

## ABOUT THE MUSEUM

We are an independent Museum run by an enthusiastic group of volunteers. We do not receive any regular sources of external income and although entry is free we rely on donations.

Our origins lie in the 1956 Frome Historical Exhibition



which led to the formation of the Frome Society in 1958. Material charting the story of Frome flooded in. 2016 is our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Today we are the proud owners of

the iconic "Frome Literary and Scientific Institution" building which opened in 1869.

*Our vision is to develop the Museum to inspire our visitors. We want to hear your views. What would you like to see at the Museum? In a recent survey, for example, many of our youngest visitors were clear that fossils came up trumps!*



## OUR LANDSCAPE

Frome was established in 685 in Anglo Saxon times. It has always been a working town. Sheep and the wool trades were historically influential - as were iron working and trades such as printing. Our Mendip landscape comprises rolling hills and fast flowing rivers set in the ancient Selwood Forest. Thus all the essential natural resources for agriculture and industry were found close by.



From the late 19<sup>th</sup> century agriculture and traditional industries declined and there was substantial emigration. Frome became a quiet country town. Since the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century Frome has risen as a vibrant artisan town and is now widely acclaimed as one of the best places to live in England.

### EXPLORING OUR LANDSCAPE

The Museum is an excellent starting point to explore the surrounds of green, sustainable Frome on foot, by bike, car or local bus. The Museum is adjacent to the main Old Cattle Market Car Park, clearly signposted.

When you arrive why not first come to the Museum to find out more about Frome's story and heritage and pick up a copy of the **Frome Heritage Trail**? The Museum shop has a good stock of guides to villages and other places in the locality. If you are interested in shopping explore medieval Cheap Street or Catherine Hill.

## OUR COLLECTIONS

These are varied and include: artefacts and objects of many kinds; a substantial library and archive; historical maps; visual art; historic costumes; and geological, archaeological and natural history material.

These are described on our website: [www.frome-heritage-museum.org](http://www.frome-heritage-museum.org).

### OUR LIBRARY AND ARCHIVE

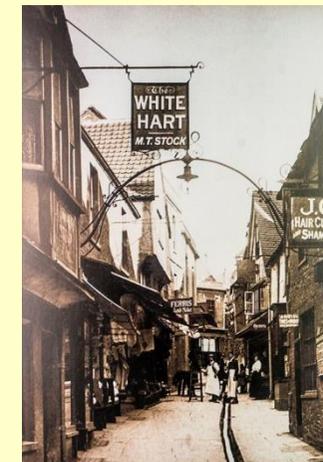
We have remarkably large collections which are a valuable resource for family and local historians.



Perhaps you would like to see what your home looked like in the past? If you wish to visit it is important to make an appointment in advance. Our Library and Archives are usually open to

the public on Tuesdays. The Museum charges for some services.

### OUR COLLECTION CATALOGUES



Remembering Old Frome

Original Photographs by Aldhelm Ashby & Wilfred Lewis Watson

The Museum has a modern digital collection management system. Catalogue records and some images are being progressively entered onto the system to improve access. This will be made available shortly to researchers remotely through a link on our website home page.