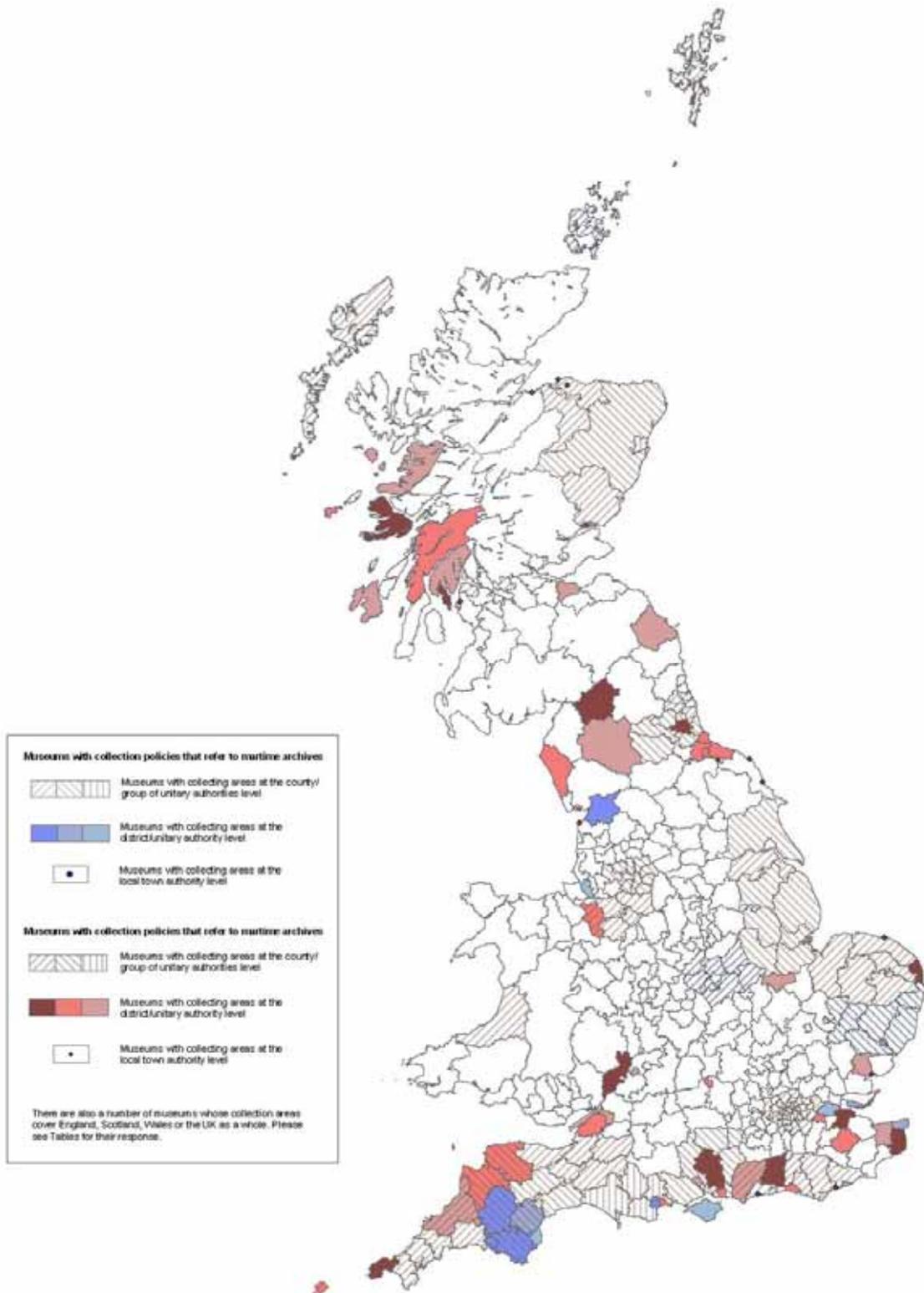


Figure Two: Map showing the distribution of museums with and without collection policies that refer to maritime archives

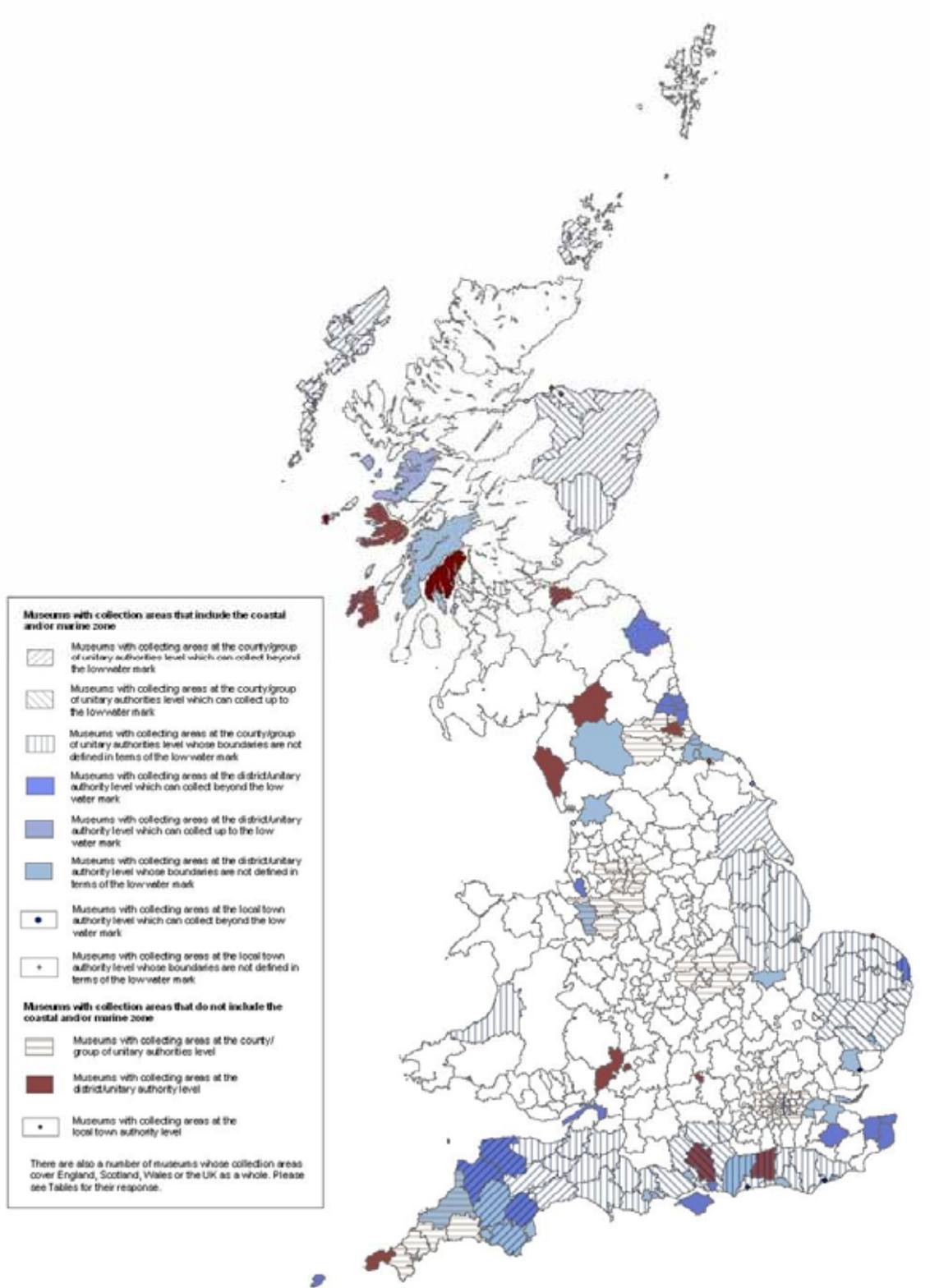


Figure Three: Map showing museum collection areas which do or do not include the coastal and marine zone

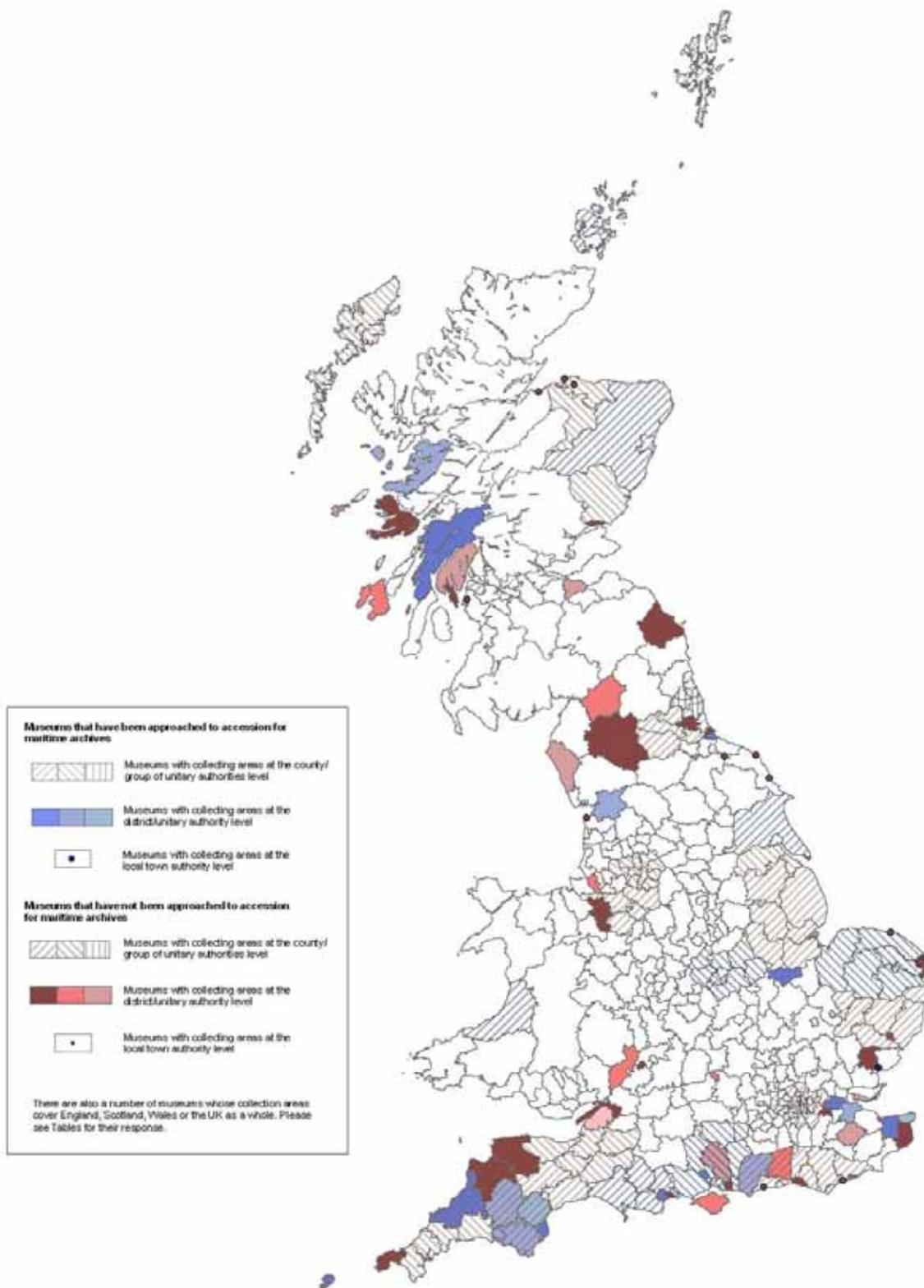


Figure Four: Map showing museums which have and have not been approached to accession maritime archives

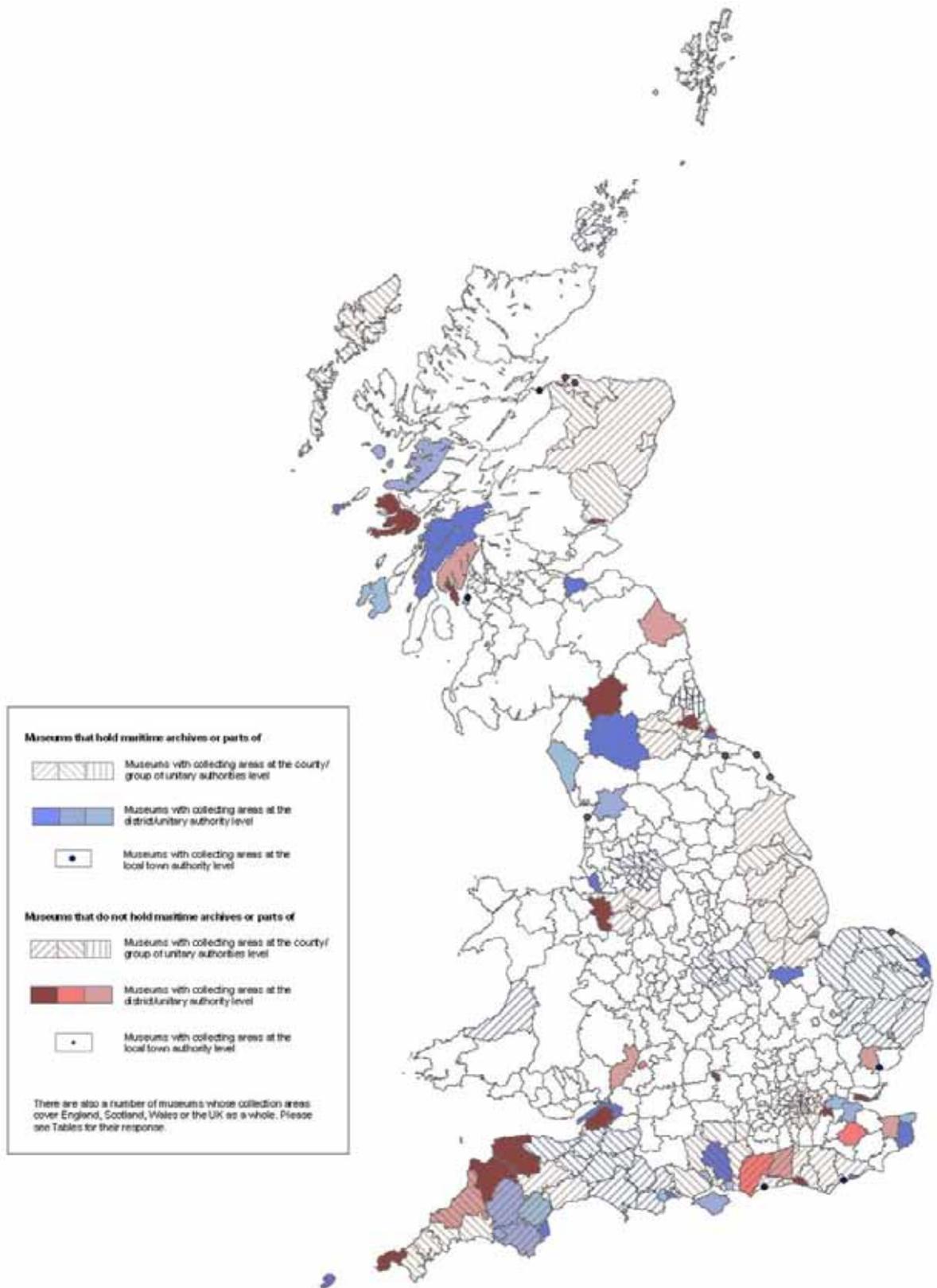


Figure Five: Map showing museums that do and do not currently hold maritime archives

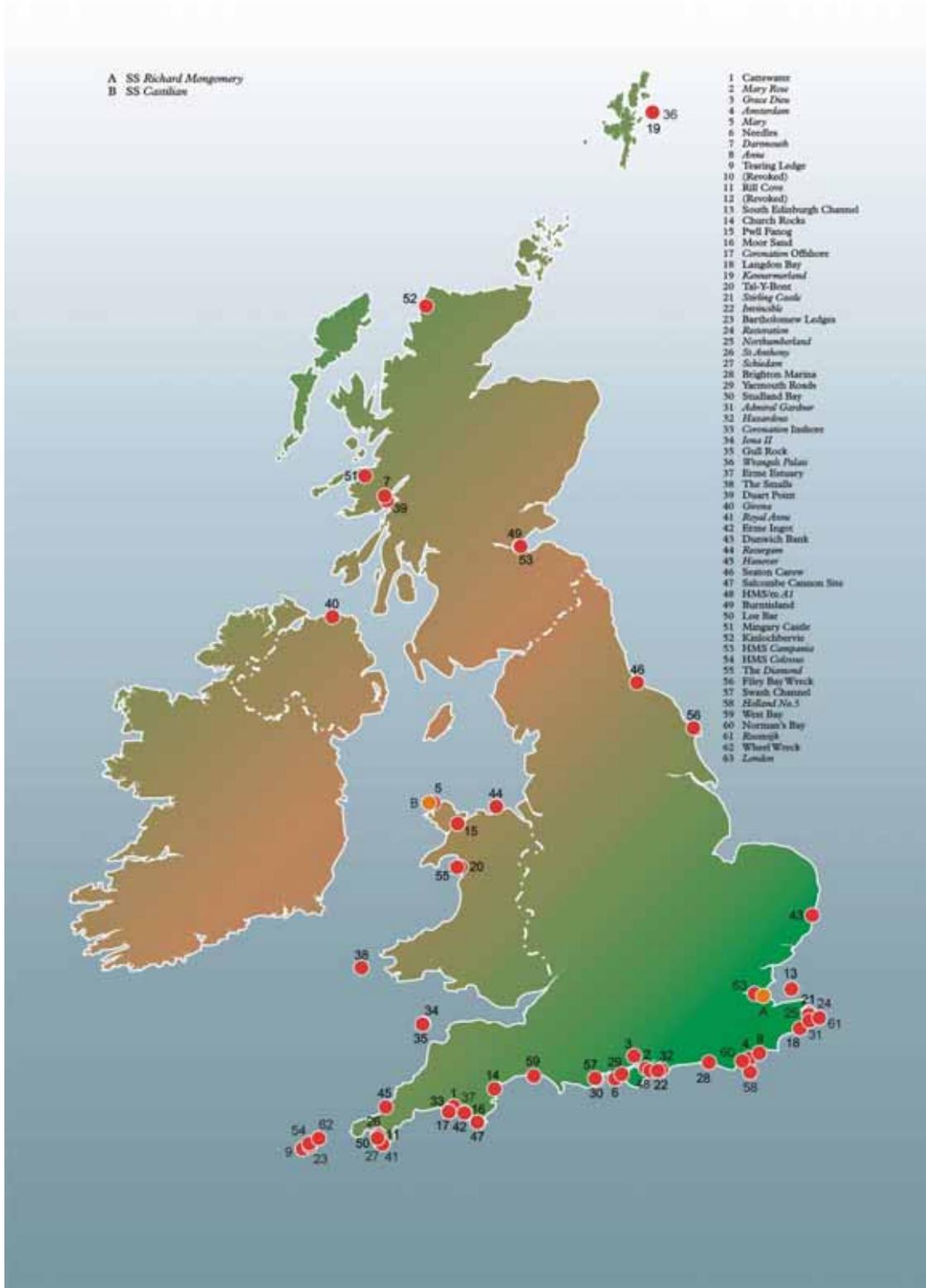


Figure Six: Map showing distribution of Designated Historic Wreck Sites around the UK

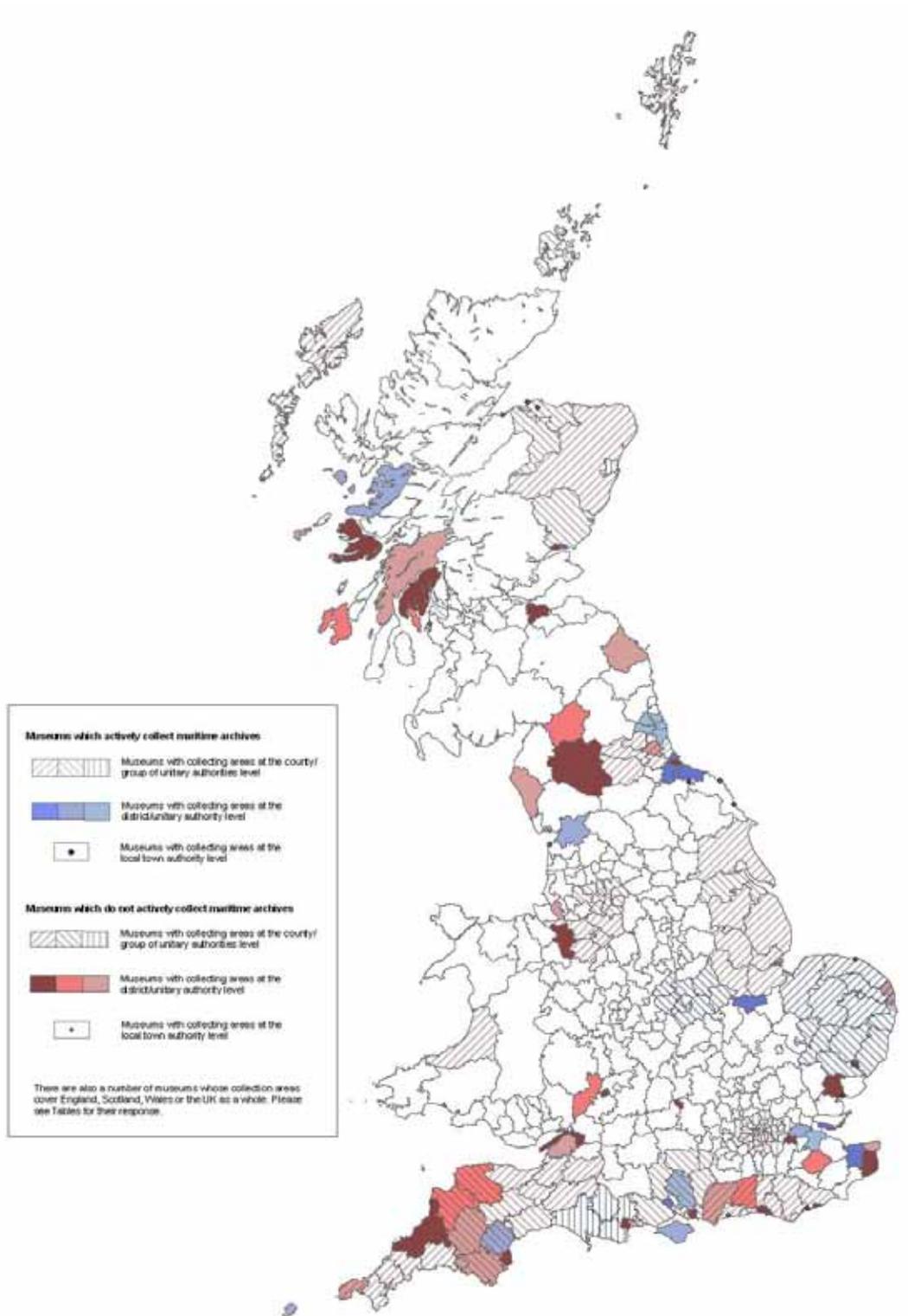


Figure Seven: Map showing distribution of museums which do and do not actively collect maritime archives

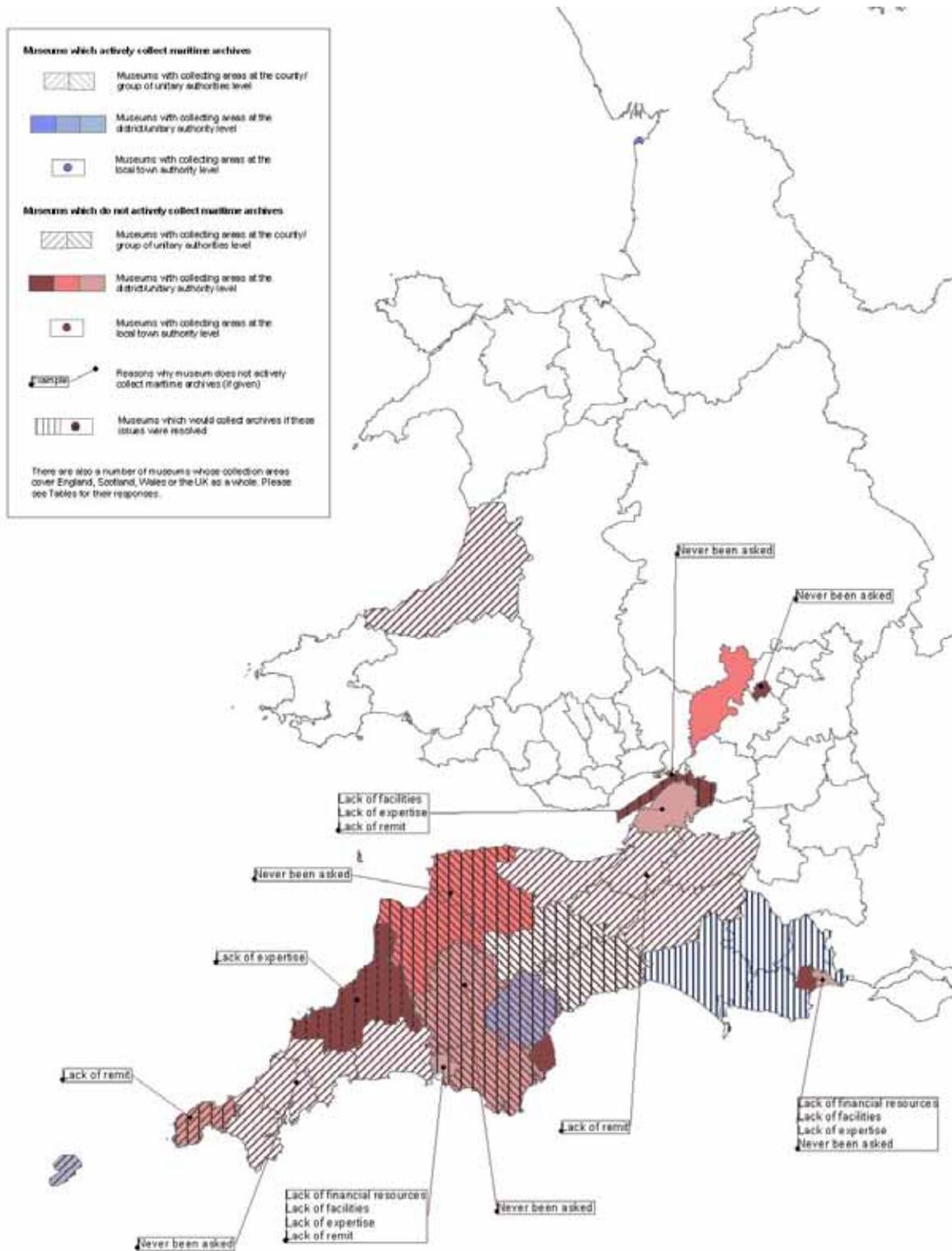


Figure Eight: Map showing reasons why museums in the south west of England do not collect maritime archives, and whether if these issues were resolved they would collect

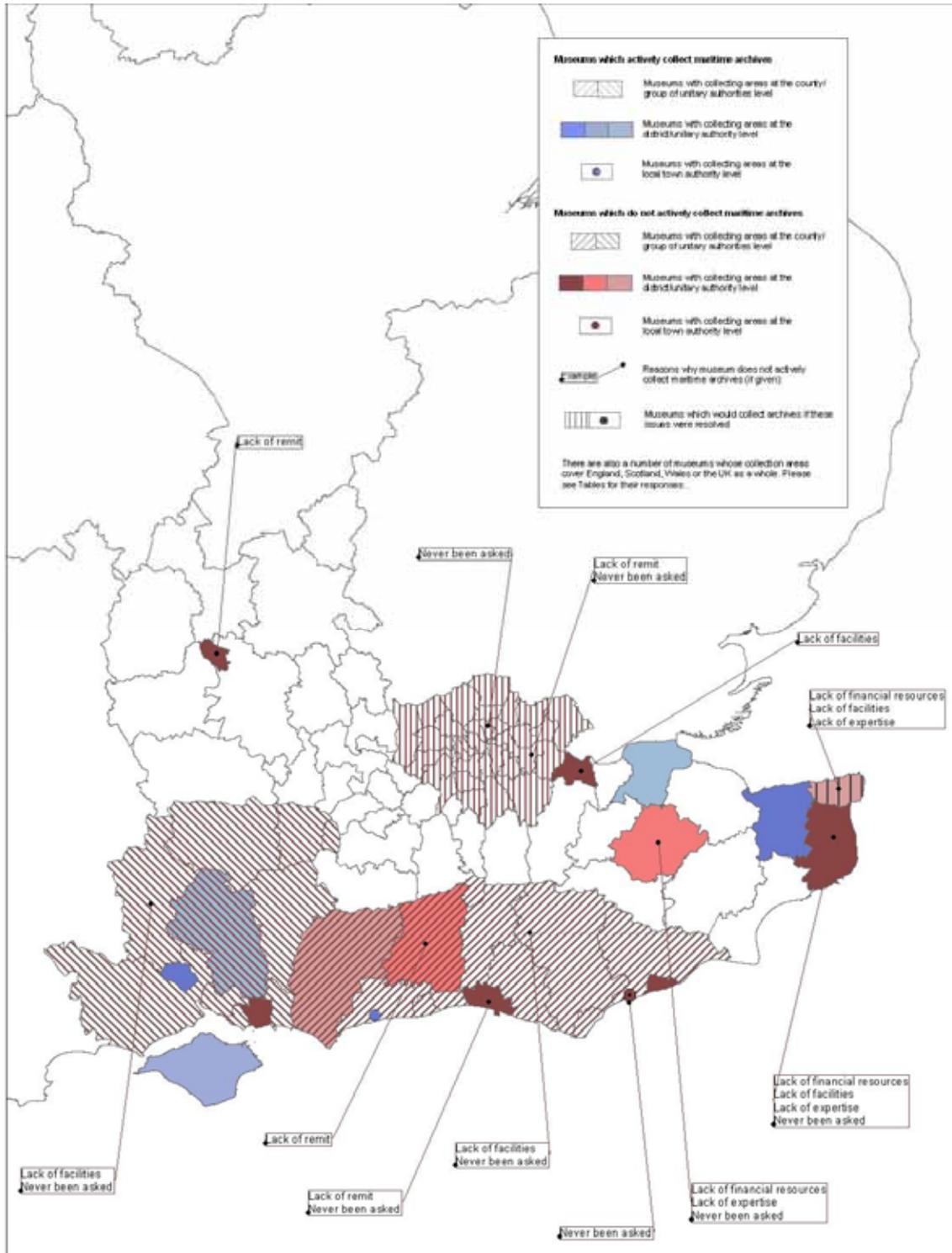


Figure Nine: Map showing reasons why museums in the south east of England do not collect maritime archives, and whether if these issues were resolved they would collect

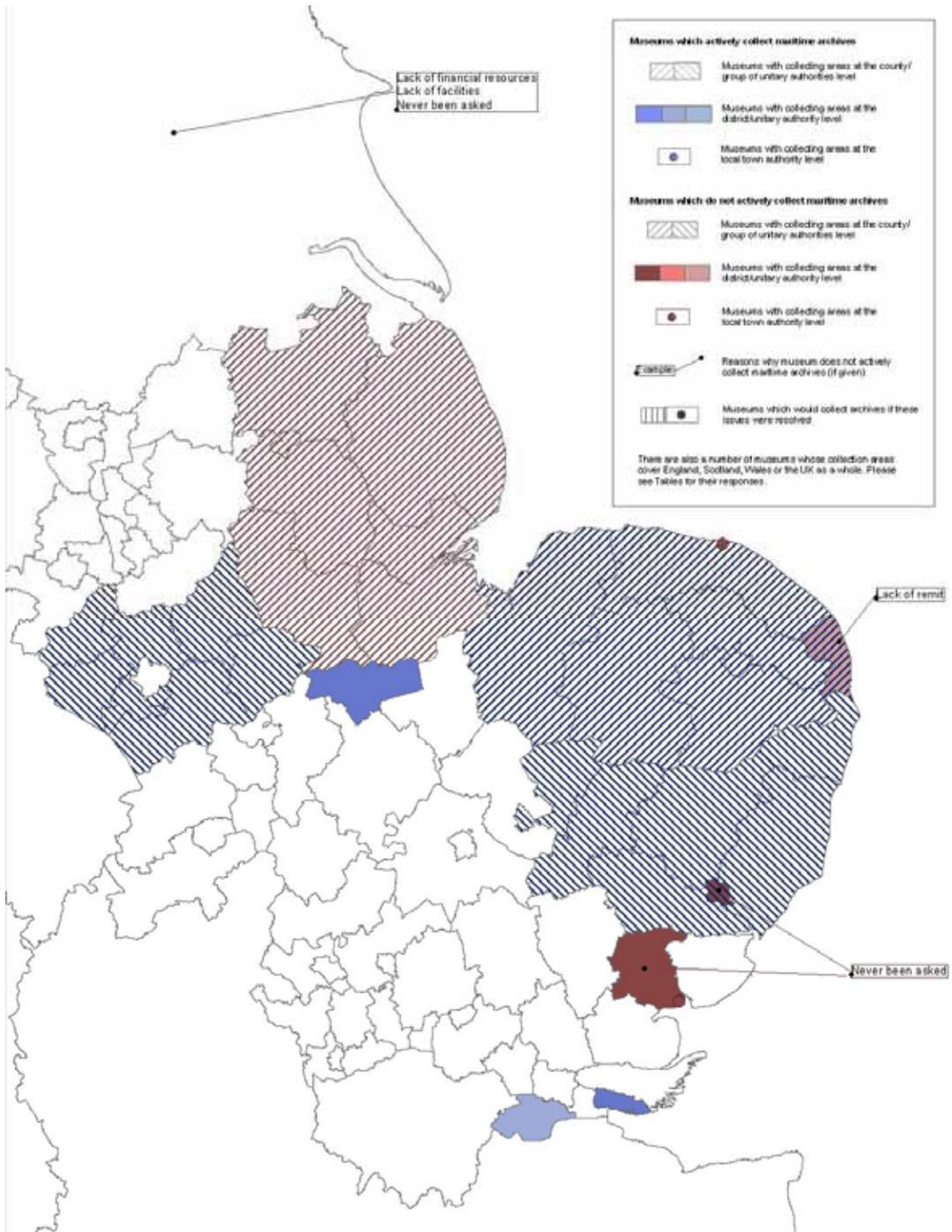


Figure Ten: Map showing reasons why museums in eastern England do not collect maritime archives, and whether if these issues were resolved they would collect

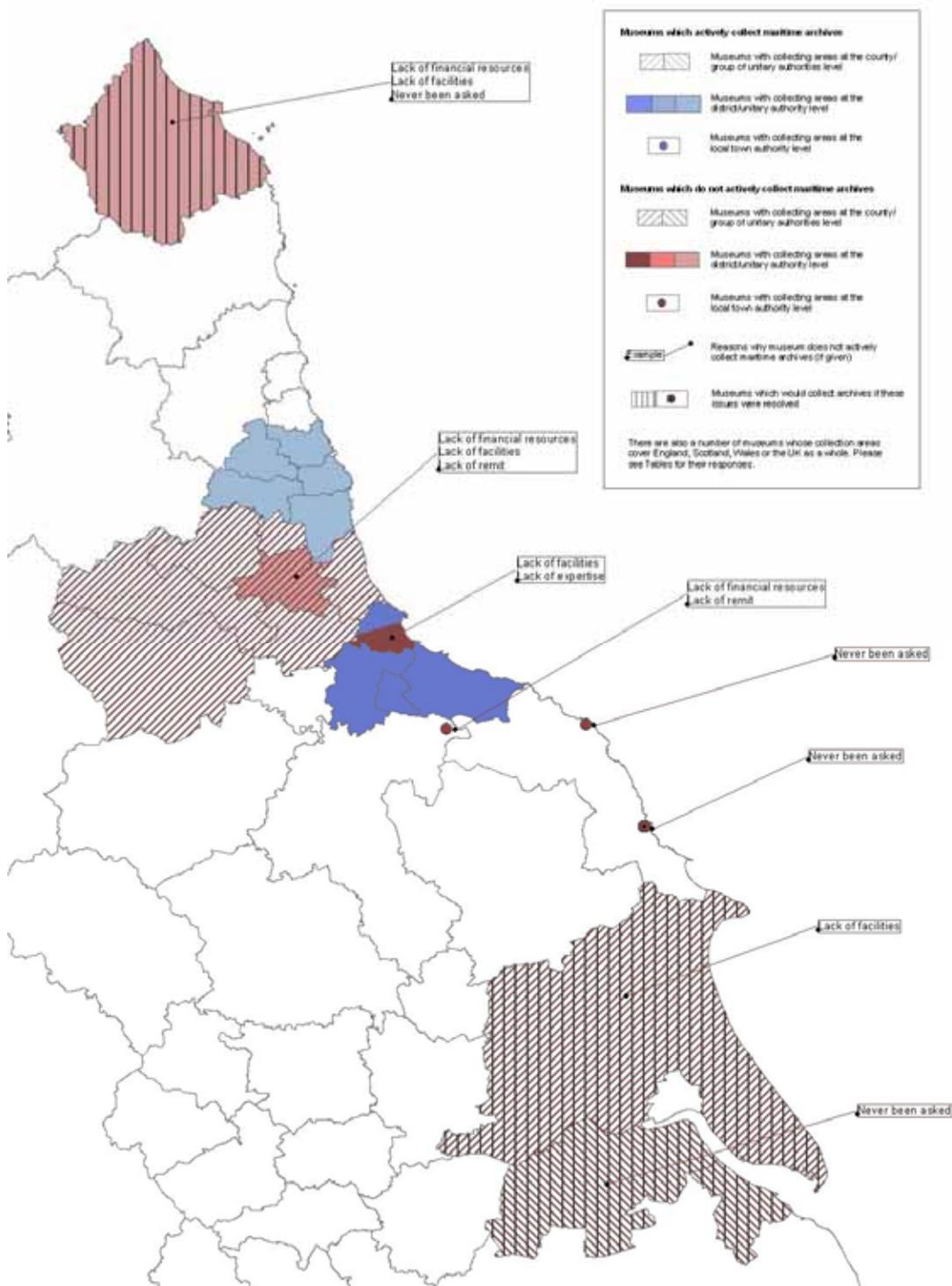


Figure Eleven: Map showing reasons why museums in the north east of England do not collect maritime archives, and whether if these issues were resolved they would collect

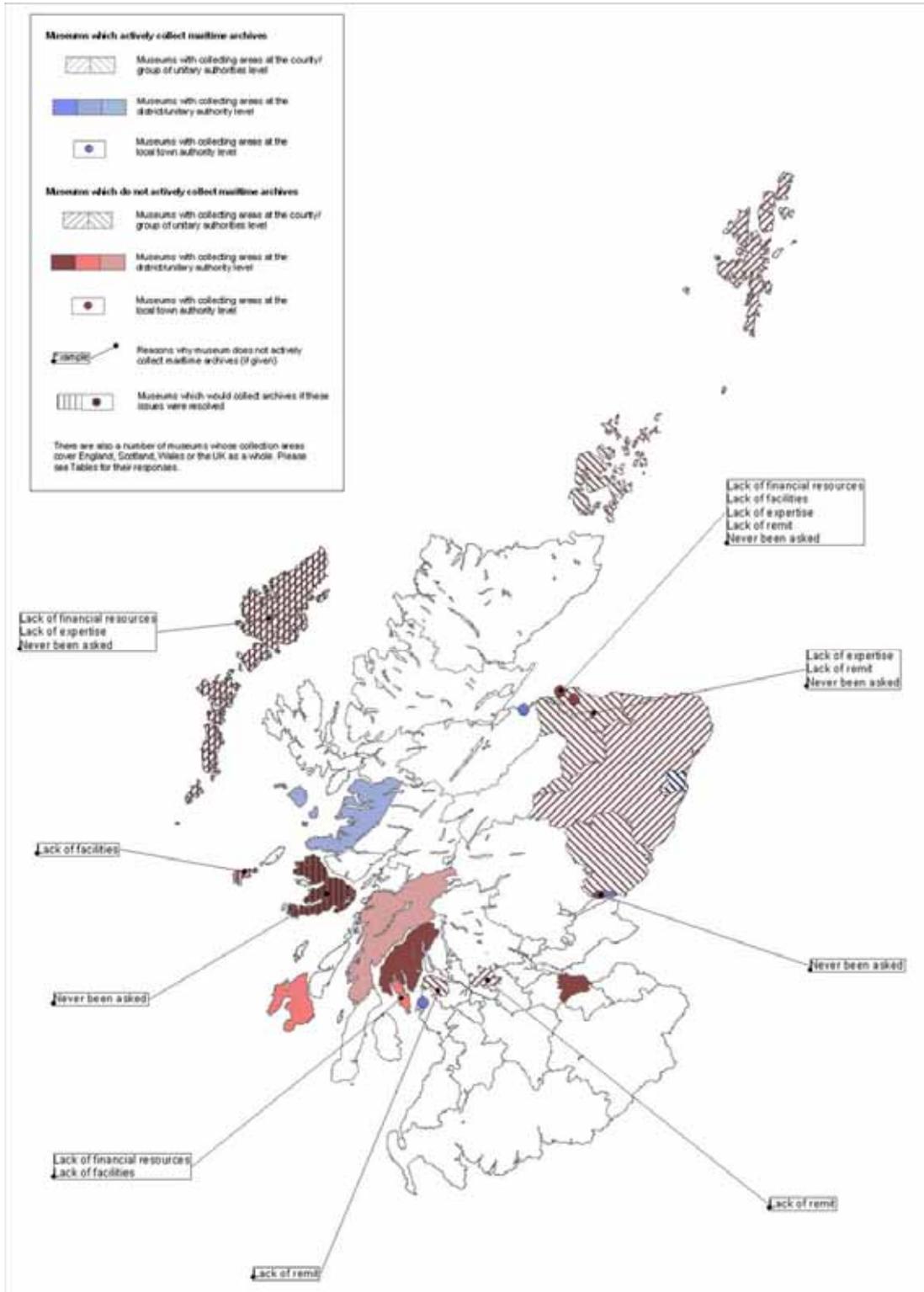


Figure Thirteen: Map showing reasons why museums in Scotland do not collect maritime archives, and whether if these issues were resolved they would collect

9. Appendices

9.1 Summary of Responses to Survey

Regional - England											
Museum name	Collection Policy refers to maritime archives	Collection area includes the coastal and/or marine zone	Approached to accession for maritime archives	Holds maritime archives	Actively collects maritime archives	If not actively collecting maritime archives is this due to:					If issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives
						Lack of financial resources	Lack of facilities	Lack of expertise	Lack of remit	Never been asked	
East Midlands											
City & County Museum, Lincoln	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Leicestershire County Council/Leicestershire Museums Service	YES	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eastern England											
Colchester and Ipswich Museums Service	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-
Cromer Museum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Mersea Island Museum	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Norwich Castle Museum	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Southend Museums Service	YES	YES	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service	YES	YES	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Thurrock Museum	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Time and Tide Museum of Great Yarmouth Life	-	YES	-	YES	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
Greater London											
Dartford Borough Museum	-	YES	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-
Greater London Sites and Monuments Record	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Greenwich Heritage Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	-

Regional - England											
Museum name	Collection Policy refers to maritime archives	Collection area includes the coastal and/or marine zone	Approached to accession for maritime archives	Holds maritime archives	Actively collects maritime archives	If not actively collecting maritime archives is this due to:					If issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives
						<i>Lack of financial resources</i>	<i>Lack of facilities</i>	<i>Lack of expertise</i>	<i>Lack of remit</i>	<i>Never been asked</i>	
Museum of London, LAARC	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-
North East											
Berwick Borough Museum	-	YES	-	-	-	YES	YES	-	-	YES	YES
Durham County Council Archaeological Services	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hartlepool Arts, Museums and Events Service	-	YES	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	-	-	-
Museum of Hartlepool (Hartlepool Museums and Heritage)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Old Fulling Mill Museum of Archaeology, Durham	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	-	YES	-	-
Tees Archaeology: The Archaeological Service for Teesside	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tyne and Wear Museums	-	YES	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
North West											
Cheshire Museums Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-
Fleetwood Museum	-	YES	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grosvenor Museum, Chester	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	YES
Lancaster City Museum	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lancaster Maritime Museum (Lancashire County Council & Lancaster City Council)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Museum of Lancashire	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Museum of Science and Industry in Manchester	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
National Museums Liverpool	YES	YES	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Penrith and Eden Museum	-	YES	-	YES	-	-	-	-	YES	-	YES
The Beacon, Whitehaven Museum	-	-	-	YES	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-

Regional - England											
Museum name	Collection Policy refers to maritime archives	Collection area includes the coastal and/or marine zone	Approached to accession for maritime archives	Holds maritime archives	Actively collects maritime archives	If not actively collecting maritime archives is this due to:					If issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives
						<i>Lack of financial resources</i>	<i>Lack of facilities</i>	<i>Lack of expertise</i>	<i>Lack of remit</i>	<i>Never been asked</i>	
The Manchester Museum	-	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-
Tullie House Museum and Art Gallery, Carlisle	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-
South East											
Ashmolean Museum of Art and Archaeology	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
Bexhill Museum	YES	YES	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES
Brighton and Hove Museums	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	-
Canterbury City Council Museums and Galleries Service	-	YES	YES	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Chichester District Museum	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dover Museum	-	YES	-	YES	-	YES	YES	YES	-	YES	-
Guildhall Museum, Rochester	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Hampshire County Council Museums and Archives Service	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	YES	-	-	YES	-
Hastings Museums and Art Gallery	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Horsham Museum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
Isle of Wight Heritage Service - Museum Service	YES	YES	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lewes Castle & Barbican House Museum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Littlehampton Museum	YES	YES	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Maidstone Museum	-	YES	-	-	-	YES	-	YES	-	YES	-
Marlipins Museum	-	YES	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Portsmouth City Museums and Records Service	-	YES	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ramsgate Maritime Museum	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-	YES
Southampton City Museum Service	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-

Regional - England											
Museum name	Collection Policy refers to maritime archives	Collection area includes the coastal and/or marine zone	Approached to accession for maritime archives	Holds maritime archives	Actively collects maritime archives	If not actively collecting maritime archives is this due to:					If issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives
						<i>Lack of financial resources</i>	<i>Lack of facilities</i>	<i>Lack of expertise</i>	<i>Lack of remit</i>	<i>Never been asked</i>	
Sussex Archaeological Society	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-
Winchester Museums Service	-	-	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	YES	-	YES
South West											
Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery	-	YES	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES
Brixham Heritage Museum	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dean Heritage Museum Trust	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Gloucester City Heritage and Museum Service	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-
Isles of Scilly Museum	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES
North Somerset Museum	-	YES	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-
Penlee House Gallery and Museum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-	YES
Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	YES
Poole Museum	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES
Royal Cornwall Museum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-
Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum	-	YES	-	YES	-	YES	YES	YES	-	YES	-
Somerset County Museum, Taunton Castle	-	YES	-	YES	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
Teignmouth and Shaldon Museum - Teign Heritage	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
The Castle Heritage Centre and Gallery	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-	YES
The Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society/Dorset County Museum/Archaeology Collections	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Yorkshire & the Humber											

Regional - England											
Museum name	Collection Policy refers to maritime archives	Collection area includes the coastal and/or marine zone	Approached to accession for maritime archives	Holds maritime archives	Actively collects maritime archives	If not actively collecting maritime archives is this due to:					If issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives
						<i>Lack of financial resources</i>	<i>Lack of facilities</i>	<i>Lack of expertise</i>	<i>Lack of remit</i>	<i>Never been asked</i>	
Captain Cook Memorial Museum	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-
Captain Cook Schoolroom Museum	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-	YES	-	-
East Riding of Yorkshire Museums Service	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	YES	-	-	-	YES
North Lincolnshire Museum Service	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES
Scarborough Museums Trust	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES

Regional - Scotland											
Museum name	Collection Policy refers to maritime archives	Collection area includes the coastal and/or marine zone	Approached to accession for maritime archives	Holds maritime archives	Actively collects maritime archives	If not actively collecting maritime archives is this due to:					If issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives
						<i>Lack of financial resources</i>	<i>Lack of facilities</i>	<i>Lack of expertise</i>	<i>Lack of remit</i>	<i>Never been asked</i>	
Grampian											
Aberdeen Maritime Museum	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Aberdeenshire Heritage	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Arbuthnot Museum	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Banff Museum	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Burghead Visitor Centre	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-

Regional - Scotland											
Museum name	Collection Policy refers to maritime archives	Collection area includes the coastal and/or marine zone	Approached to accession for maritime archives	Holds maritime archives	Actively collects maritime archives	If not actively collecting maritime archives is this due to:					If issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives
						<i>Lack of financial resources</i>	<i>Lack of facilities</i>	<i>Lack of expertise</i>	<i>Lack of remit</i>	<i>Never been asked</i>	
Carnegie Inverurie Museum	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Elgin Museum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Falconer Museum	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	YES	-
Moray Council Museums Service	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	YES	-
Nelson Tower	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	YES	-
Tolbooth Museum	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tayside											
Broughty Castle Museum	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES
Dundee Art Gallery and Museums	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES
Dundee Industrial Heritage	YES	YES	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Montrose Museum & Art Gallery	-	YES	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Strathclyde											
Auld Kirk Museum	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
Largs Museum	-	YES	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
McLean Museum and Art Gallery	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
Lothian											
Royal Yatch Britannia	-	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Eilean Siar (Western Isles)											
Museum nan Eilean	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Seirbhis Arc-eolais nan Eilean Siar/Western Isles Archaeology Service	-	YES	-	-	-	YES	-	YES	-	YES	YES
Highland											
An Iodhlann	-	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bute Museum	-	YES	-	-	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-

Regional - Scotland											
Museum name	Collection Policy refers to maritime archives	Collection area includes the coastal and/or marine zone	Approached to accession for maritime archives	Holds maritime archives	Actively collects maritime archives	If not actively collecting maritime archives is this due to:					If issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives
						<i>Lack of financial resources</i>	<i>Lack of facilities</i>	<i>Lack of expertise</i>	<i>Lack of remit</i>	<i>Never been asked</i>	
Dunoon and Cowal Heritage Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Isle of Mull Museum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES
Mallaig Heritage Centre	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Museum of Islay Life	-	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Nairn Museum	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	YES	YES	YES	-
Oban War and Peace Museum	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
Skerryvore Museum	-	YES	-	YES	-	-	YES	-	-	-	YES
Orkney Islands											
Orkney Museums and Heritage - The Orkney Museum	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scapa Flow Visitor Centre	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Stromness Museum	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shetland Islands											
Bod of Gremister	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fetlar Interpretative Centre	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Shetland Museum and Archive	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

UK Wide and Special Interest Collections											
Museum name	Collection Policy refers to maritime archives	Collection area includes the coastal and/or marine zone	Approached to accession for maritime archives	Holds maritime archives	Actively collects maritime archives	If not actively collecting maritime archives is this due to:					If issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives
						<i>Lack of financial resources</i>	<i>Lack of facilities</i>	<i>Lack of expertise</i>	<i>Lack of remit</i>	<i>Never been asked</i>	
UK Wide											
British Museum	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Fleet Air Arm Museum	-	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
National Maritime Museum	YES	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Royal Air Force Museum, London	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
Science Museum Library and Archives	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
England Wide											
National Monuments Record	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scotland Wide											
Clydebuilt, Scottish Maritime Museum at Braehead	YES	YES	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Denny Ship Model Experiment Tank, Scottish Maritime Museum	YES	YES	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Historic Scotland	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
Museum of Scottish Lighthouses	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES	-	-
Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS)	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scottish Fisheries Museum	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	YES
Scottish Maritime Museum	YES	YES	-	-	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-

Devolved Nations and Dependencies											
Museum name	Collection Policy refers to maritime archives	Collection area includes the coastal and/or marine zone	Approached to accession for maritime archives	Holds maritime archives	Actively collects maritime archives	If not actively collecting maritime archives is this due to:					If issues were resolved would you collect maritime archives
						<i>Lack of financial resources</i>	<i>Lack of facilities</i>	<i>Lack of expertise</i>	<i>Lack of remit</i>	<i>Never been asked</i>	
Channel Islands											
Guernsey Museums & Galleries	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Isle of Man											
Manx National Heritage	-	YES	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-
Wales											
Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ceredigion Museum	-	YES	YES	YES	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

9.2 Collection Policy Details

The table below contains the detailed responses provided. Some other museums answered yes to this question but did not provide any further information on their policy.

Detailed responses from Museums which have Collection Policies that refer to Maritime Archives	
Museum	Detailed Response
ENGLAND	
South West	
Poole Museum	<p>Comment: 3.1 The Museum collections contain material relating to :- 3.1.1 Social History – childhood, domestic life, industry, commerce, maritime history, costume and textiles. 3.1.2 Fine Art – paintings, drawings etc relating to the local area, local personalities etc by local artists or artists associated with the town. 5.4.2 Decorative and Applied Arts – ceramics, pottery e.g. Poole Pottery and Crown Dorset,. 3.1.4 Local Studies – photographs, documents and ephemera relating to the town and people of Poole, audiovisual, film, video and sound recordings. 3.1.5 Archaeology – material from past excavations within the Borough of Poole and Poole Harbour. 3.2 The Collection’s strengths are:- 3.2.1 Maritime art - Nineteenth century ship portraits, twentieth century Prints 3.2.2 Maritime archaeology - Iron Age Log Boat, Fifteenth century Spanish shipwreck material of international importance, material from a Medieval Boat Yard/Poole Foundry</p>
Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery	<p>8.1.3 The medieval and post-medieval period is well represented by material from urban sites in Plymouth (Castle Street, Dung Quay, Kitto Institute, St. Andrews Street, Woolster Street and Plympton Priory), reflecting in the excavated finds (especially pottery) the port's trading links with all parts of southern England, north and west Europe, and the Mediterranean. Archives from a number of excavations from the late 1980's will significantly enlarge the collections when post-excavation study is completed. Of major national and inter-national significance are the late-medieval and post-medieval imported wares. Castle Street produced the largest collection of 16th and 17th century pottery in Northwestern Europe, if not Europe as a whole. It is certainly the most important collection of pottery of this date in Britain . The Museum also holds the results of work at Plympton Priory, Okehampton Castle, Lydford town and Buckland Abbey; as well as guns and other finds from the 16th century Cattewater wreck from Plymouth Sound; the first designated wreck site in the country and the first wreck to be scientifically excavated and fully published. 9.1 Introduction When making acquisitions for Human History full account will be taken of the operating areas and interests of other museums. Where interests might overlap consultation will take place in order to resolve which is the most suitable institution to acquire an object. Acquisition will only take place where appropriate storage for an object is available within current resources and where acquisition does not unnecessarily duplicate existing items already in the collections. Careful consideration will be given to the condition of an object. Where an object is considered to be in too poor a condition, relative to its importance, it will not be acquired. 9.5 Marine Archaeology Items will only be accepted subject to appropriate conservation, storage and display facilities.</p>
Teignmouth and Shaldon Museum	If further excavations of Church Rocks Wreck site are possible, we would wish to acquire more objects to further our

- Teign Heritage	knowledge of the site.
South East	
Bexhill Museum	Not specifically but implied as collection area incorporates the coastal zone.
Isle of Wight Heritage Service - Museum Service	The Heritage Service will acquire archaeological material and associated evidence from the topographical area of the island of the Isle of Wight and its coastal waters, and record, preserve and interpret the culture and activities of people on the Isle of Wight from prehistoric times to the industrial revolution.
Littlehampton Museum	(Acquisition & Disposal Policy) 4. Existing Collections The Littlehampton Museum Collection consists of just over 25,000 accessioned items. The collecting area for Littlehampton Museum covers Littlehampton, Climping, Angmering, Poling, Lyminster, Ford, Middleton-on-Sea, Felpham, Yapton, Barnham, Walberton, and Eastergate. The Museum has collections of artefacts relating to: a. Archaeology, Social History, Maritime History and Photography. b. Documents, Newspapers and Books (including Manuscripts, Ephemera and other printed Documents). c. Photographic Prints and Negatives. d. Art (Paintings, Drawings and Engravings). e. Maps and Plans. f. Geology and Natural History (Natural History material has not been collected by the Museum for some years). 5. Criteria for future Collection Policy 5.1 Overall Policy: Acquisitions All Acquisitions will only be acquired if they enhance the existing collection. 5.2 Collection Subjects Littlehampton Museum will collect material and associated information relating to the following collecting subject areas: a. Archaeology: material from all periods across the collecting area. b. Social History: material of relevance to the history of the collecting area. c. Technological and Scientific History: material of relevance to the history of the collecting area. d. Maritime History: material relating to both the Littlehampton area in particular and to maritime history in general. Non-local material will only be acquired when it is considered to enhance significantly the existing collection. e. History of Photography: photographic equipment and ancillary material, relating to both the Littlehampton area and to the history of photography in general. Non-local material will only be acquired when it is considered to enhance significantly the existing collection. f. Archives: material of relevance to the history of the collecting area, including documents, printed ephemera, newspapers, photographic prints, negatives and transparencies, film, audio recordings and computerised records. g. Decorative Arts: material of relevance to the collecting area. h. Fine Art: material of relevance to the collecting area. i. Geology: material from the collecting area and from outside. Non-local material will generally not be acquired unless of special importance and only after approval is sought from the Community Resource Committee. j. Biology: material will not be collected unless it is related in some way to one of the human history categories above.
Ramsgate Maritime Museum	RMM Acquisitions & Disposals Policy, 11: "As the museum holds archives, including photographs & printed ephemera, its governing body will be guided by the Code of Practice on Archives for Museums & Galleries in the UK (3rd ed.2002)"
Eastern England	
Leicestershire County Council/Leicestershire Museums Service	COLLECTIONS MANAGEMENT POLICY 2003-2008 [extract] Appendix 1 : Collecting the Life of the County 9. Special Considerations: Archaeology [extract] Areas of excellence: exploitation and bridging of the River Trent in the medieval period
Southend Museums Service	Encompass maritime archaeology and records from that
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service	Probably, don't have time to look. Need your definition of 'Maritime'.
Thurrock Museum	Local history material in any form

North East	
Museum of Hartlepool (Hartlepool Museums and Heritage)	Material may include technical plans and drawings, instruments, tools and other equipment, builders and sailors models, small craft with local connections, navigation charts and maps, business and other archives, personalia and photographs. Where appropriate duplication of material will be avoided.
North West	
Lancaster Maritime Museum (Lancashire County Council & Lancaster City Council)	Archaeology: Collecting will follow the criteria of existing collections (see above). Due regard will also be given to the ability to conserve and store artefacts from underwater archaeology.
National Museums Liverpool	Collect survey results and records. See separate jpg scan for more details. Maritime Archaeology is one of the 'Principal Collections', particularly 'Material from field records recovered from Royal Yacht Mary (1660), Jhelum (1849) and Mersey Flats. Principles governing acquisition: a) Generally a presumption against acquiring excavated material and against direct involvement or sponsoring of excavations, in favour of collecting survey results and records. B) Only material excavated in accordance with ICOMOS Charter for the Conservation of Places of Cultural Significance, the UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property and the ICMM Guidelines. C) The facility for the conservation and storage of excavated material is available. D) Material associated with wrecks within the Port of Liverpool and north-west. E) Material associated with wrecks of Liverpool built or owned vessels. Priorities for acquisition or disposal: a) limited emergency survey work only. B) survey records.
SCOTLAND	
Angus & Dundee City	
Dundee Industrial Heritage	The primary object is the historic vessel RRS Discovery, built in Dundee and the first ship built specifically for scientific research. She took Captain Scott to the Antarctic in 1901-04 as well as taking part in other important expeditions. The associated Discovery collections relate to the history of the ship and the men who served on her. They cover the fields of costume, numismatics, fine art, arms & armour, archives, science, photographs and social history. Items within the collections vary from navigational instruments, scientific specimens collected on the ship's expeditions to personal objects which vividly represent daily life for polar explorers of the period. Dundee Heritage Trust will continue to collect relevant fixtures, fittings, scientific materials, clothing and personal artefacts, documents, photographs and any other items deemed relevant to the proper restoration of the ship and its subsequent interpretation for public benefit.
National Body	
'Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS)	'2.2 As the national record of the archaeological, buildings and maritime heritage of Scotland, the National Monuments Record of Scotland (NMRS) will acquire, catalogue, research and conserve material within these subject areas, and make it available to members of the public.
Scottish Maritime Museum	6.1 The collection area of the Scottish Maritime Museum will be the Maritime Heritage of Scotland. Maritime Heritage includes the commercial, industrial, social and cultural aspects of man's relationship with the seas, lochs, rivers and inland waterways of Scotland.

Scottish Fisheries Museum	Extract from section 8 of the Museum's Acquisition and Disposal Policy: e. The Museum will not acquire archaeological antiquities (including excavated ceramics) in any case where the governing body or responsible officer has any suspicion that the circumstances of their recovery involved a failure to follow the appropriate legal procedures, such as reporting finds through the Treasure Trove procedure, or any other relevant body such as the Receiver of Wreck in the case of finds from within the UK territorial seas.
UK WIDE	
National Maritime Museum	<p>'The NMM's Archaeological Research Centre, which closed in the 1980s, obtained through loans and acquisitions a reference collection for early boat and ship technology, and assemblages from excavation. After the return of the loans, this did not constitute a coherent collection. NMM's policy since 1995 has been one of disposal, attempting to ensure that items are put to best use for display or research in other institutions in the UK able to provide maximum public access and sympathetic interpretation. Action: no further acquisition or loan-in of maritime archaeological material. Where a particular object from an archaeological context fitted our collecting policy we might consider acquisition, subject to due diligence in regard to the protection of the underwater cultural heritage. (The Museum's Collection Development Policy, which includes our Acquisitions and Disposals Policy, is reviewed every five years) Below is an extract from the 'National Maritime Museum Collection Development Policy 2008-2012'.)</p> <p>5.4 COMMERCE AND CONFLICT</p> <p>Subject area definition</p> <p>The role of British sea-borne power within a national, European, imperial and global context. The projection of naval power and the development of the shipping industries, as well as the transmission and exchange of goods, capital, people, ideas and information. Points or areas of innovation and change are of particular interest.</p> <p>Maritime archaeology: We have no dedicated curatorial expertise in this area and extremely limited holdings, which we are seeking to disperse or dispose of. We have no plans to collect maritime archaeology although if an object were to be relevant to this collecting area we might pursue acquisition.</p>
DEVOLVED NATIONS AND DEPENDANCIES	
Guernsey Museums & Galleries	No but it refers to marine archaeology and also to archives

9.3 Collection Area Responses

The table below contains the detailed responses provided. Some other museums answered yes to this question but did not provide any further information on their collection area.

Detailed responses from Museums which provided information on their collection areas	
Museum	Detailed Response
ENGLAND	
South West	
Isles of Scilly Museum	It is undefined, we collect everything which relates to the Isles of Scilly, ergo by definition a coastal and marine area.
North Somerset Museum	The North Somerset coastline being a natural boundary
Somerset County Museum, Taunton Castle	Covers north coast of Somerset, but mainly geological material and prehistoric reptiles from here.
Brixham Heritage Museum	Brixham and Torbay
Bristol City Museum and Art Gallery	Area of responsibility - area governed by Bristol City Council which includes Severn Estuary (including beyond low water mark).
The Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society/Dorset County Museum/Archaeology Collections	Dorset CC coastline, excluding those parts of Poole Harbour within Poole District Council
Poole Museum	3.1.5 Archaeology – material from past excavations within the Borough of Poole and Poole Harbour
Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum	The Borough Council’s administrative boundaries which include the foreshore
Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon	Coastal and marine zone not excluded. Our collecting policy does not define limits in reference to coastal zone, but since we already have natural history samples from the estuary & sea I see no reason why we would define a low water limit.
Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery	ONLY AS A PART OF THE DESIGNATED COLLECTION AREA COASTAL BOUNDARY 3. Plymouth City Museum’s collecting boundaries. Plymouth City Museum collects archaeology archives from the City of Plymouth, West Devon and the South Hams (Plymouth City Museum Collecting Policy 9.2.1). A map showing the collecting boundary is in Appendix 1.1. Full lists of the parishes that Plymouth collects from are in Appendices 1.2 & 1.3 of this document. Where there is any doubt regarding the correct repository for an archive please get in touch with all the potential recipients so that they can resolve the issue by consensus in advance of the excavation.
Royal Albert Memorial Museum, Exeter	Will collect off the coast of Devon; no limitation to low water mark.
Teignmouth and Shaldon Museum	Teignmouth & Shaldon Estuary

- Teign Heritage	
The Castle Heritage Centre and Gallery	North Cornwall
South East England	
Chichester District Museum	We do not actively collect maritime archives.
Hastings Museums and Art Gallery	
Maidstone Museum	Local museum in Maidstone. We can collect from below low water mark.
Portsmouth City Museums and Records Service	15 mile radius of Portsmouth Guildhall.
Bexhill Museum	Includes coastal zone - extends past low water mark in practice as have parts of a silver grey spitfire found by divers in collection.
Canterbury City Council Museums and Galleries Service	Two coastal Museums in the towns of Whitstablve and Herne Bay cover the coastal region of Canterbury City district.
Southampton City Museum Service	Southampton - boundary is not defined in terms of low water mark
Guildhall Museum, Rochester	Includes a river in the collection area.
Hampshire County Council Museums and Archives Service	Hampshire county with boundary at the low water boundary. - though will make an exception if needed for finds snagged in nets etc.
Isle of Wight Heritage Service - Museum Service	The collections all relate to the Isle of Wight and its surrounding waters, and range from the Lower Palaeolithic to the nineteenth century. Nationally important assemblages exist of Lower Palaeolithic and Mesolithic flint tools, Bronze Age pottery and metalwork, Iron Age coinage, Roman remains, and Anglo Saxon coins and metalwork. Amongst the post-medieval collections are substantial remains from the wreck of the Santa Lucia (1567) and HMS Pomone (1811).
Dover Museum	East Kent Coast from Capel-le-Ferne to Sandwich Bay. The collection area has not been defined as limited to the low water mark - technically our collecting area is the the boundaries of Dover District Council but our remit is also to collect items related to Dover, its history and its people, and as such we do regard Dover Bay, The Downs, the Goodwin Sands, and the English Channel in the immediate area to be our maritime hinterland as it were. So, yes, we do (and have) collected items from below the low water mark. I would have to say though that it is on a case-by-case basis.
Littlehampton Museum	see previous answer
Brighton & Hove Museum	Brighton is a seaside town
Marlipins Museum	Our collection are is within the boundaries of Adur DC, in a policy drawn up by the Sussex Archaeology Forum Committee to cover East and West Sussex.
Ramsgate Maritime Museum	Coastal settlement, industry and activity. The archaeology of the Goodwin Sands; wrecks and salvage in the Channel, North Sea and Thames Estuary.
Sussex Archaeological Society	These are local history collections but Lewes was once a port - so odd bits of social history and photographs of trade are in collections. More items directly related to maritime aspects are found at the local history collection at Marlipins.

Eastern England	
Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service	No precise definition; but we collect material relating to the natural history, history and archaeology of Norfolk which therefore includes aspects relating to the coast and the sea
Colchester and Ipswich Museums Service	Vaguely
Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery	Only in prehistory.
Southend Museums Service	Includes Thames
Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service	Within County boundaries, usually to low water mark.
Thurrock Museum	Geographical area of Thurrock
Mersea Island Museum	It is not defined clearly. Some of our collection does come from below the low water mark. It has either been found by fishing boats when working, or in the past local divers have gone down to retrieve objects – usually when fishing boats report there is something there.
Time and Tide Museum of Great Yarmouth Life	Great Yarmouth Borough; Great Yarmouth and neighbouring villages. There is no definition in the actual collections policy as to where the coastla collections boundary lies, but we do have dredged collections, so in practice we do collect below the low water mark.
City & County Museum, Lincoln	'County of Lincolnshire
Yorkshire & the Humber	
East Riding of Yorkshire Museums Service	It is not specifically mentioned, but is implied in our intention to collect all historical material from the county. Would not normally accept material from below the low water mark.
Scarborough Museums Trust	Not really defined at all. We would collect items from both above and below the low water mark if they complied with our Acquisition Policy. The A&D policy does not make specific references to Maritime collecting but this would come within the limitations set for archaeology or social/local history where appropriate.
Captain Cook Memorial Museum	Material and artefacts relating to Captain Cook, his life and voyages, and those who sailed with him.
Ceredigion Museum	not defined
North East	
Berwick Borough Museum	Historic Borough of Berwick. We are able to collect items originating from below the low water mark within reasonable distance of the coast.
Tyne and Wear Museums	It is not defined.
Museum of Hartlepool (Hartlepool Museums and Heritage)	Hartlepool geographic area.
Hartlepool Arts, Museums and Events Service	we are located on the north east coast
North West	

Penrith and Eden Museum	Lakes and inland waters in local area would be included.
Grosvenor Museum, Chester	We have a small collection of finds from coastal areas - mainly from one site in Meols. These are defined as a separate part of the collection.
Lancaster Maritime Museum (Lancashire County Council & Lancaster City Council)	Collections relate to the maritime history of Morecambe Bay, local rivers and the coastal areas
National Museums Liverpool	Material associated with wrecks within the Port of Liverpool and north-west. Material associated with wrecks of Liverpool built or owned vessels. See separate jpg scan for more details.
Fleetwood Museum	Mostly on inshore fishing
National	
'National Monuments Record	Sites within the 12 mile territorial limit of England
SCOTLAND	
Aberdeenshire & N E Moray	
Moray Council Museums Service	Local Authority boundaries to east and west. Do not collect from below low water mark.
Aberdeenshire Heritage	The collecting area of Aberdeenshire Heritage is the the county of Aberdeenshire, which is a coastal county. Boundary of collection area is not actually defined in our current Acquisition & Disposal Policies. However, we do have within the collections, material that was brought up by divers offshore of the coast of Aberdeenshire and which has been assigned to us by Receiver of Wreck, so our collection area does extend past the low water mark.
Arbuthnot Museum	Aberdeenshire coast. Boundary of collection area is not actually defined in terms our current Acquisition & Disposal Policies. However, we do have within the collections, material that was brought up by divers offshore of the coast of Aberdeenshire and which has been assigned to us by Receiver of Wreck, so our collection area does extend past the LWM.
Angus & Dundee City	
Montrose Museum & Art Gallery	It isn't defined but as our collecting area is Angus this includes a long strip of coast
Dundee Art Gallery and Museums	Within Dundee City Council boundaries
'E and W Dunbartonshire and Helensburgh & Lomond	
Auld kirk museum	Forth & Clyde Canal
Lochaber, Skye & Lochaish and Argyll and the Islands	
Bute museum	Isle of Bute - this is a local history collection.
Oban war and peace museum	Local history items from Argyll & Oban including photos of local fishing vessels & navy items.
Skerryvore Museum	Local history collection, but anything maritime within this definition is collected.
Mallaig Heritage Centre	Our Collecting Area is defined as "the area of the former Counties of Inverness-shire and Argyll lying on the mainland west of Glenfinnan and between Loch Houran in the north and Loch Sunart to the south. It also includes the Small Isles of Canna, Rum, Eigg and Muck" This is an area with a considerable length of coastline in which almost all economic activity and settlement has taken place on the coast.

East Ayrshire and North Ayrshire mainland	
Largs Museum	'In Ayrshire on the West coast of Scotland
Eilean Siar	
Seirbhis Arc-eolais nan Eilean Siar/Western Isles Archaeology Service	The extent of our development management area as a local council i.e. 12 miles off shore.
Museum nan Eilean	Collection area includes the whole of the western Isles including its coastal zone
Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire	
McLean Museum and Art Gallery	Shore of Inverclyde Council area
Inverness & Nairn and Moray, Badenoch & Strathspey	
Nairn museum	Local history museum - includes material related to Nairn Harbour
Orkney	
The Orkney Museum	Collection area includes material from below the low water mark, collected through appropriate legal processes.
National Body	
Scottish Fisheries Museum	Within UK territorial seas
Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS)	'2.3 The geographical area of interest for RCAHMS is the whole of Scotland including Scottish territorial waters (12 mile limit).
Scottish Maritime Museum	'Geographical area around Scotland, see Collection Policy
Museum of Scottish Lighthouses	Specifically areas around lighthouses. Only collect archaeological material when it is directly related to a lighthouse.
UK WIDE & SPECIALIST COLLECTIONS	
'British Museum	'Collection policy covers the whole of the world and includes all periods
Fleet Air Arm Museum	We are a museum focusing specifically on the air activities of the navy. This remit will often spill into ships records, flights over the coast and sea and maritime personnel.
Royal Air Force Museum, London	Marine craft operated by the Royal Air Force at home and abroad. We have a number of poor-quality sea-recovery items such as remains of aircraft engines, in addition to the remains of two aircraft recovered from Norwegian Fijords, so I suppose we do (very occasionally, and not for a number of years) take items from below the low water mark.
DEVOLVED NATIONS AND DEPENDENCIES	
'Guernsey Museums & Galleries	'It isn't
Manx National Heritage	'MNH has responsibility upto the High Water Mark. Below that, the land (and sea bed) are owned by the Department of Transport, Isle of Man Government. We also have our own Receiver of Wreck.

9.4 Details of museums approached to accession Maritime Archives

The table below contains the detailed responses provided by museums who have been approached to accession maritime archaeological archives. Some other museums answered yes to this question but did not provide any further information on the material or circumstances.

Detailed responses from Museums which have been approached to accession Maritime Archives	
Museum	Detailed Response
ENGLAND	
South West	
Isles of Scilly Museum	Much of our archives are maritime!
The Castle Heritage Centre and Gallery	Figureheads from shipwrecks
Brixham Heritage Museum	Fishermen bringing in finds.
The Dorset Natural History and Archaeological Society/Dorset County Museum/Archaeology Collections	Material from the Wreck of The Abergavenny
Poole Museum	Asked recently to take on the archive for the Swash Channel Wreck, a major 17th cent. shipwreck in Poole Harbour. The Museum has a strong history of involvement in local maritime archaeology, namely in the excavation of the Studland bay Wreck and the Poole Iron Age logboat.
Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery	In the absence of other arrangements being in place during and immediately after the excavation Plymouth City Museum & Art Gallery have taken responsibility for such material relating to the Cattewater Wreck archive that have been made available to the institution.
Teignmouth and Shaldon Museum - Teign Heritage	Finds from Church Rocks Wreck
South East	
Canterbury City Council Museums and Galleries Service	Whitstable in particular has a rich maritime history and we are often given items that have been dredged up from the seabed.
Guildhall Museum, Rochester	Some material relating relating to local shipbuilding in the area.
Hampshire County Council Museums and Archives Service	Yes, e.g. by Julie last year in case work in the Hamble produced material.
Ramsgate Maritime Museum	As MCA-approved repository for objects raised from vessels lost on the Goodwin Sands (in particular from Naval vessels lost in the Great Storm of 1703) & the accretion of relevant background, survey and monitoring information from licence holder and other responsible parties.

Southampton City Museum Service	Ceramics
Greater London	
Museum of London, LAARC	Approached recently and accepted maritime material which originated outside collections area but which no one else had the capacity to accept
Eastern England	
Norfolk Museums & Archaeology Service	We have always accepted material relating to the coast and have a museum in Great Yarmouth which is a lead partner in maritime history - called Time and Tide
Peterborough Museum and Art Gallery	One off items/collections where they're related to local history.
Thurrock Museum	Majority people who have worked in an industry - Tilbury Docks
Mersea Island Museum	We get regular offers of objects dredged up by fishing boats, found on the foreshore etc.
Leicestershire County Council/Leicestershire Museums Service	Excavations by in-house Archaeological Unit between 1985 and 1993, and subsequently by contractor, in a quarry located in former courses of non-tidal River Trent.
Yorkshire & the Humber	
East Riding of Yorkshire Museums Service	Iron Age boat find - was referred to Hull Museums as we did not have appropriate storage/conservation facilities
National	
National Monuments Record	Archives of the Archaeological Diving Unit
SCOTLAND	
Aberdeenshire & N E Moray	
Aberdeenshire Heritage	Hold on loan the Peterhead Harbour day books.
Arbuthnot Museum	Not a lot. Hold harbour board records on loan
Lochaber, Skye & Lochaish and Argyll and the Islands	
Oban war and peace museum	'Correspondence from Combined Operations Centre.
'Mallaig Heritage Centre	We have a small number of charts and documents relating to marine SSSIs. Also archival material relating to fishing areas, fishing regulation, establishment of Marine Parks
Inverclyde, East Renfrewshire and Renfrewshire	
'McLean Museum and Art Gallery	'From time to time some paper ephemera relating to local maritime activities is offered to the Museum
Orkney	
'The Orkney Museum	We have received items of wreck but nothing yet from formal underwater archaeological fieldwork
National Body	

Scottish Fisheries Museum	The most common approach is from fishermen who have brought up an anchor in their nets
Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS)	RCAHMS is the repository for all archaeological documentary archives for Scotland and this includes maritime excavations.
UK WIDE & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
British Museum	Only in connection with projects the BM has had staff involvement with. The BM is often seen as the museum of last resort, but that isn't the case. The Museum does not have the resources or space to act as a museum of last resort. Unless there is a major expansion of space the BM can only ever expand its collections by 10% or less. It already has two off site storage facilities for material. There would have to be very solid justification for taking a new large maritime archive.
Fleet Air Arm Museum	As a museum of a branch of the navy this is often the case.
DEVOLVED NATIONS AND DEPENDENCIES	
Manx National Heritage	Excavations by amateur divers on the wreck of HMS Racehorse in the early 1980s resulted in some rough plans and paper records.
Guernsey Museums & Galleries	Guernsey Roman Ship (ex-Guernsey Maritime Trust c.1991)
Ceredigion Museum	small items from the beach and objects from ships

9.5 Museums which currently hold maritime archives

Some museums answering ‘yes’ to currently holding maritime archives provided further details of the approximate number that they hold. Only those museums which gave a number have been included within this table.

Detailed responses from Museums which currently hold Maritime Archives	
Museum	Number of Archives held
ENGLAND	
South West	
Poole Museum	1
Russell-Cotes Art Gallery and Museum	1
Plymouth City Museum and Art Gallery	1
Teignmouth and Shaldon Museum - Teign Heritage	1
South East	
Portsmouth City Museums and Records Service	21
Isle of Wight Heritage Service - Museum Service	9
Dover Museum	1
Winchester Museums Service	1
Littlehampton Museum	1
Marlipins Museum	1
Ramsgate Maritime Museum	2
Greater London	
Museum of London, LAARC	2
Eastern England	
Mersea Island Museum	1
Leicestershire County Council/Leicestershire Museums Service	2
National	
'National Monuments Record	1
SCOTLAND	
Lochaber, Skye & Lochaish and Argyll and the Islands	
An Iodhlann	1
Museum of Islay Life	1
Orkney	
The Orkney Museum	1

National Body	
Scottish Fisheries Museum	1
RCAHMS	More than 50
UK WIDE & SPECIAL COLLECTIONS	
British Museum	5
National Maritime Museum	18
DEVOLVED NATIONS AND DEPENDENCIES	
Manx National Heritage	2
Guernsey Museums & Galleries	1