



Community Archaeology Study Days 2006/7

GREATER
YORK
COMMUNITY
ARCHAEOLOGY
PROJECT

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Study Day 6 – How to store, archive and display material

The Yorkshire Museum, York. Saturday 4th November 2006

The Community Archaeology Study Days resumed with a session led by Andrew Morrison, the Curator of Access for Archaeology. The study day began by looking at the importance of storing archaeological material in appropriate ways. There is an important responsibility for community archaeologists to package material appropriately while they are looking after finds, especially where they are being passed around from one place to another for assessment etc. In addition to looking at the temporary storage of material Andrew also looked at how museums go about storing the same material long term.

Continuing to work in the museum lab, Andrew outlined the importance of getting the paper work right, both when material is with the archaeologist and when it is taken into the care of the museum. For archaeological material to be of any use it must be accessible for researchers in the future. This means a thorough and easily used documentation system allowing the museum and researchers to know what is there, to know where to find it and to allow it to be replaced safely after use.

Finally Andrew looked at the skills and methods used to display archaeological material to the public, both allowing people to see material and to understand it. As part of this section of the day community group members were able to see finds from their local areas that are not always on display at the museum.

Contact

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