

REVEALING HISTORIES

REMEMBERING SLAVERY

25th March 2007 is the 200th anniversary of the Act for the Abolition of the Slave Trade. This Act marked the beginning of the end of slavery.

European slavers captured more than 12 million Africans and transported them to the Americas. Britain was a major slave trading nation.

Revealing Histories: Remembering Slavery is a partnership between ten heritage bodies in Greater Manchester. Together we will explore the history, impact and legacy of slavery on Britain through our collections and community links.

www.revealinghistories.org.uk



the union patriotic envelope, 1861

The Museum has chosen this object as its link to slavery. The opposed Northern and Southern states issued illustrated envelopes as propaganda during the American Civil War.

“Cotton is King” states the importance of American cotton to Britain’s - and Manchester’s - economy. The British gentleman, John Bull, is bowing to King Cotton while kneeling on a slave. Cotton plantations relied on slave labour.