



2nd April 2025

Rylands Building, Manchester – Storage of heritage items

Following the recent site visit with MCC on the 20th February 2025, the correct manner of safely storing the heritage items within the ground floor level heritage store area was discussed, with the aim of improving long-term ventilation, damp and effective spacing. Consequently, we advise the following points are followed:

- All sealed timber boxes should have a number of ventilation holes inserted in their sides to allow cross ventilation.
- The timber lids to all boxes should be covered with plastic sheeting to avoid any ingress of water drops (but ensuring the plastic doesn't cover the ventilation holes on the sides).
- Make sure that items inside the sealed boxes are adequately spaced to avoid them pressing up against each other and potentially sweating and causing damage long term. Strips of foam or lengths of wood should be adequate to keep them separated.
- It will be ensured that the contents of the storage boxes are kept safe and located in areas that are not subjected to uncontrolled increases / decreases in temperature, or especially relative humidity, as the contents can be vulnerable to variations in RH especially if they are timber.
- The contents will be inspected at times to be agreed to ensure they remain in good condition.