<u>Powis Castle's Book of Hours amongst</u> <u>collections being protected in Wales</u>

In total six Welsh institutions will benefit from conservation funding. Successful projects also include shipping records held by Anglesey Archives; the records of the 41st Regiment at the Regimental Museum of the Royal Welsh in Brecon; the Barbier Archive preserved at Cardiff University; and an eighteenth century estate map from the collections of Powys Archives.

This funding forms part of a Welsh Government / NMCT partnership allocation of over £41,000 to conserve items currently held under restricted access because of their fragile condition, making them much more accessible to students, researchers and local users. Additional funding for these projects was also provided by the Colwinston Charitable Trust.

Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism, Lord Elis-Thomas said:

"This partnership, established in 2008, has opened up access to items and collections of national and international significance across Wales. This year's projects illustrate the wide ranging value of our archival heritage, from illuminated treasures such as the Powis Castle Book of Hours, to the records of our industrial past in North Wales."

"I'm very pleased that the Welsh Government have again been able to provide support for the preservation of this material, and am grateful to the NMCT Trustees and the Colwinston Charitable Trust for their support of archive conservation projects in Wales."

Professor David McKitterick, Chairman of NMCT, added:

"I am absolutely delighted that such a range of important collections will be conserved, thanks to the support of NMCT, the Welsh Government and the generosity of the Colwinston Trust. Our partnership with the Welsh Government has seen investment of nearly £300,000 in the conservation of Wales' written heritage since 2008 – and all of it is now publicly accessible thanks to our support."