

Research

Rediscovering old treasures

The work of the Jewellery Industry Innovation Centre (JIIC) has been crucial in digitally recording valuable artefacts from past centuries.

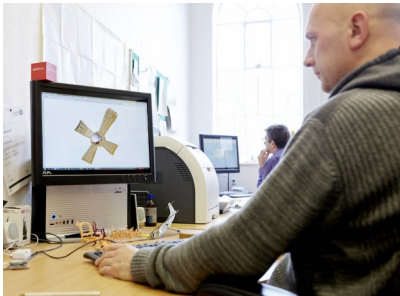
The team at the JIIC have been working on both the Cheapside and Staffordshire Hoards to create digital replicas, so these ancient treasures can become more accessible to museum visitors and even become tactile handling exhibits.



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Background

The JIIC has been blending the latest technology with its understanding of individual craftsmanship to create intricately detailed replicas of objects from the Cheapside and Staffordshire Hoards.



The replicas enable visitors to interact with the objects at museums and exhibitions and get a more physical understanding of the artefacts.

Method

Initially, the treasures are scanned using advanced laser scanning equipment. Researchers at the JIIC then use these scans to create intricate and accurate 3D-printed replicas.

“The Museum of London is the first public institution to apply these methodologies to a historic jewellery collection and we hope the fruits of this research can be used by other museums and research institutions around the country”

- Senior Curator, Museum of London

Impact

The Cheapside Hoard replicas were used as part of a major exhibition at the Museum of London. The Staffordshire Hoard replicas will be used in the brand new, larger Hoard Gallery at Birmingham Museums Trust later in 2014.

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Staffordshire hoard replicas and moulds