

3-6 Oct 1997

ASHA CONFERENCE, QUEENSTOWN 1997 Programme

FRIDAY

1.00-1.20 Welcome/House Keeping (A) = abstract received

MARITIME CONNECTIONS

- 1.20-1.45 S McGann
"Wilyah Miah: an archaeology of the Shark Bay Pearling Industry":
historic middens & the industrial frontier (A)
- 1.45-2.10 C Jacomb:
Whaling on Banks Peninsula
- 2.10-2.35 S Lawrence
An Integrated Approach to the Archaeology of Whaling (A)
- 2.35-3.00 Ian Smith
Ephemeral Foundations: Archaeology of the First European Settlement
in New Zealand (A)
- 3.00-3.25 afternoon tea
- 3.25-3.50 Steve Bagley
Perano Whaling Station
- 3.50-4.15 Mark Staniforth
Whaling Station Sites in South Australia (A)
- 4.15-4.40 Ian Smith
New Zealand Sealing: An Australian Industry (A)
- 4.40-5.05 Nigel Prickett
Inshore Whaling in New Zealand
- 5.05-5.30 Karl Gillies
Castaways of Solander Island (A)

FRIDAY EVENING free time. Take in the attractions of Queenstown.

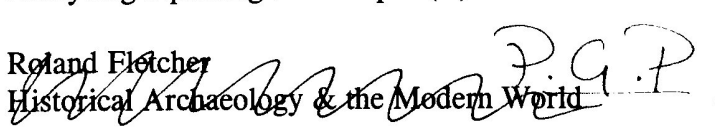
SATURDAY

MINING/INDUSTRIAL PAPERS

- 8.45-9.10 Lindsay Smith
Cold Hard Cash: Preliminary historical and archaeological
investigations of the Chinese people of Kiandra, N.S.W. (A)

- 9.10-9.35 P Bristow
"They Must Be Crazy: Chinese & Euro Miners in the Old Man Range"
- 9.35-10.00 Robin Gregory
Mica Mining Sites in Central Australia : A Research Overview and Examination of Management Issues
- 10.00-10.25 morning tea
- 10.25-10.50 Ian Jack
The Oil Shale Industry in France, Britain, USA & Australia; comparisons & interactions (A)

PATTERN & PURPOSE

- 10.50-11.15 Graham Connah
Pattern & Purpose in Historical Archaeology (A)
- 11.15-11.40 Iain Stuart
Analysing Squatting Landscapes (A)
- 11.40-12.05 Roland Fletcher
Historical Archaeology & the Modern World 
- 12.05-1.00 lunch time
- 1.00-1.25 K Jones:
Aerial Archaeology: Central Otago Goldfields & Agriculture (A)
- 1.25-1.50 Alan Mayne
Repossessing 'Little Lon' the historical archaeology of a vanished inner-city community (A)
- 1.50-2.15 Alexy Simmons
Those Elusive Red Light Ladies: Searching the Historical and Archaeological Record (A)
- 2.15-2.40 Denise Gaughen
What is Cultural Heritage: Or How to Keep It in the Bush (A),
- 2.40-3.05 Gordon Grimwade
Desert Stockroute: Is Archaeology Loosing Ground? (A)
- 3.05-3.30 afternoon tea

- 3.30-3.55 Andrew Wilson
Invasion, Interaction & Interdependence: The Central Australia
Archaeology Project
- 4.00-5.00 **ASHA AGM**
- 7.00- Conference Dinner: Lai Sing Restaurant. O'Connell's Shopping Centre,
Queenstown (fully licensed but also BYO). We have opted for a 9 dish
and soup buffet-type menu. Cost \$20.00/person.

SUNDAY all day fieldtrip up Shotover Valley. Buses depart the Terraces Resort
Hotel at 8.30am. Return about 5pm.

MONDAY

- 9.00-9.25 Rachel Egerton
"Forgotten Yesterdays in Fiordland": a tour of historic remains in
Fiordland National Park. (A)
- 9.25-9.50 Leah McKenzie
Archaeology & Heritage Trails: A CRM Opportunity (A)
- 9.50-10.15 Jill Hamel
The Nineteenth Century Farmsteads in Central Otago
- 10.15-10.35 morning tea
- 10.35-11.00 David Veart
Auckland's Coastal Defences

CONSERVATION- PRESERVATION

- 11.00-11.25 N Ritchie:
Kauri Driving Dams: Preserving the Last of a Dying Species;
An Outline of the Methodology, Trials and Tribulations (A)
- 11.25-11.50 R McGovern-Wilson
Piako Tramway restoration
- 11.50-12.00 close of conference

Possible Impromptu Forums (time permitting) Lead by:

- Graham Connah "Publish or Perish: the necessity, means and methodologies for
archaeological publication"
- Jean Smith "Glass Issues": cataloguing glass artefacts etc

ASHA CONFERENCE 1997 ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS

Sally McGann Centre for Archaeology, University of Western Australia

**“Wilyah Miah: an archaeology of the Shark Bay Pearling Industry”:
historic middens & the industrial frontier**

The earliest pearling industry in Western Australia was at Shark Bay because it afforded easy collection of the pearls and little capital investment. Initially the industry subsidised the pastoral industry and later created the settlement of Denham. Middens comprise the only remains from 80 years of pearl shell collection. My Masters research concentrates on the historic midden archaeology, the distribution of the camps around the bay and the use of Aboriginal and imported labour.

Susan Lawrence Latrobe University, Melbourne.

An Integrated Approach to the Archaeology of Whaling

Whaling has been closely associated with the settler societies in Australia from the establishment of the first European colony at Botany Bay. Whaling was Australia's first maritime industry and until the middle of the C19th frequently rivalled or even surpassed the pastoral industry in the value of exports generated. As a result of a number of initiatives by heritage agencies in recent years, there is now a large database available that documents and records sites associated with shore-based whaling. To date this data has been used primarily for management and significance assessment on a state by state basis. We are now proposing to extend this research by developing an integrated analytical framework that brings together terrestrial and maritime archaeological approaches to address issues of technological development, social structure, colonial settlement, and indigenous/European interaction in the whaling industry.

Ian Smith Anthropology Dept, University of Otago, Dunedin, N.Z.

Ephemeral Foundations: Archaeology of the First European Settlement in N.Z.

The first European settlement in New Zealand was established in Luncheon Cove, Dusky Sound in November 1792. It was a temporary base for sealing operations and was occupied initially for only 10 months, but saw the construction of at least two buildings and the first ship built in this country. Archaeological investigations in February 1997 examined several postulated locations of this settlement. Although no evidence of the buildings was located, clear indications of shipbuilding activity was identified along with artefactual remains consistent with a late C18th occupation.

Mark Staniforth **School of Cultural Studies, Flinders University, South Australia**

Whaling station sites in South Australia

Historical documentary and/or archaeological evidence of a number of whaling stations on the South Australian coast and off-shore islands has previously been recorded. One of the problems with some of this work has been the failure to recognise that shore based whaling activity in South Australia before 1850 consisted of two quite distinct types. The first type was those based in and associated with the official settlement of South Australian Company and Hagan & Hart; documentary records for these whaling stations are relatively plentiful and easily accessible in Adelaide. The second and far less well known or documented type were the activities of the apparently mainly Hobart based whalers in a number of stations on the far west coast of South Australia. Hobart-based whalers were active in at least three whaling stations here: at Fowler's Bay, St Peter's Island, and Streaky Bay. This paper looks at a number of whaling stations in South Australia.

Ian Smith **Anthropology Dept, University of Otago, Dunedin, N.Z.**

New Zealand Sealing: An Australian Industry

Historical records of the sealing industry on the New Zealand mainland and subantarctic islands are reviewed. These show that the trade was dominated by Australian merchants operating ships out of Port Jackson and Hobart. Evidence of the locations of the activities and their modes of operation are considered, and the ways in which they have shaped the New Zealand archaeological record of sealing assessed.

Karl Gillies **Southland Museum, Invercargill, N.Z.**

"Castaways of Solander Island"

In 1813 5 men were rescued from the remote volcanic Solander Island (some 40 miles from Stewart Island), by Captain Murray of the *Perserverance*. Some of them had been left stranded there for nearly five years. Within sight of the mainland but with the means of escape at hand, they had resigned themselves to their fate. One of their number was an Australian aborigine. This paper recounts their story of privation, survival and ultimate rescue, and is also an illustrated account of the author's 1985 attempt to relocate their campsite.

Lindsay Smith A.N.U.

Cold Hard Cash: Preliminary historical and archaeological investigations of the Chinese of Kiandra, N.S.W.

The town of Kiandra was the focus of the largest gold mining area in the Snowy Mountains of southern NSW in the mid C19th with peak population of up to 10.000 on the field in 1860. At that time the Chinese comprised about 700 of that number. Today, apart from four surviving buildings, Kiandra presents a scarred landscape, marked by mounds and hollows, some brick and ironwork, broken glass and ceramics wherever erosion has given some surface visibility. As it was the only town in Australia in the 1860s that was regularly snow-bound for long periods each year its layout, the type of structures, its provisioning and other social and economic activities may have required different approaches to 'similar' sites in warmer less isolated areas of Australia.

The approaches to Kiandra's unique problems and the role of the Chinese people in solving those problems is gradually being revealed through an examination of contemporary historical records, archaeological analysis of Kiandra sites known (and suspected) to have been occupied by Chinese, and an assessment of the wider relationships between the Chinese of Kiandra and those located elsewhere in Australia, and, perhaps, overseas.

Ian Jack Professor of History, University of Sydney

The Oil Shale Industry in France, Britain, USA and Australia: comparisons and interactions

Extraction of oil products from shale preceded and co-existed with oil-wells, providing countries without oil wells with some self-sufficiency in kerosene, petrol and lubricants. The oil shale industry began in the 1820s in France, which then directly influenced England in the 1840s, followed by Wales, Scotland, the USA, and, after 1865, Australia. The archaeological remains in Australia, spanning 90 years of technological interaction with the world, are uniquely extensive and legible, but can be interpreted only in the context of oil shale operations elsewhere. The speaker has recently completed field and documentary research overseas including Burgundy where it all began and has found rich and previously untapped data on Wales and Scotland in the 1860s and 1870s. On the basis of this international dimension, he will appraise the significance of the industry's archaeological heritage in New South Wales and Tasmania.

Graham Connah

A.N.U. Canberra

Pattern & Purpose in Historical Archaeology

The practice of archaeology inevitably requires that we constantly assess the activities of both ourselves and others, as well as asking what the purpose of such activities might be. In the case of historical archaeology in Australia and New Zealand, there seems at present some danger of losing sight of what it is that we are trying to do and why. In origin archaeology is a scholarly discipline, and yet after three decades of growth in our respective countries, historical archaeology remains poorly represented in academic institutions both in staff and undergraduate courses. In contrast, there has been a substantial increase in private archaeological consulting and in state-funded cultural resource management activities. Consequently, in spite of some remarkable exceptions, greatly increased archaeological activity has generally resulted in only modest additions to the published material that in the end constitutes the discipline. It is surely timely to ask just what are we contributing to archaeology as a whole, and indeed to society in general?

Iain Stuart

University of Sydney

“Analysing Squatting Landscapes”

Although the concept of ‘cultural landscapes’ is quite old, even in Australia, it is only in the last 10 or so years that the term has begun to be used by a variety of disciplinary specialists mostly working in the field of ‘cultural heritage management’. In most of these studies the landscape is assessed as a static object. This approach has its limitations if research into the past is focused on understanding past landscapes and the processes that created them.

This paper discusses the methodological approach adopted in my doctoral study of squatting landscapes in SE Australia and argues for taking an approach to landscape that looks at change and its underlying processes as one way of understanding the past.

Kevin Jones.

Dept of Conservation, Science and Research, Wellington, N.Z.

Aerial Archaeology: Central Otago Goldfields and Agriculture

Aerial photographs enable rapid identification of pattern, and often provide a unique source of interpretation of ground features. They are also especially suited to sites of large extent. Aerial photographs also have interest as a record in themselves and as illustration. Aerial photographic reconnaissance of many major Central Otago goldfields (Moonlight/Shotover Rivers, Arrow River, Nevis River, Bendigo/Cromwell, St Bathans) will be presented. Methods of adding value to the photograph using low level vertical photographs (scale on the negative of about 1:6000) to obtain the advantage of stereoscopic overlap and by filling in detail from low level obliques on to conventional vertical aerial photographs (contact print scale about 1:18,000) will be discussed. Central Otago is also one of the few regions in New Zealand where differential snow infilling can be used to interpret historic features.

**Alan Mayne
& Tim Murray**

**Senior Lecturer, Dept of History, University of Melbourne
Latrobe University, Melbourne**

Repossessing 'Little Lon': the historical archaeology of a vanished inner-city community (an Australian Research Council project)

Little Lonsdale Street in central Melbourne was notorious for much of the C19th and C20th centuries as a foul slum and brothel district. As evoked by C.J. Dennis' characters the Sentimental Bloke and ginger Mick it became entrenched in Australian popular culture as a synonym for 'scowlin' slums' that were the haunts of 'low, degraded broots'. Two entire blocks along 'Little Lon', identified as forming the 'citadel' of this supposed slum district, were resumed by the Commonwealth Government in 1948. The precinct was almost entirely razed and rebuilt. Yet traces of this vanished community and its forgotten history remain. Archaeological investigation of the site began in the late 1980s, led by Justin McCarthy. Ongoing research by archaeologists and historians at La Trobe University and the University of Melbourne is now puncturing the slumlands myths to reveal a working class and immigrant community that comprised a complex mosaic of social worlds. In collaboration with the Museum of Victoria, the researchers are using electronic multimedia in order to tell something of their lives- and in so doing the enduring dignity- of the actual residents of this community, in place of the phantoms and caricatures which have hitherto clouded understanding of 'Little Lon'.

Alexy Simmons

Regional Officer, N.Z. Historic Places Trust, Hamilton, N.Z.

Those Elusive Red Light Ladies: searching the historical and archaeological record for the Notorious

The notorious or those that lived outside societal rules provide a reflection of the society that they operated within. Female prostitutes or red light ladies have been defined in western social systems as outside the law. On the frontier the separation between those that lived outside the law and those that lived by the law was often minimal. A comparative study of prostitution on the mining frontier of the U.S. and N.Z. reveals that a different legal basis was used to regulate prostitution as well as differences in ethnic mix, status linked to ethnicity, and minority aggregation. Consideration is also given to archaeological data on prostitutes in urban settings and its use for constructing a model for identifying brothels based on the comparison of material culture.

Denise Gaughwin

Forest Practices Unit, Tasmania

What Use is Moveable Cultural Heritage: Or How to Keep it in the Bush

The community often values moveable cultural heritage in an opposed way to cultural practitioners. Whereas archaeologists are bound by ideas of items of moveable cultural heritage as only part of the elements or features that go to make up a site, the community is not fettered by the notion of the significance of a place. Rather it can be individual items that are used. The community's response can be read from the landscape when one travels around Tasmania (and I suspect in most other places as well). Examples of the use of historic material culture include marketing, decoration, propaganda, education, tourism, functionalism, and community museums. An exploration of the manipulation of the heritage items can develop a better understanding of the social values and the way that that identity is shaped in a community.

Gordon Grimwade

Heritage Consultant, Yungaburra, Queensland

“Desert Stockroute: Is Archaeology Loosing Ground”

The 1700km long Canning Stock Route (CSR) crosses a remote part of Western Australia. It was surveyed and constructed in the period 1906-1910 to provide access to southern markets for the Kimberley region and used spasmodically until 1959. Since the 1970s the CSR has become popular with recreational four wheel drives. Several wells and graves have been “restored”, the route adapted for vehicular use, and inevitably, there are limited instances of vandalism. There has been no systematic archaeological work on the stock route despite its nomination to the Register of the National Estate.

This paper provides a preliminary record of the wells, graves and more recent cultural material along the route. It questions the well intentioned private restoration work on the CSR and the lack of management of an important archaeological site.

Rachel Egerton

Dept of Conservation, Te Anau, N.Z.

“Forgotten Yesterdays in Fiordland”

A relaxing visual tour of the wide variety of historic remains within the Fiordland National Park (World Heritage Area), specifically the southern fiords. Historic places in this wild and beautiful landscape include: the journey-ways and stopping points of the first people, reminders of European explorations, remnants of timber and mineral exploitation, failed settlements, disaster sites, remains from early fishing enterprises, landmarks of maritime safety, and the location of the first active-management of indigenous wildlife. The slides will be accompanied by a few tall tales.

Leah McKenzie

Senior Archaeologist, Heritage Victoria

Archaeology & Heritage Trails: A CRM Opportunity

Archaeological sites present a challenge for cultural resource managers. Often in a ruinous state, they look unappealing to the casual visitor. Mounds in the grass require an act of faith to interpret and appreciate. Although it is the intangible quality that gives archaeological sites their romantic image, it is also the cause of great problems when protecting sites. They require protection not only from deliberate destruction as part of the developmental process but often from systematic neglect and looting over many years. In Europe and the Middle East selected sites have been identified and interpreted for the visiting public. Such actions are rare in Australia.

Increasingly in Australia heritage places are being valued for their intrinsic value. Archaeological sites are being perceived as having value for the community. Recently in Victoria efforts are being made to protect archaeological sites through tourism developments. This paper will examine some of the recent approaches in Victoria to link archaeology and tourism together and issues which have arisen.

Neville Ritchie

Conservancy Archaeologist, Dept of Conservation, Hamilton, N.Z.

Preserving the Last of a Dying Species: Kauri Driving Dams in New Zealand

There were once thousands of kauri driving dams in the northern part of New Zealand. They were used for driving kauri logs from the headwaters of streams to lower elevations where they could be hauled to mills by road or tram. Now only a handful of the more intact ones remains. This paper outlines the history of the kauri industry in New Zealand, the role the driving dams played, and outlines the conservation work involved in maintaining the last examples.