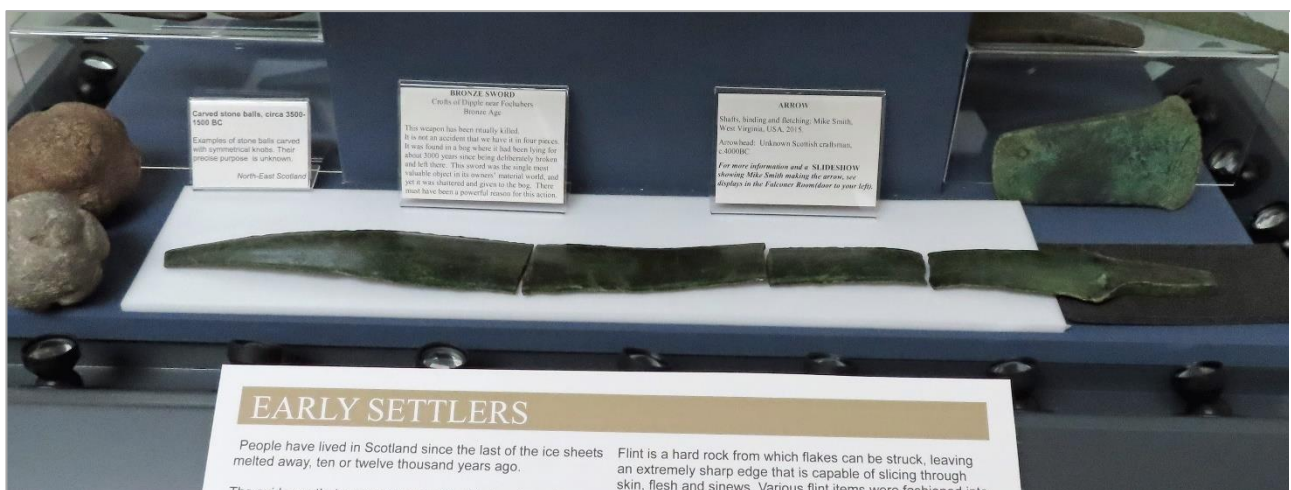


## REPORT: FALCONER MUSEUM & STORE, VISIT 22nd September 2022

### FALCONER MUSEUM

**Environmental data:** Tiny tag T/RH sensor data was downloaded please see the attached environmental report

The Bronze age sword and a pendant from the archaeology case were returned to display in the case after conservation treatment to stabilise some small areas of potential bronze disease. Placed on a temporary plastazote mount.



All museums case contents and open display items were visually checked for change or damage, no change was noted, all appear stable.

The pest traps were checked, no pest activity was evident in the museum.

**ACTION: Next visit**

- Remove the rest of the purple cloth display fabric currently under some of the archaeology, replace with inert materials - pastazote foam or clear polyester
- Cut a new mount for the BA sword.

**Museum Store**

**GROUND FLOOR**

Please see the attached environmental report all tiny tags were downloaded and the data analysed. The units were sent away for calibration.

**Current visit:** The ground floor store was checked, selected geology / palaeontology trays were examined. Issues noted include:

- **Stack E: Trays 18.5.1 – 18.5.12** all vacuumed to remove dust and insect debris, mostly spider webs.
- **Stack D: 18.4.1 – 18.4.8** were vacuumed to remove dust and insect debris, mostly spider webs and deceased spiders, cleaning will continue next visit.
- **Tray C: 18.5.2** some of the specimens appears to have salt crystallisation and pyrite decay, there is some fragmentation and loss to affected areas.



Affected specimens D: 18/5/2 Acc. Nos 1986.52

There were three specimens with extensive pyrite decay having a grey, white and yellow (sulphur) crystalline deposit as well as fine fibrous crystalline efflorescence and cracking extending into the bulk of the specimen. The affected specimens were brushed with a soft squirrel hair paintbrush (in conjunction with a vacuum cleaner) to remove efflorescence and loose decayed surface. The two smaller fragments were in slightly better condition, but still had surface instability. All three specimens were placed in individual self-seal bags. This action will not stop further deterioration it just separates the affected specimens from the other collections material in the tray. The tray was lined with plastazote foam to soften. A low humidity environment will be created using silica gel, next visit.

- Trays 18.3.1 and 18.3.3 were also lined with plastazote to reduce physical damage, this will continue next visit.
- **Tray 18.3.1** mixed rocks and minerals, all in self seal bags and numbered, two specimens 1982.90f and 1982.90n showed signs of pyrite decay and fragmentation.



18.3.2



18.3.3



18.3.1

- The Chairs will continue to be monitored for wood worm activity, none noted on this visit.

**ACTION: Next visit**

- Continue cleaning the trays to remove insect debris
- Add silica gel sachets to the pyrite affected specimens
- Add softening to reduce physical damage where necessary

**GROUND FLOOR FOYER AREA OPPOSITE OFFICE**

Large incised stone in case. Acc. No. 1992-16

The sandstone may be developing salt efflorescence from internally held salts, there is extensive white staining which may indicate salt/ moisture movement within the fabric of the stone. The surface of stone did not appear to be friable or suffering loss. The staining is a pre-existing feature,



during the last visit, it appeared to be more noticeable. The stone is displayed in a wooden case with glazed front, not in direct contact with the floor. Monitored – no change this visit.



1992-16



## FIRST FLOOR STORE

### Insect Trap Check 22/09/2022

Moth lures all clean, no evidence of flying clothes moth

Blunder traps are located the radiators at front and rear of store – all clean

A walk-through visual check was made for all the shelving bays, no threats noted.

Some of the shelving was cleaned of dust as part of housekeeping measures.

**Bay 6:** Partially saturated silica gel for the Archaeological metalwork was changed for new dry silica gel to maintain 30-40% RH within the sealed boxes containing the archaeological metalwork.

#### **ACTION: Next visit**

- Specimens and shelving require basic housekeeping measures to remove dust accumulations.

### Jeanette Pearson ACR

High Life Highland Conservation Service

Inverness Museum & Art Gallery

Highland Folk Museum

22nd September 2022