



Procedures for the control of new acquisitions into the custody of the HMS

Assessment Criteria for acceptance of new additions

General:

The Historical Metallurgy Society Archives and Collections Committee (HMS ACC) will provide expert advice for making recommendations.

Any new additions should enhance the Archives and Collections and not duplicate existing material.

The HMS will ensure that the collections are appropriately housed, catalogued and made accessible through publications and the web site.

The terms additions and items refer to both the material samples and/or any associated paperwork

Guidelines:

1. If accepted, the person presenting/donating items must (and must be competent to) hand ownership of the collection to the HMS ACC.
2. There should be clear evidence of the source and provenance of the specimens.
3. The items should fill a gap in the collection or an under-represented geographical location.
4. Where there is clear evidence as to the process which produced the items and this is under-represented in the HMS, acquisition may be recommended even where provenance is missing, for example for use as a comparative material or as a representative of its type.
5. There will be no duplication of specimens already in the National Slag Collection, unless the new material has better provenance, in which case recommendation for disposal of existing specimens may be considered.

6. Archaeological assemblages of slag are not accepted and should go through normal procedures for acceptance by a local or county museum.
7. Occasional review of holdings may identify duplicates or less significant items which the ACC committee may recommend to the IGMT for disposal.
8. Any specimens not selected or de-selected may be offered to external institutions and schools as handling collections or to participants at HMS and Ironbridge Gorge Museums Trust conferences and workshops.

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