

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 30.1.2000  
Print Post Regulations No: PP24359/00114  
ISSN 0156-9295

Box 220 Holme Building  
University of Sydney 2006  
Secretary: (02) 9558 6618

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## STATE OF THE ART

### ACT News

*Compiled by Richard Morrison*

#### *Alps Cultural Heritage Study*

At last there is some action in the ACT. Research is being undertaken! The Australian Alps National Parks has instigated a 6-month study to identify national cultural heritage values in the Alps National Parks. Gaps in our knowledge about heritage and sites in Namadgi National Park, Kosciuszko National Park, Snowy River National Park, Alpine National Park and Mt Buller National Park are to be identified. A program of projects to 'fill the gaps' will then be developed. If you would like further information Debbie Argue can explain fully (ph 02 6207 2167).

#### *ANU Chinese History Workshop*

A successful workshop was held in February 2000 on 'Uncovering a Chinese legacy: an American perspective'. This was jointly organised by the Centre for Archaeological Research and the Centre for the Study of the Chinese Southern Diaspora. This involved two Idaho visitors, Dr Priscilla Wegars, founder of the University of Idaho's Asian American Comparative Collection, and Professor Terry Abraham, Head of Special Collections and Archives at the University of Idaho. Both were key speakers at the University of NSW conference on 'The Chinese in Australian and New Zealand History'.

### Australian Heritage Commission

#### *Chinese Heritage Agreement*

Future Chinese cultural conservation efforts will have distinctive Australian roots with the signing of an agreement between the two

countries on cultural heritage cooperation. The Memorandum of Understanding signed between the AHC and China's State Administration for Cultural Heritage (SACH) is a significant outcome of three years spent developing principles for the protection of cultural sites in China. Australia's experience in the conservation and management of cultural sites contributed to the development of China's own guidelines.

#### *ASHA Seminar on Chinese Projects*

At the first seminar of the ASHA Seminar Series in Sydney on 2 March, Kirsty Altenburg talked about the AHC's involvement in the collaborative project with the Chinese SACH and the Getty Conservation Institute, USA, developing the China Principles. Karl Zhao talked about Chinese projects in which the NSW Heritage Office is involved.

#### *Photographic Database On Line*

The AHC's Heritage Photographic Database contains more than 12,000 images of over 8,000 places in the Register of the National Estate. This has recently been added to the newly upgraded AHC web site (<http://www.ahc.gov.au>), complementing the information in the RNE already available here.

#### *Recent Activity*

AHC technical staff associated with the historic and indigenous environments have dedicated considerable time in the last month assisting in the assessment of 401 applications for funding from across Australia. These applications were for 'hands on' conservation works (where they related to historic heritage) under the first round of the Cultural Heritage Projects Program (CHPP). This is a new Department of Environment and Heritage program replacing the AHC's National Estate

Grants Program. The staff are looking forward with trepidation to the next round of CHPP expected to be advertised in June 2000!

## New South Wales News

*Compiled by Jennie Lindbergh, Denis Gojak, Pim Allison, Ross Gam, Paul Rheinberger for Graham Connah, Caitlin Allen & Mac North*

### National Parks and Wildlife Service of NSW

#### *NPWS Staff Changes*

The National Parks and Wildlife Service has been very busy in historic heritage conservation activity in the past two years since the last report. There have been some changes to the structure of NPWS cultural heritage operations, these all being merged into the (new) Cultural Heritage Division, which is managed by Jason Ardler. Susan McIntyre has taken the opportunity to leave NPWS in April and try to get her Ph.D. thesis on the post-contact archaeology of Cape York finalized at the same time. We all wish Sue good luck in the deep north. In the same restructure Denis Byrne has been appointed as manager of the Research Unit, looking after non-indigenous and Aboriginal heritage research issues.

In a shocking development Denis Gojak is being wedged out of his seat at NPWS to take a two-year secondment as Heritage Asset Manager for the NSW Department of Urban Affairs and Planning. After 13 years in the Service Denis will be blinking in the harsh light of the real world and looking around him in bewilderment. Look out for advertisements to fill the vacancy or call Denis Byrne on (02) 9585 6571 to register your interest in applying.

#### *Legislative Review*

The *NSW National Parks and Wildlife Act 1974* will be changed. A discussion paper on proposed changes will be released in March 2000. Apart from allowing mining to occur under some new categories of conservation reserve, rather than having these being ungazetted crown land, one of the significant changes will be to allow greater capacity for the adaptive reuse of historic structures on park.

#### *Conservation Management Plans*

Changes to the *NSW Heritage Act 1977* have spurred NPWS to even more conservation management plan activity than in previous years, as we aim to get comprehensive and up to date CMPs in place for all properties on the State Heritage Register. Among the plans in preparation or finished are:

Lake Innes House estate (being finalized by Cath Snelgrove)

Wisemans Ferry Convict Stockade (Martin Rowney of Austral Archaeology)

North Head Quarantine Station Sydney Harbour National Park (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd)

NPWS Lighthouses Conservation and cultural tourism plan—8 lighthouse complexes along the NSW coast (Graham Brooks and Associates)

Old Great North Road, Dharug National Park (prepared in-house by Sarah Breheny and others)

Middle and Georges Heads Fortifications Sydney Harbour National Park (Denis Gojak) 'Regentville' estate in Mulgoa Nature Reserve (in progress)

National Pass Walking Track Blue Mountains National Park (about to be tendered)

Willandra Pastoral Station (Cultural Heritage Services Division)

Mt Wood Complex Sturt National Park (Peter Freeman Pty Ltd, Michael Pearson, Rosemary Annable)

Tinderry Eucalyptus Stills, Tinderry Nature Reserve (Pearson, O'Keefe, Navin, Officer)

Holtermanns Corner and Denmans building groups (Christo Aitken)

English group of cottages, Hill End Historic Site (Jill Sheppard)

Yarrangobilly Caves

'Penders' Mimosa Rocks National Park (Oona Nicolson of Biosis Research)

Hartley Historic Site (Christo Aitken)

Parramatta Park Landscape Master Plan (Public Works, Craig Burton)

Glenrock State Recreation Area, near Newcastle (starting soon)

#### *Ethnic Social Significance Project*

Historians Martin Thomas and Sharon Veale have embarked on a research project concerning the social significance of national parks to various ethnic communities around Sydney. The project is using documentary research, oral history as well as focus group-based discussion.

*Aboriginal Heritage Radio Program & Publication*

Working from fieldwork around Lightning Ridge and Brewarrina, and archival research at the Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies, Martin Thomas has also produced a radio documentary that marks the centenary of the birth of Jimmie Barker. Barker was an Aboriginal man of Maruwari descent who lived much of his life at the Brewarrina Mission in western NSW. In the late 1960s, towards the end of his life, Barker narrated his memoir onto tape. His testimony formed the basis for Janet Mathews' book, *The Two Worlds of Jimmie Barker*, a classic in testimonial literature. Drawing from Jimmie's rich archive, and from the remarkable testimony of his son, Roy Barker, Martin's broadcast, *The Trail of Jimmie Barker*, will air on Radio Eye, ABC Radio National, 25 March 1 PM.

Denis Byrne undertook a landmark study of post-contact Aboriginal cemeteries in NSW with Adrienne Howe-Piening. The work resulted in the publication of a small book titled *In Sad but Loving Memory*. Denis is now continuing on further investigations of post-contact Aboriginal use of coastal landscapes, primarily on the NSW North Coast. The work will feed into a growing body of work examining the links between the use of places by whites and non-whites and their social significance.

*NSW Excavation Action*

Susan Lawrence, and teams from La Trobe University carried out a survey of known and likely historic shore-based whaling sites around Twofold Bay in southern NSW. A number of sites were recorded in detail and extended our knowledge of the surviving remains of the whaling period along that coast.

Later in 1999 Susan, another team from La Trobe, NPWS and Eden Local Aboriginal Land Council staff undertook excavations at Mowarra in Ben Boyd National Park, looking for sites associated with 1840s whaling operations. The main site investigated proved to belong to a slightly later stage of pastoral activity, and a second location which was extremely promising on the surface failed to yield any material that could definitely indicate that it had been used at all, regardless of the period.

Lindsay Smith has completed his MA and is now continuing with the same topic as a Ph.D. and will include some further work at Kiandra goldfields.

Denis Gojak has been investigating an 1850s wattle and daub cottage built by German miners at Hill End.

Dana Mider is continuing work at Fort Denison and Goat Island in association with building conservation works at these places.

**The Old Kinchega Homestead Fieldwork**

The Kinchega Archaeological Research Project plans to carry out its fourth field season of survey and excavation at the Old Kinchega Homestead in the Kinchega National Park from 27th May—17th June 2000.

The Kinchega National Park is in the west Darling region, near Menindee and c. 130 km from Broken Hill. The remains of the old homestead have been part of this park since 1967. They are situated beside a billabong on the banks of the Darling River. This homestead complex was built c. 1875 and abandoned in the mid 1950s. It therefore documents some 80 years of the archaeology and history of pastoral life in this region.

The 2000 field season will consist of further excavation of the main homestead building and the gardeners hut, survey of the garden and artefact study of the homestead's refuse areas. Volunteers are required for this fieldwork. They will be accommodated, courtesy of the Kinchega National Park, in the renovated shearers' quarters and, depending on experience, their travel and subsistence costs will be met.

Archaeology students from the University of Sydney wishing to take part must consult with Prof. Roland Fletcher to sort out any timetabling problems which this may cause. Students may wish to use this fieldwork for ARPH 2604 (Field and Laboratory Projects course). These students must also consult with Roland Fletcher.

Inquiries to:

Dr. Penelope Allison  
Christopher Brennan Building—Room 483  
School of Archaeology  
University of Sydney NSW 2006  
Tel: 02 9351 2880  
Fax: 02 9351 6392

Email: [Pim.Allison@archaeology.usyd.edu.au](mailto:Pim.Allison@archaeology.usyd.edu.au)  
**Lake Innes Archaeology Project 2000**

The Lake Innes Archaeology Project aimed in the first instance to record and analytically study the visible archaeological evidence on the Lake Innes Peninsula, and originated as an undergraduate field-training course lasting one week each year conducted by Professor Graham Connah for the University of New England. From 1993–1995, inclusive, it built up a considerable body of data intended to form a basis for further research (Connah, G. (ed) 1997. *The archaeology of Lake Innes House*; Connah, G. 1998. 'The archaeology of frustrated ambition...' *Historical Archaeology*, 32[2]: 7–27). No work was done in 1996 but continued in 1997 and 1998, when the annual season was increased to two weeks in each year and by which time most of the participants were graduates who volunteered to continue with the Project.

With the financial support of an Australian Research Council grant covering the years 1999–2001, excavations were carried out for four weeks during 1999, followed by two weeks post-excavation preliminary artefact analysis. A total of nearly 40 people with affiliations to five different universities (currently or former) were involved during this six-week period. The available research funds were expended on sufficient material and plant to establish the Project on a 'stand-alone' basis and the basic accommodation costs of volunteer participants were also met.

In addition, the National Parks and Wildlife Service continued to provide valuable logistical support, including expert assistance from some of its field officers. The NPWS also provides the site of the Project workshop/store and working facilities for the post-excavation analysis period in its Port Macquarie Works Depot. Work will continue on a similar basis and for slightly longer lengths of time during both 2000 and 2001.

The main aim of the excavations is to study the physical evidence of structures and movable artefacts to test ideas about the visibility of socio-economic differences in the archaeological record. An associated aim is to shed light on the different living conditions of the stratified society that lived on the Innes Estate: the Innes family, the more trusted servants; the skilled estate-workers; and the farm-workers and labourers. Because of the high level of assigned (convict) labour on the estate, the investigation is also relevant to the study of Australian convictism in general and to comparative studies of the Australian convict experience and those based on similarly unfree labour in the southern United States of America, the Caribbean and/or South Africa.

In 1999, excavation was successfully carried out at three sites, namely the bathroom, privies and

boilerhouse of the main house; a two-room living unit in the cottage block immediately to the north-east of the stables; and one residential structure in the servants' village down near Lake Innes.

At the first of these locations, where almost no structural evidence was visible on the surface, excavation established that there had been two privies back-to-back. These privies were fitted with ceramic, flushing bowls one of which, in blue-and-white transfer-printed ware by Wedgwood, was largely recovered and has now been reconstructed. The bowls emptied into wide lead pipes that probably drained to a cesspit (yet to be located). The recovered toilet-bowl has been provisionally dated to c.1835 but final confirmation is awaited from the Wedgwood company.

The bathroom and boilerhouse were less informative. The bathroom had a suspended timber floor, skirting boards and green-painted plastered walls, while the boilerhouse had a carefully laid brick floor which showed traces of burning consistent with the position of the boiler and firebox. Outside the building there was a stormwater drain system feeding into a brick barrel-drain, in addition to the plumbing for the privies. Amongst the many artefacts recovered from the bathroom there was a brass button of the 3rd Regiment of Foot, Innes's old regiment.

In contrast to these high-status markers, the residential unit in the cottage block was built of clay-bonded, poor quality brickwork. One of the two rooms contained a fireplace (the kitchen–living room) and the other, without a fireplace, was a bedroom. Fairly substantial fragments of wall belonging to this building are still standing above ground but are in a very fragile condition. Excavation revealed living conditions rather better than expected: the rooms had suspended timber floors, rendered internal walls, glazed windows and the outside door had been fitted with a lock. More remarkably, no less than seven (British) coins of George III and George IV and numerous other artefacts were recovered from the subfloor deposits, suggesting that the occupants were trusted employees.

The building investigated in the servants' village was informative about the lowest social strata. Here a particularly difficult excavation was carried out on a building site that consisted of only a platform and a few scattered broken bricks. This work revealed traces of a timber building with a brick fireplace but little or no evidence of glazed windows. Indeed, there was less glass of any sort than at either of the other two sites and ceramic fragments were few. Nevertheless, numerous iron nails were found, suggesting the possible existence of a timber floor. A remarkable number of fragments of clay smoking-pipes were also recovered, amongst which were examples from both Glasgow and Edinburgh. Even life at the bottom of society had its compensations.

During the 1999 post-excavation analysis period all the metal items were dealt with, as well as the flat glass, some of the ceramic, the building materials, and the miscellaneous category. Subsequently, all the glass containers have been analysed and work is progressing on the analysis of ceramic and the animal bones. Most artefact photography has been completed.

Excavations planned for 2000 and 2001 will further investigate and differentiate the living conditions in the 'big house', conditions of both human and animal accommodation in the stables and at the home farm, and other structures in the servants' village. It is hoped to study one of the brickmaking sites, the brick-lined water cistern, the cesspit and its associated drains and the layout and possible pollen evidence of the gardens. The choice of excavation targets is influenced partly by projected research outcomes, partly the evidence that is emerging progressively and partly by the policies and requirements of the NPWS, particularly those of the Conservation Management Plan for the estate.

Details of the 2000 Season are as follows: The three principal objectives will comprise another part of the 'big house' site, probably in the early western wing (the Lake Cottage); another structure at the estate workers' village site; and part of the servants' accommodation in the stables, probably the south-western gatehouse. Some work will also follow-up unresolved leads from 1999.

The excavation period will last from Saturday 5 August, when participants are asked to arrive in Port Macquarie, till Sunday 3 September, when the last of the excavation volunteers will leave Port Macquarie. For the excavation period a daily total of 25-30 people will be needed.

The excavation phase will be followed by three-weeks of post-excavation consolidation from Monday 4 September to Sunday 24 September. In the first week any residual work from the excavations (wet weather carryover, &c) will be completed. Initial analysis work on the excavated artefacts (at the Project Workshop, NPWS Works Depot in Port Macquarie) will follow in the second and third weeks. For the post-excavation period only about 6-8 people will be needed.

Intending volunteers for the excavation period are asked to commit themselves for at least a week, although a commitment of 10-14 days is more valuable. Anyone who can be present for the whole four weeks of the excavation will be particularly important to the Project. Volunteers for the analysis period need to have an interest and/or expertise in a class of artefacts (eg: glass, ceramic, metal, animal bones or even a smaller class: smoking-pipes, buttons &c).

As previously, accommodation will be provided on a shared apartment basis at the Beachfront Regency Motor Inn, 40 William Street, Port Macquarie. The cost of accommodating volunteers will be carried by Project funds, but volunteers will be expected to provide their own transport and food.

Members interested in participating in this valuable project should contact Paul Rheinberger, who will be once again co-ordinating arrangements: letter to: 21 Macquarie Grove Caves Beach, 2281; telephone: 4950 5322(w), 4972 1138 (h); e-mail: <[rheinberger@telstra.easymail.com.au](mailto:rheinberger@telstra.easymail.com.au)> &/or [prheinberger@unwelt.com.au](mailto:prheinberger@unwelt.com.au)

Those interested in the analysis period should also contact Professor Graham Connah by e-mail advising work preferences: <[graham.connah@effect.net.au](mailto:graham.connah@effect.net.au)>. ALIA looks forward to working once again with as many past volunteers as possible but newcomers will be particularly welcome, whether or not they have previous excavation experience.

#### NSW Heritage Office

##### *Review of Archaeological Practice & Planning Frameworks*

Caitlin Allen and Mac North have nearly finalized an extensive review of the way archaeological practice and policy work under the NSW Heritage Act, which has highlighted a number of avenues for reform. This document has been prepared under the auspices of the Archaeology Advisory Panel and has been distributed in draft form for comment by peak bodies, including the ASHA Committee. Amendments to the document are being finalized and it is anticipated the NSW Heritage Council will endorse the report in April. The report will be publicly available after endorsement through the Heritage Office's website (<http://www.heritage.nsw.gov.au>).

##### *Parramatta Archaeological Landscape Management Study*

The NSW Heritage Office is currently managing a major archaeological study for Parramatta funded by NSW Treasury. The *Parramatta Historical Archaeological Landscape Study* is being undertaken by Godden Mackay Logan Pty Ltd and will provide a new way of managing significant archaeological resources on a regional basis. Based around the preparation of a regional research framework to provide a comparative context for decision making, the study will

consider archaeological sites as interrelated sets and in their historical and current landscape contexts. It will hopefully provide a practical tool for decision making as Parramatta faces increasing development pressures and will assist in directing resources to archaeological sites that provide maximum benefits to the community. It is anticipated that on completion, the study will be merged with the built, Aboriginal, significant vegetation and views studies to provide an integrated management system for heritage in Parramatta. Planned spin off projects include a regional archaeological interpretation strategy, an education kit, an urban planning strategy and a review of statutory planning instruments for Parramatta.

#### *Archaeological exceptions under the NSW Heritage Act*

Changes to the Heritage Act in 1998 allowed the Heritage Council to create 'exceptions' from the requirement to obtain a permit to disturb 'relics'. The definition of relic is quite all-encompassing and makes no mention of heritage significance. Therefore a large number of items technically classed as relics but of no archaeological interest, were being caught up in the permit requirements under the Act. The first set of 'exceptions', which came into effect this February, removes the need to obtain permits for certain items of low or no significance—for example active or common underground infrastructure, surveyor's marks, bridge pilings, foundations of standing buildings, etc. A guideline document is in preparation and will be made available through the Heritage Office website shortly.

## Northern Territory News

*Compiled by Clayton Fredericksen*

#### *Southport Survey*

Last year Daryl Guse and Gerard Niemoeller obtained a NT Heritage Award to map the site of Southport. Southport was established in 1870 on the upper reaches of Darwin Harbour as the second town in the Northern Territory, after Darwin itself. Through the 1870s and 1880s it was a thriving settlement and port which served the inland goldfields. Completion of the Darwin to Pine Creek railway in 1889 made Southport redundant. The town quickly declined and by the end of the 1890s it was virtually abandoned. All that

remains today of the original settlement are the street plan, the foundations of prominent buildings, artefact scatters and wells.

Surveying was carried out over the 1999 dry season and a report is currently being prepared.

#### *Chinese Ovens Project*

Late last year Malene Bjornskov, an archaeology student at NTU, completed a project on the physical comparison of Chinese ovens on mining sites in the NT, Queensland and Tasmania. Data were collected on 15 ovens through literature research and numerous weekend field excursions to mining sites inland of Darwin. Tasmanian ovens were found to be quite distinct in size and shape from those in the NT and Queensland, which exhibit a similar range of morphologies. Questions were raised as to whether all ovens were used for the ceremonial roasting of pigs, the most commonly held interpretation of their use. Aspects of the project will be written up for publication later this year.

#### *Second Season of Excavation at Fort Dundas*

Clayton Fredericksen has received an ARC Small Grant to continue last year's archaeological investigation of Fort Dundas, Melville Island (see ASHA Newsletter 29:4). The project is planned for mid-June when the rains have ended and temperatures have cooled. This year research will focus on excavating the site of Thomas Barns' storehouse and dwelling, and conducting a comprehensive program of site mapping for input into a GIS database. This will aid both further research and management of the site for possible heritage tourism.

## Queensland News

*Compiled by Mark Moore*

#### *Trevethan Hotel Mitigation Project*

Analysis and reporting was recently completed of 3327 artefacts recovered during the Trevethan Hotel mitigation project. The Trevethan Hotel was one of a series of three accommodation houses on the remote access track to the tin mines south of Cooktown in Far North Queensland. The hotel was established in 1886 in anticipation of an increase in travel once the bridge over the Annan River was completed later that year

(the bridge wasn't actually opened until 1889). The hotel was no longer in use by 1925, perhaps destroyed by fire. A historical photograph indicates that the hotel was a timber-and-iron structure with a wrap-around verandah and a separate rear kitchen.

The site was discovered in the course of a survey for a road realignment project. The majority of the hotel site was destroyed by previous road works, and the only surviving feature was the bottle dump, formerly located on the uphill side of the external kitchen. The bottle dump contained an excellent record of the bottle types and ceramics used at the hotel between 1885 and 1920/25. Just over 7% of the dump was sampled and the diagnostic artefacts retained, supplemented by the surface collection of artefacts not represented in the excavations.

Bottle types span the era of mouth-blown moulded to machine-blowing manufacturing techniques. Virtually all of the bottles and products imported to Trevethan in the early years were from England, with the exception of patent medicines from the U.S. and Hamilton bottles from the Helidon Spa Water Company in Brisbane. By 1900, North Queensland's isolation was diminishing, and the region identified more closely with the Australian Commonwealth. Bottled Australian products increased dramatically in number at about this period onwards, and include a variety of alcohol, cordial, and food bottles from Victoria, South Australia, New South Wales, and Brisbane. However, other North Queensland bottled products, with the exception of the local Cooktown brew, are conspicuously absent. The pattern of alcohol consumption at Trevethan is similar to that in England during the same period, although spirits—particularly Dutch gin—tended to be consumed more frequently at Trevethan at the expense of beer. Bottles may have been recycled by the local Cooktown brewery, perhaps influencing these figures.

The principal aim of the study was to provide a reference work for identifying the common bottles in North Queensland during this period and to provide an indication of their relative abundance at the Trevethan Hotel. Towards this end, detailed descriptions and profuse illustrations of the bottle types have been prepared, augmented by a catalogue of all bottle mould marks and makers' marks represented at the hotel. We believe that the resulting information is relevant to historical

assemblages from this period throughout Queensland and perhaps elsewhere. Ideas regarding where this large data set might be published are welcome. Please contact the author care of Gordon Grimwade and Associates for further information.

## South Australia News

*Compiled by Susan Briggs*

### *Divett St, Port Adelaide Excavations*

Over several weekends during September and October students from Flinders University, under the direction of Dr. Mark Staniforth excavated 8, 10 and 12 Divett Street. Situated in Port Adelaide, preliminary research shows that the site was used by the butcher, Robert 'Harry' Allen, as a shambles (slaughteryard) during the 1870s and 80s. This was definitely evident during the excavation! Following this it was a shipping office and printers. The latest buildings have recently been demolished to make way for three two-story townhouses. Four trenches were excavated with mixed success. Two were found to be highly disturbed and relatively barren. The remaining trenches proved rich in artefacts and revealed unexpected structural remains. One contained two adjoining stone rooms interpreted as cellars to tenement houses. More perplexing was a square of grey brick less than a metre in length which was well buried in the ground. The last trench contained a red brick wall at least six metres in length. Time and funding limited further excavation. Despite this the site was successfully used as a teaching exercise for second year students.

The involvement of third year and honours students also provided them with valuable experience. Two students are currently undertaking research on the site as part of honours degrees. Ashley Matic is studying the structures with reference to historical references. Susan Briggs is investigating the activities of the butcher Allen and slaughtering patterns and techniques. Divett Street is also an excellent example of the benefits that can be achieved when developers and archaeologists work together. The developer has been able to incorporate the cellars into his plans, there by raising the value of the town houses.

Currently an exhibition is on display at the Port Adelaide Visitor Information Centre. Thanks must be given to Mark Staniforth for his hard work, the Port Adelaide Historical Society and the Port Adelaide Visitor Information Centre for their support.

## Tasmania News

*Compiled by Denise Gaughwin, David Parham and Michael Jones*

Listed below are several sizeable reports from different Tasmanian archaeologists. These reports detail a fair amount of the work which has been occurring throughout the state in the last four months. It is also worth briefly mentioning that Greg Jackman (the Port Arthur Site Archaeologist) has recently completed an excavation at Point Puer. Charles Parkinson is currently excavating a convict site on Maria Island and will be undertaking some work at Highfield in the near future; and Elspeth Wishart is currently assessing sites down in Antarctica.

### *Management Plan for Van Diemen's Company Sites*

North Forest Products Burnie have embarked on a project to prepare a management plan for the Van Diemen's Land Company sites on their freehold properties. This forestry company purchased all of the Hampshire and Surrey Hills blocks formerly owned by the VDL Co. and have inherited a large number of historic sites. The consultancy will be completed by Austral Archaeology in association with consultant archaeologist Anne McConnell in March/April this year.

### **Forestry Tasmania**

#### *Central Plateau Survey Project*

The report on the historic sites of the southern Central Plateau completed for Forestry Tasmania by Parry Kostoglou with a National Estate grant has now been published. This survey identified mostly huts associated with early pastoral activities. Parry has also completed a report on the historic timber industry sites of the Tyenna Valley for the Derwent District of Forestry Tasmania. This is not available as a published report but can be accessed through the Forestry Tasmania library. Work in the Upper Derwent will continue this financial year.

#### *Forest History*

Denise Gaughwin has published a paper on arboreta and species trial plots in Tasmania in the proceedings of the Australian Forest History Society volume *Australia's Ever-Changing Forests*. This paper identified the efforts of the early foresters in the State to develop a softwood estate and indicates why *Pinus radiata* has become the predominant softwood species planted. The arboreta dating from 1924 and many of the trial plots survive in the forests but have not been managed as such and have either fallen into neglect or have been turned into recreational places.

### *Other Projects*

Forestry Tasmania has funded two smaller projects in historic sites. The timber history of the Russell-Denison will be completed by Parry Kostoglou. A forester will be employed to assess the value of one of the trial plantings (c. 1946) for ongoing management as an historic/educational/public relations site.

#### *Sullivan's Cove Zoning Plan*

David Parham of Austral Archaeology Pty Ltd in conjunction with consultant historian Lindy Scripps have recently completed a draft archaeological zoning plan for Sullivan's Cove, Hobart. The plan was jointly commissioned by the Hobart City Council and the Tasmanian Heritage Council. It is anticipated the document will provide planning authorities, property owners/managers and developers with early notification of potential areas of archaeological sensitivity within the Cove.

This should introduce a degree of certainty to future decisions on land use and provide the foundation for ensuring that the highest heritage conservation standards are upheld in respect of the surviving archaeological resource in this historically significant locality.

#### *Midlands Highway Survey*

The firm also recently completed to draft stage a historic heritage assessment and survey of options for the future National Highway between Mangalore and Dysart for Maunsell McIntyre/DIER. The current Midland Highway follows an alignment adopted in 1836 and consequently the study area contains a high proportion of historic properties situated in a significant rural landscape that retains elements from as early as 1811 when the first road (at the time hardly more than a poorly defined cart track) linking Hobart and Launceston was formed.

David Parham and Ian Terry continue their exploration of the State's 4000km highway system as part of an assessment of historic heritage risk being undertaken for the Road Transport Planning Group, DIER. Equipped with vehicle based, computerised terra-trip technology, digital camera and an orange flashing light (!) they have the capacity to accurately log roadside historic heritage places, sites and features. The database entries will be accompanied by a set of guidelines to ensure that suitable procedures are incorporated into the department's project management system.

## **RESEARCH NOTES**

*SPIRT Supports Research into the Archaeology of the Modern City*

In the latest ARC round La Trobe University and its industry partners (NSW Heritage Office, Heritage Victoria, Historic Houses Trust NSW, Godden Mackay Logan Pty Ltd, Sydney Harbour Foreshores Authority and Sydney City Council) were granted in excess of \$290,000 to undertake research into the archaeology of Sydney and Melbourne.

With partner contributions the total project budget is in excess of \$380,000 has been assembled to support

La Trobe's appointment of a full-time archaeologist and part-time historian to the project and an industry Ph.D. scholarship (APAI).

*Tim Murray*

## STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY

*Mass Higher Education, University Funding, Student Numbers and Historical Archaeology at Sydney University*

In the wake of some well-meaning publicity and comments published in the ASHA Journal about the 'Disappearing Historical Archaeologist' at Sydney University I feel it is timely to clarify some important points about the current state of funding (or lack of it) in Australian universities and the wider implications for course content and teaching methods.

Historical Archaeology has not 'disappeared' from Sydney University. Aedeon Cremin will retire in July 2000 but this Semester she is offering a Senior Level 8 credit point course in Historical Archaeology. In Semester 2 the content of our Junior Level 6 credit point 'Introduction to Australian Archaeology' is about 50% Historical Archaeology taught by Tracy Ireland (funded by part-time teaching money) and guest lecturers. Several of our other courses are theoretical, thematic or practical, and students may and do choose to complete assignments for these on Historical Archaeology topics. We also have several postgraduate students and several members of staff engaged in HA research.

We do have funding problems, as do most other university departments. Unlike some other universities, the University of Sydney has chosen to save money by 'natural wastage' (i.e. staff freezes and non-replacement of retirements and contract positions) rather than closing down whole departments and making people redundant. Replacement of lost staff depends on calculated staff:student ratios

based on formulae devised both by DETYA and by the University itself. These vary between Faculties and are subject to frequent change (i.e. we seemingly need to have more and more students for fewer and fewer staff to have any chance of replacing lost staff). Funds are awarded on a competitive basis, so Prehistoric & Historical Archaeology has to compete in the Arts Faculty with other departments.

I am not familiar with the relative 'competitiveness' of other Australian archaeology departments within their respective faculties and universities. However, I believe that Prehistoric and Historical Archaeology suffers at Sydney by being in a traditional 'sandstone' University where core subjects (e.g. History, English, Ancient History, Near Eastern and Classical Archaeology) have very strong reputations which will attract students no matter what. Were we in another university which didn't have this kind of reputation we might be far more 'competitive' in attracting students compared to other subject areas. In addition, teaching any archaeology course with a practical, hands-on, laboratory or fieldwork component is very costly in staff time and other resources compared to many other courses in the Arts and Humanities. Arts Faculty funding formulae fail to take this into account. In this respect we would probably be better off in a Science faculty.

Our Department will soon be amalgamated with Near Eastern & Classical Archaeology, History, Ancient History, Classics, Philosophy and Gender Studies into a new super-School, the likes of which seem to be much beloved by University administrators these days. Existing staff in P&H Archaeology have a strong commitment to maintaining at least some Historical Archaeology within our degree program (in addition to our other subject areas: Aboriginal archaeology and prehistory, world prehistory, Pacific archaeology, Asian archaeology, cultural heritage management, public archaeology, archaeological computing, archaeological theory). Given shrinking staff numbers and steady student demand for archaeology courses at Sydney (including Historical Archaeology which seems to be increasingly popular), this may require a major re-think of the way we deliver all types of archaeology (including Australian Historical Archaeology) to our students. The nature of undergraduate degrees at all Australian universities is subject to frequent

change and review in these days of 'mass higher education'. The aims, contents, teaching methods and many other elements of an undergraduate degree are not the same in 2000 as they were in 1990, 1980 or 1970. The expectations of students are also very different compared to even a few years ago. For example, most students work in part-time or even full-time jobs in order to pay their way through university. Many are simply unable to devote as much time to their university studies as either they or we would like.

As jobs are hard to come by many students are looking for the quickest and easiest way to get the best marks which may give them a better chance of getting a job. Many students in Arts opt for combined degrees with other Faculties to increase employment prospects. Only a small number of students taking archaeology courses actually want or expect to be employed in the profession at the end of their degree. These factors may be things that I suspect many professional archaeologists who completed their own degree even a few years ago may not be aware of. I also think it is something that the profession should be more aware of—and discussion at the next ASHA conference would be a good place to start.

*Sarah Colley*

## PUBLICATIONS

*Assessing the archaeological values of historic places: procedures, methods and field techniques*

Science and Research Internal Report No. 167, Department of Conservation Te Papa Atawhai, Wellington, New Zealand, April 1999.

Kevin Jones, of the New Zealand Department of Conservation, sent me a copy of the above document which has been recently published, with a request that we mention it in the ASHA Newsletter. It may be of interest to those of you who are working on policy in this area. The New Zealand Department of Conservation has modified the assessment criteria developed for the Monuments Protection Programme of the United Kingdom and therefore their assessment approach is quite different from the Heritage Commission criteria and the

*Archaeological Assessments* manual in use in NSW, for instance.  
*Tracy Ireland*

## CONFERENCE NOTES

### *Conference Report, 'Belonging'*

*Humanities Research Centre, ANU 12–14<sup>th</sup> November 1999.*

*Convenors: Dr Deborah Bird Rose, Dr Peter Read, Professor Henry Reynolds.*

*"How have non-indigenous Australians rationalised, argued, thought through or been baffled by the issue of forming affections to, living in and belonging to, a place and a country from which the indigenous people have been largely dispossessed?"*

This was the theme of the conference as it was expressed in the pre-conference publicity, found in the vibrant conference and seminar program offered by the Humanities Research Centre, ANU. I was enticed to participate in the conference as I am interested in concepts of identity and concepts of attachment to place generally, and as they relate to my work in historical archaeology and heritage management of settler culture in particular. These issues seem to be central to current social and cultural concerns regarding nationalism and national identity, decolonisation and globalisation. I believe they have a significant relationship to our work as archaeologists, both in terms of shaping our representations of the past, as well as shaping the culture or society which consumes this work.

Many of the papers at the conference were distinctly personal expressions of feelings of 'belonging'. Most of these were solidly based upon responses to, what was variously called 'land', 'country', 'landscape', 'the environment', and 'nature'.

Although one convenor, Peter Read, has recently called studies of belonging a replacement for past obsessions with national identity, I found that many of these obsessions continued to be played out. They remain founded in the colonial desire to claim and improve land as well as in Australia's distinctive political history of land settlement. I was somewhat concerned by this perpetuation of "the land forms our identity" myth which has pervaded Australian settler culture for more than 100 years.

Rather than a colonialist sense of alienation, commentators such as Tim Flannery have

recently pushed for a postcolonial style, deep knowledge of Australia's ecosystems as the truest basis for a national identity. These land centred concepts of 'belonging' privilege deep time associations with a place—using Aboriginal spirituality and attachment to country as a benchmark against which settler Australians, of mainly Anglo-Celtic descent, can measure their profound attachments to the landscapes associated with their childhood. Speakers who had more recently migrated to Australia also spoke of places that had come to represent a moment of belonging. Two women speakers stated that it was the birth of their children in this country that formed the ultimate core of their attachment.

As Henry Reynolds commented, the danger of these land-based concepts of Australianness, especially as they are absorbed into broader public discourses of citizenship and heritage, is that they may create a hierarchy of belonging. In this hierarchy of Australian authenticity, Aborigines are followed in authenticity by old settler families; convict descendants precede gold rush immigrants; post-war Greek migrants pip Vietnamese migrants at the post. Such a hierarchy downplays the historical differences between the situations that caused migration, especially the initial colonial act of possession. In this vein, one speaker used the terms First and Second Settlers (First being Aborigines and Second being migrants since 1788) which also, in my view, reflected some kind of de-contextualised hierarchy of belonging.

I thought many of the papers presented on this theme also lacked a thorough understanding of the political, historic and cultural contexts within which ideas about land have been formed. However papers by environmental historian Paul Sinclair (looking at the Murray River) and Damien Lucas, a Ph.D. student from UTS (looking at the Clarence River), did investigate changing environmental perceptions within rich historic contexts and both also raised issues of gendered relationships with environments as the basis for masculine identities in particular.

Henry Reynolds looked at the issue of regional identities by focusing on what he termed "Tasmanian patriotism". He claimed that economic failure had forged a distinctive Tasmanian defensiveness. He also claimed that a large proportion of Tasmanian settlers did not feel implicated in the dispossession of Tasmanian Aborigines, because, as the

descendants of convicts, they too felt they were victims of a colonial system.

It was obviously the intention of the convenors to problematise any concept of belonging as a potential moral dilemma, perhaps requiring complicity with dispossession and colonial violence. Speakers who focused on love of the land and ownership of place, however, failed to deconstruct the cultural history and antecedents of these feelings. To me, the scholars who described belonging in terms of community, and who looked to their own identities as intellectuals for a place in the production of the cultural future of this community, were the most interesting. Professor Ann Curthoys for instance, located her experiences of identity and belonging as being located in the distinctly internationalist dimensions of the feminist movement, her profession as an historian and her upbringing in a socialist family. Another historian John Docker, suggested that as an intellectual, 'belonging' to a place or community often requires a commitment to advocacy for it, and an acceptance of all the values of that community.

Over the two and a half days of the conference the terms 'material culture' and 'heritage', were not mentioned. The significance of material culture in strategies of belonging and in the experience of migration, which we as archaeologists are interested in, were not really investigated. Also omitted was the power and rhetoric of the heritage industry, which through its commodification of place and concepts of belonging, both reflects and shapes community perceptions of these issues. I also believe that heritage, as an institution based in legislation and government policy, allows these concepts of belonging to be shaped by changing political agendas.

Overall, the conference explored emotional and spiritual responses to the themes, inspiring several moving and insightful papers. However, as I have discussed, insufficient deconstruction of the cultural and historical contexts of these feelings, left me feeling ill at ease with the strategies for reconciliation that emerged. In my opinion, strategies of settler belonging, based in spiritual attachment to 'natural' places, not only disenfranchise settlers who do not experience such attachments to place, but also reproduce an essentialised concept of Aboriginal identity, concerned more with

nature than with the dynamic reality of Aboriginal community and cultural life.

#### *Tracy Ireland*

*(Editor's Note: This review was accidentally left out of the last newsletter. Apologies to Tracy for the oversight. MN)*

#### *Conference Report, 1999 Annual ICOMOS Conference on 'Rural Heritage Issues'*

The 1999 annual ICOMOS conference was held at the Tocal Agricultural College, Tocal NSW in November 1999. The theme of the conference was 'Rural Heritage Issues' and included papers on rural topics from all areas of Australia.

A central issue in the conference was the difficulty in conserving rural heritage, due to problems with distance, harsh conditions, very minimal funding and the trouble with finding opportunities for re-use of rural sites. In some areas of the country, particularly WA and the NT, heritage practitioners have literally hundreds of thousands of square kilometres for which they are responsible. A number of speakers identified the fact that, in practical terms, often very little *can* be conserved in some rural areas and a judgement has to be made on the best way to expend the small amount of resources available.

Archaeological issues were dealt with only peripherally, with Meredith Walker delivering a paper on behalf of Anne Bickford on the difficulties surrounding the conservation of the Wellington Settlement Site, in Wellington NSW. In addition to being a very early inland convict settlement, it was later used as one of the first Aboriginal missions in rural Australia. The site therefore is one of 'multiple values' and is in a community still fraught with racial divisiveness, as well as a lack of resources.

As the chair of one session, I made one observation to a room principally full of architects and built heritage specialists, that they were perhaps overlooking the fact that the discipline of historical archaeology deals quite adequately with rural sites which *have not* been conserved, in the Burra Charter sense. There may be opportunities then of looking at hard-to- conserve rural sites as ones better dealt with as archaeological sites which are coming into being, rather than sites which must be kept structurally sound and in use.

The conference was quite well attended (80+ delegates) and saw the revised Burra Charter adopted at the AGM. The Tocal Agricultural College itself was a wonderful venue, with the historic 19<sup>th</sup> century homestead juxtaposed with the Phillip Cox-designed Modernist college campus on the next hill.

The proceedings of the conference will be forthcoming this year as an issue of *Historic Environment*.

#### *Mac North*

*(Editor's note: Apologies again for this review not being as thorough or insightful as the preceding one—as one of the co-organisers of the conference I spent most of it looking after the slide projector and AV requirements of speakers! MN)*

### UPCOMING

#### *Historical Archaeology, Cultural Heritage and Development: Research Priorities and Public Benefits*

A conference to discuss the interface between how and why historical archaeology is done in the context of development, and what we as a profession and a society want to get out of the exercise.

23 and 24 June 2000

Sydney, NSW

Further details available from Mac North, NSW Heritage Office (02) 9849 9568, northm@heritage.nsw.gov.au

#### *Native Title and Archaeology*

One day workshop prior to the ASHA/AIMA Conference

27 November 2000

Adelaide, SA

Registrations of Interest to: Bill Jeffery (contact details next page)

#### *ASHA/AIMA Joint Annual conference 2000*

Held in conjunction with the Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology annual conference

Archaeology, Heritage and Tourism

28 November—2 December 2000

Adelaide, SA

*CALL FOR PAPERS*

Offers and enquires to:

Bill Jeffery  
Department for Environment, Heritage  
and Aboriginal Affairs  
GPO Box 1047, Adelaide, S.A., 5001  
email: bjeffery@dehaa.sa.gov.au  
Phone: 61 8 8204 9311  
Fax: 61 8 8204 9455

*Proposed Session at ASHA Conference 2000*

The Archaeology and Cultural Landscapes of  
Confinement

Topics need not be restricted to prisons and  
penal settlements. Papers on leprosaria,  
'lunatic' asylums, quarantine stations and  
allied institutions are also welcome. The  
proceedings  
of the session are planned to be published as  
an ASHA monograph.

Offers of papers should be submitted by the  
end of March to:

Dr Clayton Fredericksen  
Dept of Anthropology, Northern Territory  
University  
Darwin, NT, 0909  
phone: 08 8946 6865  
fax: 08 8946 6955  
email: clayton.fredericksen@ntu.edu.au

## ASHA NEWS

### Editorial Opportunity—Readvertisement

*General Editor for Australasian Historical  
Archaeology*

Applications are invited for the post of  
General Editor for a period of five years,  
commencing June 2000. There is no  
remuneration.

The Editor will  
Determine policy, in consultation with the  
Editorial Board which is to be appointed by  
June 2000;

Schedule publications over the five-year  
period;  
Seek out contributions;  
Oversee publication of the annual journal,  
*Australasian Historical Archaeology*, and  
monographs in the Special Publications series

The appointee will be somebody with  
A demonstrable knowledge of historical  
archaeology  
A demonstrated track record in publishing to  
deadlines

Applicants should send a brief CV,  
highlighting those two criteria and explaining  
why they feel they are competent to carry out  
this task to the Secretary of ASHA, PO Box  
220, Holme Building, University of Sydney,  
NSW 2006. Email contact is essential.

### Editorial Board, Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology

#### *Call for nominations*

Nominations are invited for membership of  
the Editorial Board for a period of three years,  
commencing June 2000. The Board will  
consist of no more than 8 members, one of  
whom will be the President, or President's  
delegate. There is no remuneration.

The function of the Board will be to advise  
and assist the General Editor (to be  
appointed).

Board members will:  
Assist the Editor in formulating policy;  
Assist the Editor in seeking out contributions,  
as required;  
Act as referees where appropriate;  
Assist with the publication process where  
appropriate (e.g. by proofreading, sub-editing,  
etc.).

Applicants should send a letter of interest,  
explaining why they feel they are competent to  
carry out these tasks to the Secretary of  
ASHA, PO Box 220, Holme Building,  
University of Sydney, NSW 2006. Email  
contact is essential.

#### *Book Reviews, ASHA Journal*

At the last AGM I was appointed as reviews  
editor for the ASHA journal and I am looking  
forward to assembling a quality collection of  
reviews for the next journal! I would also like  
to develop an editorial policy specifically for

reviews and ask any members who have worked with editorial policies or have any views on this issue to please contact me with their information or requests.

I am also interested in commissioning thematic reviews, such as appear in *Antiquity*, where 2 or 3 publications on related topics can be analytically compared.

If anyone is interested in writing reviews please let me know

*Tracy Ireland*

## 1999/2000 ASHA Committee

President: Neville Ritchie  
 Vice Presidents: Susan Lawrence  
                     Aedeen Cremin  
 Treasurer: Charles Brackenridge  
 Secretary: Rowan Ward  
 Committee: Maddy Atkinson  
                     Graham Connah  
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                     Clayton Fredericksen  
                     Ross Gam  
                     Nadia Iacono  
                     Jennie Lindbergh  
                     Rick McGovern-Wilson  
                     Leah McKenzie  
                     Terrence Moore  
                     Paul Rheinberger  
                     Pamela Smith  
                     Andrew Wilson  
                     Anna Wong  
 Public Officer: Denis Gojak

## FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS

The ASHA Newsletter is produced quarterly with the assistance of guest editors. The 2000 guest editors are:

June                   Wayne Johnson  
 email: [johnson@sydneycove.com.au](mailto:johnson@sydneycove.com.au)

September       Mark Staniforth  
 email: [Mark.Staniforth@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Mark.Staniforth@flinders.edu.au)

December         Rick McGovern-Wilson  
 email: [rncgwilson@historic.org.nz](mailto:rncgwilson@historic.org.nz)

The editor of this issue was:  
 MacLaren North.

I have, at the suggestion of Clayton Fredericksen, included the email addresses of the upcoming guest editors to assist the flow

of information and make their job's a tad easier.

The previous issue of the ASHA Newsletter was also published in the ASHA web site for the first time. The address of the web site is: <http://www.archaeology.usyd.edu.au/ASHA/newsletter/news-1.html>. We must thank Andrew Wilson for this, I may be biased but the newsletter certainly looks good in electronic print.

In order to facilitate a more efficient newsletter production, all contributions should be forwarded to the e-mail address of your state rep by the second week of the month prior to circulation. See the last page of the *Newsletter* for contact details.

The guest editors are asked to finalise the newsletter in the third week of the month prior to circulation. Final copy must reach the General Editor, (Ross Gam), by the final week of the month prior to circulation.

This is your newsletter and your contributions are vital. Please check deadlines diligently. Your efficiency will be greatly appreciated. I look forward to your forthcoming news of events.

*Ross Gam*  
 General Editor  
 ASHA Newsletter  
 email: [agam@turboweb.net.au](mailto:agam@turboweb.net.au)  
 Post: "Allambie Heights"  
 Forest Road  
 Tamworth NSW 2340  
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## ASHA PUBLICATIONS

*Australasian Historical Archaeology*

	Members	Non-members
Volume 1	<i>out of print</i>	
Volumes 2- 13	\$10.00 each	\$12.00 each
Volume 14 (1996)	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 15 (1997)	\$18.00	\$22.00

## Major Publications

Birmingham, J., D. Bairstow, & A. Wilson (eds) \$26.00  
*Archaeology and Colonisation: Australia in the World Context, Papers from the Seventh Annual ASHA Conference.*

Birmingham, J. \$36.00  
*Wybalenna: The Archaeology of Cultural Accommodation in Nineteenth Century Tasmania.*

Lawrence, S. & M. Staniforth (eds) \$40.00  
*The Archaeology of Whaling in Southern Australia and New Zealand.*

Rogers, B. \$12.50  
*Nineteenth Century Salt Manufacturing Sites in Tasmania.*

## Occasional Papers

Maureen Byrne, *Ross Bridge, Tasmania.* \$6.00 each

Eleanor Crosby: *Survey and excavations at Fort Dundas, Melville Island, NT.*

Marjorie Graham: *Printed Ceramics in Australia.*

R.V.J. Varman: *The Marseilles or French Pattern Tile in Australia.*

Postage and packing in Australia:

Journals—Occasional Papers add \$4.00 per item

Major publications add \$6.50 per item

Postage and packing overseas (surface mail):

Journals—Occasional Papers add \$5.00 per item

Major publications add \$15.00 per item

## ASHA CONTACTS

ACT	Richard Morrison c/- AHC, GPO Box 1567, Canberra 2601	ph: 02 6217 2133 fax: 02 6217 2095 e-mail: rmorrison@ahc.gov.au
NSW	Jennie Lindbergh 23 Thomas Street, Darlington, NSW, 2008	ph: 02 9698 2417 e-mail: Jennie.Geoff@bigpond.com
NZ	Neville Ritchie Dept of Conservation, Private Bag 3072, Hamilton, NZ	ph: 0011 64 838 3363 e-mail: NRitchie@doc.govt.nz
NT	Clayton Fredericksen Dept of Anthropology, Northern Territory University Darwin, NT, 0909	ph: 08 8946 6865 fax: 08 8946 6955 email: clayton.fredericksen@ntu.edu.au
QLD	Gordon Grimwade PO Box 9, Yungaburra, QLD, 4872	ph: 07 4095 3737 fax: 07 4095 2117 e-mail: gga@internetnorth.com.au
SA	Pam Smith Dept of Archaeology, Flinders University PO Box 2100, Adelaide, SA 5001	ph/fax: 08 8278 8172 smithric@tpgi.com.au
TAS	M. Jones Parks and Wildlife Tasmania PO Box 44A, Hobart, TAS 7001	ph: 03 6233 3840 fax: 03 6233 3477 e-mail: mickj@dpiwe.tas.gov.au
VIC	Fiona Weaver 24 The Avenue, Belmont, Vic., 3216	ph: 03 5243 1462 e-mail: fjweaver@iname.com
WA	Alistair Paterson Archaeology, University of Western Australia Nedlands, WA 6907	ph: 08 9380 2867 fax: 08 9380 1023 e-mail: paterson@cyllene.uwa.edu.au

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 30.2.2000  
Print Post Regulations No: PP24359/00114  
ISSN 0156-9295

ABN: 41 196 332 496

Box 220 Holme Building  
University of Sydney 2006  
Secretary: (02) 9558 6618

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## STATE OF THE ART

### New South Wales News

#### *Queens Birthday Honours List 2000: Professor Graham Connah AM*

One of ASHA's stalwarts was named in the 2000 Queens Birthday Honours. Emeritus Professor Graham Connah was appointed a Member in the Order of Australia (AM) for the promotion of Australian historical archaeology through the University of New England and to African archaeological research.

Professor Connah has contributed to archaeology in three significant ways; as founder of historical archaeology as a sub-discipline of Australian archaeology; pioneering the development of archaeological studies of Africa and within African tropical countries; establishing one of the largest archaeological departments in Australia.

Professor Connah was the founding professor of archaeology and palaeoanthropology at the University of New England in 1975, serving in this position until 1995 when he was appointed emeritus professor.

Professor Connah founded the Australian Journal of Historical Archaeology in 1983. Three of his published works are used as standard texts in their subject areas.

He has been a fellow of the Royal Anthropological Institute of Great Britain and Ireland since 1966, fellow of the Australian Academy of the Humanities since 1988, and president of the Australasian Society of Historical Archaeology from 1992 till 1997.

Professor Connah is currently visiting fellow at the Australian National University and has been the director of the Lake Innes Project at Port Macquarie since 1993. He has just returned from a second tour of supervising post graduate students in African archaeology at Uppsala Universitet in Sweden.

*Ross Gam*

#### *Archaeological Interpretation for the Public in the Sydney CBD*

*Wayne Johnson*

In recent years developers and planners have been increasingly seeking to address the interpretation of archaeological remains and evidence in both new developments of old sites and in cases of adaptive reuse. This has usually taken the form of static displays of artefacts and site history in public areas of the building, or presentation of the archaeological evidence for the fabric changes to the standing structure.

The latter is a growing trend that has also filtered down to the domestic home renovation sphere. Evidence of former room partitions or demolished fireplaces is often expressed in the polished timber floors of old houses, and new flooring contrasted with the old to interpret the "archaeology" of the house. The following are recent public examples that have received public acclamation.

*Westin Stamford Hotel (former GPO) Sydney:  
Interpretation of the Tank Stream and former Post  
Office.*

The adaptive reuse of the former Sydney GPO in Sydney as a hotel has involved the uncovering and interpretation of a section of the Tank Stream, Sydney's initial water supply which was encased as a storm water drain in 1857.

Casey Lowe & Associates were engaged by the developers in conjunction with Clive Lucas Stapleton & Partners to assess the heritage requirements of the site and to address its archaeology as part of the development.

The Westin Stamford opened in late February. The largely 1860s-80s building retains evidence of where later additions once joined the original structure, where windows were altered to become doors and where scars left by flashing reveal the

former presence of lean-to roofs. This "warts and all" approach was in the past generally seen only in publicly owned buildings such as the Historic Houses Trust's Hyde Park Barracks and Susannah Place, buildings which served primarily as museum pieces.

On the basement level the public restaurant/gourmet food hall features a large exhibition space devoted to the former Tank Stream. A partially exposed section of the brick oviform drain is accompanied by interpretative graphic material as well as a case of artefacts recovered during the conservation works. The exhibition focuses on what was perhaps the prime reason for siting Sydney, and subsequent developments in Sydney's water supply and sanitation in the 19<sup>th</sup> century.

#### *Walsh Bay Wharves*

The controversial redevelopment of the industrial complex of four finger wharves built at Millers Point between 1911 and 1920 has highlighted the importance of the maritime industries in Sydney Harbour. As part of the development \$1.6million has been allocated to an interpretation centre, to preserve and interpret evidence of the machinery and industrial workings of the wharf complex.

During the development of the adjacent shoreline in Millers Point, remains of some half-dozen houses came to light. These include that of Arthur Payne, first identified victim of the Bubonic Plague which reached Sydney in 1900. The Plague outbreak ultimately led to the Government's resumption and redevelopment of Millers Point, The Rocks and Darling Harbour. The structural remains, which

include the former stone paved Ferry Lane, are to be conserved, interpreted and incorporated into public open space. On an adjacent site there was the unexpected find of the lower floor of an 1820s-30s cottage. Its stone walls mostly survive to ceiling height & will be incorporated into the design for the building planned for that site in a way that will enable the public access.

#### *The Vault Restaurant, formerly English Scottish and Australian Bank.*

The Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (formerly Sydney Cove Authority) recently completed the conservation of this former Gothic stone bank building in George Street, The Rocks, built in 1885. The building, designed by architect William Wardell, had been extensively renovated in 1937, concealing much of the 1880s fabric. A

mezzanine floor and other additions, assessed as being of little significance to the heritage value of the site, were demolished. Using archaeological evidence from the interior of the building, and comparative study of Wardell's Melbourne E S & A Bank Headquarters, the interior details have been restored, or (where details are absent) interpreted in a manner sympathetic to the original design. The resulting building (with a modern rear addition) is now the Vault Restaurant; the lofty banking chamber is now a dining room. Its "gothick" decoration and the former bank vault significantly contribute to the character of the building whilst offering a means of interpreting the building's archaeology.

#### *St Patrick's Church, The Rocks*

St Patrick's Church, built in 1845, had been the site of illegal meetings of Sydney's Irish (convict) Catholics from the early 1810s. The earliest masses were held in the house of William Davis and for many years local parishioners have clung to the belief that sandstone features of an 1860s building next to the church were part of Davis' cottage. Recent archaeological work by Godden Mackay Logan has identified the actual remains of the cottage, beneath a chapel and courtyard. Conservation works on the site will enable the location of the cottage, an icon of early Catholicism in Australia, to be outlined in the paving of the courtyard.

#### *Conservatorium of Music*

Casey and Lowe are currently winding up archaeological works at "The Con". The controversial section of sandstock brick drain dating to the 1820s-30s, removed from site by the Department of Public Works and Services. The proposal by the Government Architect in conjunction with the Heritage Council of New South Wales, is to consolidate the section of drain which is then to be replaced in situ- suspended in a public space from which the context has been removed.

#### *Great North Road, Blue Mountains and Parramatta's Old Government House.*

*Compiled by Jenny Lindberg & Siobhan Lavelle*

Siobhan Lavelle continues to work on her PhD, on explorers and commemorative sites in the Blue Mountains west of Sydney. She is presently researching "Caley's Repulse" near Linden.

Siobhan has also completed test excavations at Old Government House, Parramatta, for the NSW National Trust locating evidence of several rear yards, the earliest dating to the 1820s, and also of an enclosing yard wall, other structures, and landscape features.

In Heritage Week 2000, Siobhan, Dr Grace Karskens and RTA Technology at Parramatta (Bill Evans and Ian Urban) received a National Trust/Energy Australia Heritage Award for the 'Stage 1 Conservation Plan for the Great North Road' which this study team prepared for the Convict Trail Project in 1999. The plan was the winner of 'Category A2 Conservation Built/Cultural Heritage - Community Groups'. More information about the project and the plan may be found on the website <http://www.convicttrail.org>.

## Heritage Council of New South Wales

### *Call for Expressions of Interest*

Consultant Historical Archaeologist representatives to the NSW Archaeology Advisory Panel.

The Archaeology Advisory Panel (AAP) is a body of experts set up to provide advice on matters of historical archaeology to the Heritage Council of NSW and the NSW Heritage Office. It consists of 10 representatives from the various aspects of the discipline of historical archaeology in NSW, including: academia, government agencies, local councils, the National Trust, archaeological consulting and the Heritage Office. The Panel is chaired by a member of the NSW Heritage Council, currently Dr Rosemary Annable.

There are two (2) positions open on the AAP for representatives from the historical archaeological consulting community. Interested consultants are requested to submit Expressions of Interest to the Director of the Heritage Office by July 31 2000.

Representatives must have substantial experience in historical archaeology as a consultant and must be NSW-based. The Panel meets quarterly in Parramatta, NSW at the NSW Heritage Office and members of the Panel are appointed for 3 year terms. Members are paid a fee for their time and travelling expenses, currently \$92 per meeting.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Mac North, Historical Archaeologist, NSW Heritage

Office on 02 9849 9568 or [northm@heritage.nsw.gov.au](mailto:northm@heritage.nsw.gov.au)

Expressions of Interest should be posted to: The Director, NSW Heritage Office, Locked Bag 5020, Parramatta NSW 2124.

## Queensland News

### *GIS and Archaeology*

#### *Jo Bains*

The Queensland Environmental Protection Authority, in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources has developed a GIS mapping strategy which can be used to predict the location of sites, items or places of historical significance - be they built heritage or archaeological (sub-surface).

The process maps historical themes and sub-themes (as defined by the AHC) across the landscape in both a temporal and spatial layer. It was trialed in the Burnett River basin and used a grid of 1 square kilometre and a temporal distribution by decade. The coarse layer was developed to reflect the level of detailed information which was held for that area and to indicate the low reliability of the information. The method can, however be adapted to a much more closely grained application and the relevant polygons can be of appropriate shapes to suit the level of information available (e.g. if information is held regarding specific land parcels then DCDB could provide the framework for the polygons).

By mapping both spatial and temporal distribution of human activities, and interpreting this information to determine the probability of physical records deriving from that activity, the map can be used to predict the potential whereabouts of places containing historical archaeological material.

## South Australia News

### *Compiled by Pam Smith*

#### *Beltana Project 2000*

In April this year eight Flinders University students set out for nine days of fieldwork in the Flinders Ranges. The purpose of the trip was to assist Bianca Di Fazio record Indigenous fringe camp sites for her honours thesis, 'Living on the Edge: An Analysis of Fringe Camp Occupation in Beltana, Flinders Ranges'. The town of Beltana,

established in 1870, is surrounded by fringe occupation sites dating between the 1880s and the 1950s, but for the purposes of her research Biana and her team focused on three specific areas. One of these was identified by oral evidence, one by a previous survey of the area which linked a post-contact Indigenous occupation site with a possible Afghan cameleer site, and one was located slightly closer to the town beside a creek that was cut by a bullock train towards the end of last century. The variety of occupational artefactual material in and around Beltana is vast, including glass and glass implements, modified cans, ceramic, as well as hearths and materials used in the construction of rough shelters. All at Flinders Univ. eagerly await Biana's thesis.

### *Preliminary Excavation of 'Chinamans Hut', Waterfall Gully.*

This report has now been completed and submitted to the Minister for Environment and Heritage, South Australia. Broad results include a possible construction date of 1890 and the discovery of a fireplace of European style. This tends to support the suggestion that Chinese migrants, travelling to the Victorian gold fields through South Australia in 1856/7, did not construct the building. The artefacts recovered range from Martini Henry cartridges, pieces of a 78 RPM record, to the ubiquitous 'vegemite' jar and clay pipe stem however, these may all be the remnants of one picnic. A pamphlet, for tourist and walkers using the popular 'Chinaman Hut Trail', an interpretive sign, and the stabilisation of the fireplace for viewing, will all be new initiatives made possible by a grant gained by the Friends of the Cleland Conservation Park. The enthusiasm and generosity of other organisations such as: Flinders University, Cleland Conservation Park, South Australian Police Ballistics Section, East Torrens Historical Society, Botanic Gardens, Glad Products and many others has been much appreciated. This also, I believe, assists in raising the profile and interest in both archaeology and heritage per se.

### *New Web Pages for Historical Archaeologists*

Bill Adams has two new web pages of interest to historical archaeologists and would appreciate receiving comments.

1: Historical Archaeology  
<http://www.ehlt.flinders.edu.au/wha/histarchinfo.html>

This page contains the basic links to understanding historical archaeology in its global context. Included are links to online articles, organizations, and archaeological site summaries from every continent. Included here are related areas of historical archaeology, like industrial archaeology, maritime archaeology, commercial archaeology. Bill would like examples for every state and if you can assist by providing your favorite URLs, he would appreciate it.

2: Case Studies in Historical Archaeology  
[http://www.ehlt.flinders.edu.au/wha/case/\\*studies.html](http://www.ehlt.flinders.edu.au/wha/case/*studies.html)

This web page provides links to a series of case studies in historical archaeology. These case studies provide summaries of the historical and archaeological research about a site or locality, often using oral history as a major source for information. So far, these case studies are Bill's own work in collaboration with many others. However, he would like to showcase historical archaeology here and welcome submissions by others. Bill plans on having two versions of the text eventually with one written for grade school children. If you would be willing to contribute, please contact him: [Bill.Adams@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Bill.Adams@flinders.edu.au)

## Northern Territory News

*At home and on the Murrarji: Aboriginal work histories and landscape in the Pastoral Industry of the NT.*

*Alistair Paterson*

Alistair Paterson is contributing to an interdisciplinary project in Tennant Creek in which a human geographer, an historical archaeologist and indigenous people are developing an understanding of local Aboriginal peoples' life in the late nineteenth and twentieth-centuries. The project team consists of Alistair Paterson (Centre for Archaeology, The University of Western Australia), Nicholas Gill (School of Geosciences, University of Wollongong) and Murphy Kennedy Japanangka (Mungkarta Land Trust). Melbourne-based independent documentary filmmaker Kate Hampel is also involved in the project (her most recent film 'The Loved Ones' aired on ABC television in May 2000).

The project focuses particularly on the theme of work and landscape. Archaeology is one

component of the project; involving recording and interpreting sites of work and settlement in the Murchison Ranges, and along the Murrarji stock route. Other information comes from indigenous and non-indigenous memories, and from historical sources

By extending existing research and building on established relationships with the Aboriginal participants, this project will, at two landscape scales:

- 1) examine and document the work histories in the pastoral industry of Aboriginal veterans of the industry and thereby,
- 2) analyse Aboriginal-pastoralist relations and the role of landscape in shaping these relations, and,
- 3) produce educational material suitable for popular consumption (short film, popular tourist information, and website).

The project is funded by an Australian Institute for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Island Studies (AIATSIS) grant.

## Victoria News

### *Victorian Heritage Strategy*

*Dr Leah McKenzie*

*Heritage Victoria*

The Minister for Planning John Thwaites launched the Victorian Heritage Strategy on Friday 26 May 2000. The Victorian Heritage Council initiated the Heritage Strategy.

The Heritage Strategy is concerned with Victoria's non-indigenous cultural heritage: built structures and their surrounds, gardens, trees, cultural landscapes, archaeological sites and artefacts, shipwrecks, cemeteries, precincts and collections of objects.

The strategy identifies four key strategic directions for Victoria:

1. To increase knowledge of Victoria's heritage places and objects
2. To enhance community understanding and appreciation of heritage
3. To provide mechanisms for the strategic and practical protection of heritage places and objects
4. To support proactive management and sustainable use of heritage assets

The strategy includes existing and proposed programs with identified roles and responsibilities that are aimed at achieving the strategic objectives.

Implementation of the strategy will occur in a three-staged process

over a three-year period, though the strategy has a forward view to 2005 to allow for full program establishment and review.

The Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Parks Victoria, Arts Victoria, Tourism Victoria and the National Trust were invited by the Victorian Heritage Council to be partners in writing and implementing the strategy. The strategy has whole of government endorsement.

The strategy is available from Heritage Victoria 22/80 Collins Street Melbourne VIC 3000. It will be available on the Heritage Council web site as a PDF file in early June. The address is: [www.heritage.vic.gov.au](http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au).

## Tasmania News

### *Point Puer Schoolhouse & Chapel Excavation.*

*Greg Jackman*

The site of the former Schoolhouse and Chapel at the infamous boy's prison at Point Puer was recently alive to the sounds of industrious digging, forlorn tears and furious scribbling after a hiatus of one and half centuries. The now ruinous landform, formerly the convict settlement's pre-eminent landmark, was the focus of the 2000 Summer archaeological programme. The work, which involved volunteers from around the State, resulted in the exposure and dismantling of collapsed portions of the stone-walled building platform, and the recording of structural details in order to enable future conservation and rebuilding works.

Construction of the simple weatherboard multi-purpose school and chapel building began in 1839; the original works being dogged by bureaucratic wrangling over its necessity and several changes in design. All of the boys, other than those confined to the gaol, were required to attend classes at least 4 days a week, which were roughly structured according to the Lancastrian system. This involved the use of older pupils, or monitors, to relate the lessons of the schoolmaster and chaplain to small groups under their tutelage.

The effectiveness of scholastic and religious training at the settlement was limited, partially, it was claimed at the time, due to a lack of teaching

aids. Interestingly, substantial quantities of writing slate, some bearing inscriptions, and slate pencils were recovered during the dig, providing a direct link with the educational experiences of the boys.

Conservation works at the site are planned for June-July 2000.

*Underwater Survey of Port Arthur and Carnarvon Bay.*

*Greg Jackman*

The waters of Port Arthur and Carnarvon Bay have witnessed a substantial amount of maritime traffic over the past 180 years, the busiest and most significant phase of activity in historical terms being related to the operation of the Port Arthur penal station and its satellite establishments.

Originally set up as a timber getting station, industry at Port Arthur progressively expanded to encompass the production of masonry materials, agricultural produce, leather goods, metalwork etc., both for internal consumption and supply to the Colonial Government. A shipyard was also established, producing finished vessels as well as servicing commercial craft plying the southeastern coastal waters.

For reasons of security, as well as simple economy, transportation of goods and personnel overland was minimised; the vast majority of all transactions being by water. The high frequency of use of the waters between Mason Cove and Point Puer in particular for the transportation of raw and finished materials, ordinance supplies etc. resulted in the creation of substantial wharf and jetty infrastructure, much of which is archaeologically visible today.

In recognition of the potential heritage values of the convict-period maritime trade, in February Port Arthur Historical Site Management Authority commenced the first stage of a projected three-year archaeological survey of the waters of Carnarvon Bay. It is anticipated that the results of the survey will be used to support an application for limited reserve status for the area in order to afford statutory protection for any underwater relics relating to convict-period activity.

Many of the convict jetty sites and wharfages were located and surveyed during the first season, which involved volunteer divers under the direction of Sydney-based consultant maritime archaeologists

Cosmos Coroneos and Stirling Smith. Training in heritage philosophy and underwater survey techniques was provided through NAS (Nautical Archaeology Society) accreditation modules, tailored to provide local divers with the opportunity and skills to get involved in the management of Port Arthur's important underwater heritage.

## RESEARCH NOTES

*Station Camps: The ethnoarchaeology of cultural change in the post-invasion period in the south Kimberley, Western Australia.*

*Pam Smith PhD Thesis, Department of Archaeology, Flinders University, South Australia.*

This ethnoarchaeology study seeks to understand the socio-economic contexts in which cultural change, adaptation and the maintenance of cultural continuity occurred in one Aboriginal community during the transition from a mobile hunting and gathering lifestyle to a more sedentary lifestyle in station camps between the 1880s and the 1960s. Dietary changes and the ability to obtain and to prepare food are used as the medium through which the wider socio-economic context is analysed. The study area is in the south east Kimberley region of Western Australia. In that region most of the Aboriginal population were incorporated into the hierarchical structure of the pastoral industry during the first eighty years following the European invasion. In return for their labour they were paid with a weekly ration of food and tobacco and an annual set of clothes.

The methodology is based on Mid-range theory. This allows for a defined range of archaeological, geographical and nutritional inputs to address each of four periods identified between the 1880s and the 1960s. These periods represent stages in the European invasion/colonisation process and several data sets from each period are compared. These data sets are based on (i) archaeological records of camp sites dated to each period, (ii) interpretations of the cultural landscape and changing land uses and (iii) nutritional data derived from the records of three diets. Archival, historical and ethnographic records are used to locate the data within appropriate socio-economic contexts and to reconstruct a model of cultural change for each of four periods.

The study demonstrates the changing Aboriginal uses of technology and material culture through

time, including evidence both of adaptation and of cultural continuity. It also shows that the traditional owners of the Study Area had continuous access to their traditional country throughout the station times. The extent to which the Aboriginal people were marginalised from the selection and production of their own food is also demonstrated. It is concluded that by the end of the "station times" those people living in the station camps were able to make some food choices by continuing to obtain bush foods. But, the quantities of bush food they did obtain did not contribute substantially to their overall diet and that the dietary staples were provided by the station owners. Despite this, traditional foods continued to be highly valued and sought and their continued use contributed to the maintenance of cultural continuity in this region.

## STATE OF THE UNIVERSITY

### *Comings and Goings*

Congratulations to Laura Jane Smith who will be taking up a position as lecturer in Archaeology at the University of York and also to Eleanor Casella who likewise will be moving to England to the archaeology department at the University of Manchester. Jane Lydon will also be taking up an academic position, at La Trobe University.

The departure of Laura Jane and Eleanor (the latter adopted to Australia) will be a great loss to Australian archaeology, as is the retirement of Dr Aedeon Cremin, reported in the last issue of the Newsletter. Aedeon will be relocating to Canberra and rather than a Chair at the ANU, she will have access to a table- thereby keeping her hand in the field.

### *Australian Postgraduate Award (Industry) - APA(I)*

Suitably qualified applicants are sought for the award of an APA(I) based at the Department of Archaeology, La Trobe University.

#### *The Scholarship*

The SPIRT project: "Exploring the Historical Archaeology of the Modern City: Sydney 1788-1900" was awarded major funding for 3 years from 2000. An APA (I) was also awarded to finance postgraduate research into the subsidiary research project: Managing the Archaeology of Central Sydney and Melbourne 1788-1900

#### *The Project*

The primary aim of the APAI project: Managing the Archaeology of Central Sydney and Melbourne 1788-1900, is to revise and rethink the archaeological management plans for the Central Activities Districts (CADs) of Melbourne and Sydney. It is standard heritage management procedure that Archaeological Management Plans (AMPs) are based on heritage studies that identify the nature and existence of heritage resources. However AMPs can never be static precisely because our understanding of heritage and of the significance of what we seek to preserve or conserve is fundamentally dynamic. The value of this strategic approach to re-evaluation (and the need for regular research into heritage resources so as to identify and respond to forces for change) is much more often honoured in the breach than the observance. The AMPs of Sydney and Melbourne have not been substantially reviewed since their creation over a decade ago.

#### *Methods and Approaches*

First year: In Phase 1 the APAI will review existing AMPs in Sydney and Melbourne, collect information about AMPs developed by local government authorities in Australia, and interview relevant staff in state heritage agencies and the planning departments of the Cities of Sydney and Melbourne. Phase 1 will conclude with a report analysing shortcomings and identifies areas that will require detailed research. In Phase 2 the APAI will make a 3 month study tour of heritage agencies, relevant Universities, and major archaeological consultancies in Cape Town, Quebec (Laval University), New York, and London (Museum of London, University of Cambridge Archaeological Unit). On return the APAI will prepare a report on international best practice in the field of urban archaeological heritage management. Second year: In Phase 3 the APAI will review the inventories of sites in Sydney and Melbourne (focusing on the adequacy of supporting historical research into those sites). At the same time an analysis of development pressures occurring in both cities over the last decade will provide a firm basis for predicting the nature of future threats to urban archaeological heritage. Phase 4 will comprise a review of research questions and frameworks for establishing the significance of heritage and of communicating the value of heritage to citizens and tourists. In Phase 5 the APAI will select two areas in each city to trial revised methodologies for establishing the nature and significance of urban archaeological resources. Third year: At the conclusion of the

trial the methodologies will be revised and applied to the development of draft AMPs for Sydney and Melbourne. All aspects of the research process will be reported in the doctoral dissertation to be submitted at the conclusion of the project.

#### *Qualifications*

Minimum qualifications are a 1<sup>st</sup> class or 2<sup>nd</sup> class division 1 honours degree in historical archaeology with appropriate experience in urban archaeology sites, landscapes and material culture. Management experience with an appropriate government agency would also be an advantage.

#### *Conditions*

The Scholar will work under the principal supervision of Professor Tim Murray and under the Associate Supervision of Dr Leah Mackenzie (Heritage Victoria). If the Scholar does not already hold a MA then they will be required to upgrade their candidature from MA to PhD during the first year of appointment. The requirements of the upgrade process will be fully described to those applicants who fall into this category. The Scholar will also be

subject to full reviews every six months. On successful examination of the doctoral dissertation the degree will be awarded by La Trobe University. During their time in Sydney the Scholar will also be able to seek advice and support from the other industry partners (City of Sydney Council; Godden, Mackay, Logan; Historic Houses Trust [New South Wales] and Sydney Harbour Foreshores Authority). Some overseas travel to Cape Town, London, and New York City will be required.

#### *Remuneration*

The current APA(I) stipend is \$21,183 pa. Scholars, on the approval of the principal supervisor, may also access up to \$10,000 p.a. to support their research.

#### *Application Process and Deadlines*

All applications are asked to write to Professor Tim Murray expressing their willingness to be considered for the Scholarship. Applicants should outline their qualifications and experience and their interest in the specific research programme. They should also ask two referees to write to Professor Murray on their behalf. All application materials (the expression of interest and the referees' reports) must reach the Chair of the Selection Committee by the 30 June 2000. All application materials will be treated confidentially and made known only to a Selection Committee consisting of a representative from each industry

partner and chaired by Professor Murray. Please submit these materials in hard copy and in electronic form to the following addresses:

*Professor Tim Murray*  
*Department of Archaeology*  
*La Trobe University*  
*Bundoora VIC 3083*

[T.Murray@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:T.Murray@latrobe.edu.au)

Liz White, an honours student at ANU has requested a questionnaire be considered and returned by participating archaeologists to assist in her thesis.

### **Archaeological Conservation in Australia**

From the very beginnings of archaeology, one of the main aims of the profession has been to excavate objects and preserve them for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. However, owing to the degradation processes to which all materials are subject, this aim has met with varying success. Some materials, such as ceramics and stone can be reasonably relied upon to be in good condition. Others, such as wood, metal and bone are frequently found in such an advanced state of decomposition that excavation is almost impossible. The primary aim of archaeological conservation has been to assist in the excavation of objects so that they have a greater chance of survival once removed from the archaeological site. Despite the fact that conservation and conservators have been operating as a distinct profession for some time now, conservation on archaeological sites in Australia remains a patchy affair, sometimes being heavily involved, for example in the excavation and preservation of the *Batavia* in Western Australia, but more often having little or no presence in the field.

As part of an honours thesis in archaeology for the Australian National University, I am undertaking a study of archaeological conservation in Australia. This study aims to discover where conservation currently stands in Australian archaeology, and then to propose ways in which it can be of greater benefit to Australian archaeologists. This questionnaire is designed to assess the general level of awareness of conservation in Australian archaeology, and also the opinions held by archaeologists on the subject.

The questionnaire is completely voluntary, and can be anonymous if you wish. There will be no recriminations from this questionnaire, regardless of how you answer the questions. If any of the questions do not apply to you, please put N/A in the space provided. I am genuinely interested in your opinions, no matter what they are, so please be as honest as you can when answering the questions.

Please post your response to the address at the end of the questionnaire; a copy of the questionnaire will also be posted on Ausarch, or can be e-mailed on request. In order to have a sufficient set of data to work from, please return your questionnaire by Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July, although late responses will still be accepted.

A high level of response to the questionnaire will increase our understanding of how conservation can benefit archaeology, so please take a moment to fill it in to the best of your ability. If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your assistance,

Elizabeth White  
Ph (02) 6241 0801  
E-mail: [s3077613@student.anu.edu.au](mailto:s3077613@student.anu.edu.au)

## CONFERENCE NOTES

### *Conference Report: Terrain in Military History*

University of Greenwich, Chatham, England, 5-6<sup>th</sup> January 2000

Convenors: Dr Peter Doyle & Dr Matthew Bennett, School of Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of Greenwich.

This conference was aimed at geographers, geologists and archaeologists and examined military history from the perspective of, what archaeologists might call, landscape archaeology, but what was generally referred to by the geographers-as "terrain".

A wide range of sites was presented ranging from ancient Greek to mediaeval and sites of conflict in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, up to the recent Serbo-Bosnian wars. One area of particular interest was a session devoted to the Gallipoli campaign. Two papers, presented by Ashley Ekins of the Australian War

Memorial and Peter Doyle of the University of Greenwich, examined the landscape and scarcity of resources such as water. Lack of detailed maps before the First World War meant that without sufficient intelligence campaigns could not be adequately planned. The Gallipoli Campaign has often been criticised for the fact that the troops were landed at the wrong beach. The question was raised whether it was the "wrong beach" or whether the landing place was changed at the last minute when, on arrival, the difficulties of the site were realised. GIS plotting of resources demonstrated the scarcity of water for the campaign & highlighted the fact that water had to be supplied via supply ships from Alexandria.

A paper by Dr Tony Pollard of the University of Glasgow detailed a proposed field survey of the Isandlwana battlefield of the South African Zulu Wars of 1879. It was here that the British Army received its greatest military defeat. Accounts of the battle were largely taken from the eyewitness accounts of the Zulus and are to be tested archaeologically in the field. The project will also examine the wider context of the battlefields-campsites, Zulu homesteads and fortifications.

The conference concluded with a two day field trip to the Flanders battlefields of World War I. There the Association for Battlefield Archaeology in Flanders presented the results of an excavation of the Beecham Dugout at Passchendaele. In early 1999 a Belgian woman, cleaning the windows of her farmhouse, fell into a 2 metre chasm that opened beneath her feet.

The resulting archaeological excavation revealed a 22x24 metre long "T"-shaped timber lined gallery with bunks for 70 soldiers. The preservation of the water-filled gallery was such that candle stubs bobbed as the water was pumped out and other items such as blankets and at least one leather coat came to light. The dugout was occupied by the English in early 1918, confirmed by a newspaper of that date. For safety reasons the dugout was dismantled after being extensively filmed, photographed, drawn and numbered for reconstruction. The inconsistent dimensions of the timbers (lengths generally 2.5m) and variety of timber species pointed to the dugout having originally been constructed by the Germans. The dugouts of the British and their allies, it was explained, were almost exclusively constructed of English oak, with unified-dimensioned timber.

Although some records were kept in the early part of the war, by 1917 teams of "coal-kickers" from the coalfields of Britain worked tunneled both for accommodation of soldiers and for mining beneath enemy lines. German records were generally lost during the bombing of Berlin in the Second World War and so archaeology is perhaps the most effective means of documenting activities on the battlefield.

The "underground war" accounted for many of the "missing in action" during the war. Tunneling occurred at such a rate that recording of their locations often did not occur. In the 1920s firewood shortages meant that timber was often taken from the dugout entrances, leading to collapse and concealment of the galleries. It is estimated that hundreds of kilometres of these tunnels lie preserved beneath the fields of Flanders.

*Wayne Johnson*

## UPCOMING

*Historical Archaeology, Cultural Heritage and Development: Research Priorities and Public Benefits.*

This conference, announced in the last Newsletter to take place 23-24 July at Sydney, has had to be postponed for a few months & will hopefully be re-scheduled for November. Further details are available from Mac North, New South Wales Heritage Office, (02) 9849 9568, [northm@heritage.nsw.gov.au](mailto:northm@heritage.nsw.gov.au).

### *ASHA/AIMA Joint Conference 2000*

Archaeology, Heritage and Tourism

28 November - 2 December 2000

St. Marks College, Adelaide, S.A.

The call for Papers has closed and the Conference Program and Registration Form will be distributed shortly. Enquiries and registrations should be sent to:

Bill Jeffery,  
Department for Environment, Heritage and  
Aboriginal Affairs,  
GPO Box 1047, Adelaide, S.A. 5001  
email: [bjeffery@dehaa.sa.gov.au](mailto:bjeffery@dehaa.sa.gov.au)  
Phone: 61 8 82049311  
Fax: 61 8 8204 9455

## *Archaeology and Native Title Workshop*

November 27th

St. Marks College, Adelaide, S.A.

Sponsored and co-chaired by staff from the AIATSI Native Title Unit in conjunction with the AIMA/ASHA Conference 2000

Registrations to:

Bill Jeffery  
Department for Environment, Heritage and  
Aboriginal Affairs,  
GPO Box 1047, Adelaide, S.A. 5001  
email: [bjeffery@dehaa.sa.gov.au](mailto:bjeffery@dehaa.sa.gov.au)  
Phone: 61 8 82049311  
Fax: 61 8 8204 9455

Enquiries to Pam Smith  
Department of Archaeology, Flinders University,  
S.A.  
email: [Pamela.Smith@flinders.edu.au](mailto:Pamela.Smith@flinders.edu.au)

### **Treasurer's report:**

**GST.** We have now, after 13 weeks delay, our ABN (number) which is 41 196 332 496. This number must appear on all our invoices, letterheads, newsletters, correspondence and receipts. In other words when ever our ASHA name appears our ABN must also appear. If not we are unable to claim back GST funds, generally from accounts paid.

Membership fees attract a GST of 10%, as GST does not apply until 1<sup>st</sup> July 2000, our fees, currently due cover the calendar year, therefore, the GST is only applicable to 6 months 1<sup>st</sup> July to 31<sup>st</sup> December 2000. Therefore, only six months GST, 5% or \$2.00 be added to our last year fee of \$40.00 making our membership fee for this year \$42.00. GST will apply to our Adelaide convention registration fee and any information brochure sales and invoiced costs.

For goods and services after 1<sup>st</sup> July 2000 regardless of the value the Tax Invoice must comply with the following requirements:

1. Business name and ABN number.
2. The words "Tax Invoice" displayed.
3. Date of issue.
4. Brief description of items supplied.
5. Quality of goods & extent of services supplied.
6. The GST exclusive price of goods & services.
7. The GST rate payable on goods & services.



## ASHA PUBLICATIONS

### *Australasian Historical Archaeology*

	Members	Non-members
Volume 1	<i>out of print</i>	
Volumes 2- 13	\$10.00 each	\$12.00 each
Volume 14 (1996)	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 15 (1997)	\$18.00	\$22.00

### Major Publications

Birmingham, J., D. Bairstow, & A. Wilson (eds) \$26.00  
*Archaeology and Colonisation: Australia in the World Context, Papers from the Seventh Annual ASHA Conference.*

Birmingham, J. \$36.00  
*Wybalenna: The Archaeology of Cultural Accommodation in Nineteenth Century Tasmania.*

Lawrence, S. & M. Staniforth (eds) \$40.00  
*The Archaeology of Whaling in Southern Australia and New Zealand.*

Rogers, B. \$12.50  
*Nineteenth Century Salt Manufacturing Sites in Tasmania.*

### Occasional Papers

Maureen Byrne, *Ross Bridge, Tasmania.* \$6.00 each

Eleanor Crosby: *Survey and excavations at Fort Dundas, Melville Island, NT.*

Marjorie Graham: *Printed Ceramics in Australia.*

R.V.J. Varman: *The Marseilles or French Pattern Tile in Australia.*

#### Postage and packing in Australia:

Journals—Occasional Papers add \$4.00 per item

Major publications add \$6.50 per item

#### Postage and packing overseas (surface mail):

Journals—Occasional Papers add \$5.00 per item

Major publications add \$15.00 per item

## ASHA CONTACTS

ACT Richard Morrison  
c/- AHC, GPO Box 1567, Canberra 2601

ph: 02 6217 2133  
fax: 02 6217 2095  
e-mail: rmorrison@ahc.gov.au

NSW Jennie Lindbergh  
23 Thomas Street, Darlington, NSW, 2008

ph: 02 9698 2417  
e-mail: Jennie.Geoff@bigpond.com

NZ Neville Ritchie  
Dept of Conservation, Private Bag 3072, Hamilton,  
NZ

ph: 0011 64 838 3363  
e-mail: NRitchie@doc.govt.nz

NT Clayton Fredericksen  
Dept of Anthropology, Northern Territory University  
Darwin, NT, 0909

ph: 08 8946 6865  
fax: 08 8946 6955  
email: clayton.fredericksen@ntu.edu.au

QLD Gordon Grimwade  
PO Box 9, Yungaburra, QLD, 4872

ph: 07 4095 3737  
fax: 07 4095 2117  
e-mail: gga@internetnorth.com.au

SA Pam Smith  
Dept of Archaeology, Flinders University  
PO Box 2100, Adelaide, SA 5001

ph/fax: 08 8278 8172  
smithric@tpgi.com.au

TAS M. Jones  
Parks and Wildlife Tasmania  
PO Box 44A, Hobart, TAS 7001

ph: 03 6233 3840  
fax: 03 6233 3477  
e-mail: mickj@dpiwe.tas.gov.au

VIC Fiona Weaver  
24 The Avenue, Belmont, Vic., 3216

ph: 03 5243 1462  
e-mail: fjweaver@iname.com

WA Alistair Paterson  
Archaeology, University of Western Australia  
Nedlands, WA 6907

ph: 08 9380 2867  
fax: 08 9380 1023  
e-mail: paterson@cyllene.uwa.edu.au

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 30.3.2000  
Print Post Regulations No: PP24359/00114  
ISSN 0156-9295

ABN: 41 196 332 496

Box 220 Holme Building  
University of Sydney 2006  
Secretary: (02) 9558 6618

## STATE OF THE ART

### *Establishment of the Government Historical Archaeologists Network*

In March 2000 the National Heritage Chairs and Officials endorsed the establishment of the Government Historical Archaeologists Network (GHAN). GHAN was established to enable regular meetings of government historical archaeologists to discuss a number of issues concerning archaeological management by statutory authorities such as:

- \*professional standards by practising archaeologists,
- \*legislative requirements of state and federal agencies which impacts on the archaeological resource,
- \*exchange programs between the agencies,
- \*different approaches to archaeological management,
- \*protection of the archaeological resource from bottle collectors and fossickers and different approaches to these threats.

GHAN facilitates the co-ordination of archaeological management issues between the states/territories and the commonwealth.

GHAN also proposes projects, policies and actions to the National Heritage Chairs and Officials. GHAN has an electronic discussion group coordinated by the NSW Heritage Office. GHAN will meet at least annually at the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology annual conference and/or the Australian ICOMOS annual conference. The outcomes of the annual meeting are to be reported to the National Heritage Chairs and Officials.

*Richard Morrison*

## ACT News

### *Australian Heritage Commission*

New Federal environmental legislation introduced.

The Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act) came into force in July 2000 and represents the most fundamental reform of

Commonwealth environment laws since the first environmental statutes were enacted in the early 1970s. The Act focuses Commonwealth interests on matters of national environmental significance (NES). It also protects the environment on Commonwealth land and regulates the actions of Commonwealth departments and agencies that may have a significant impact on the environment.

The AHC Act, and S30 of it, will continue to operate in parallel with the new EPBC Act provisions until the former is repealed when new provisions dealing with heritage are added to the EPBC Act. That is, certain Commonwealth matters may trigger both Acts as the Register of the National Estate (RNE) is also now serving as an explicit trigger for Commonwealth actions under S28 of the EPBC Act. The implication of S28 for RNE places is that the Commonwealth must not take an action inside or outside Australia without the Minister's approval, if it may have a significant impact on the heritage values of these places. Section 28 of the EPBC Act will offer far stronger protection for heritage places than is currently possible under S30 and S28 protection will also extend to State heritage lists. The enhanced enforcement regime introduces significant fines for non-compliance and, in most extreme cases, the possibility of jail terms.

### Future of AHC

At the end of June the Federal Environment and Heritage Minister, Senator Robert Hill, announced that the Commonwealth would introduce legislation to establish a new regime for the identification, conservation and protection of a list of places of national heritage significance – a National List comprising places of outstanding national importance and heritage significance to Australians and would include places of natural, historic and indigenous heritage value.

Senator Hill said that places on the National List would be identified as a matter of NES under the EPBC Act. This means that, in general, the Minister must give approval before anyone can undertake activities which may have a significant impact on the heritage values of places on the National List. The EPBC Act framework would ensure the appropriate role for the Commonwealth in protecting national heritage places, while also providing for a mechanism for the accreditation of State management arrangements. He also indicated that the Government was committed to the establishment of an independent, statutory, national heritage council – the Australian Heritage Council, which will advise on the identification and conservation of places on the National List and on heritage items on Commonwealth land and maintain a database of national, state and local heritage places. Additionally it will have a key role in developing and promoting national heritage standards.

Places which are included in the RNE and which are not included in the new National List will be covered by transitional provisions pending the accreditation of relevant State regimes.

Senator Hill said places outside of Australia that are of significance to Australians could also be recognised under the new regime. He also noted that "As a result of these reforms the Australian Heritage Commission in its new form will be able to build upon the national leadership which has been its hallmark since 1975."

Further information can be obtained from the AHC on 1800 020 652.

#### *Cultural Heritage Projects Program*

It is expected that the next round of the national CHPP will be advertised in late August or early September 2000. Applications and Guidelines will be available at that time.

#### *Canberra Archaeological Society*

##### *Crinnegan's Hut Project*

This place is at Amaroo, in northern ACT, and is an 1840's, 3 bedroom, stone homestead, abandoned in 1875. Analysis of the artefacts from subfloor deposits, originally removed by CAS in 1994, has recently begun. This work will facilitate the return of artefacts and information to the descendants of the original occupants.

#### *Unity Cunningham's House and Garden*

This house is on the western side of the Murrumbidgee river, near Tuggeranong, and was thought to have been constructed in the 1920's. Unity Cunningham was a nurse who lived here from her return after WWI. Unity established an extensive terraced garden and also planted cyprus, various fruit trees, and poplars. The garden features terraced beds covering a large area, a watering system, and a grass tennis court.

Over several weekends, CAS members, sometimes under extreme weather conditions, have mapped and recorded this complex site. The results will be used to develop management planning for this portion of the Murrumbidgee River Corridor. The work was funded by a grant from the ACT Government.

*Richard Morrison*

#### **New South Wales News**

##### *RTA News*

Over at the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority, the archaeologists are being kept busy on numerous road and bridge projects. Claire Everett is finalising the Conservation Management Plan for the Clarence Town Bridge over the Williams River at Clarence Town, near Dungog, which is the oldest surviving timber truss bridge in NSW (completed in 1880). The Bridge is of considerable heritage significance, being one of only two surviving examples of the Old Public Works Department truss bridge type, the design from which all later timber truss bridge designs in NSW were derived, and with direct links to the bridge designs of the 16th century architect Andrea Palladio. This bridge, and more than 30 other timber truss bridges maintained by the RTA, has recently been listed on the State Heritage Register.

Adam Ford is involved in preparing what seem to be a never-ending list of Statements of Heritage Impacts for proposed works on the Sydney Harbour Bridge, as well as finalising the heritage assessment of a timber stave water pipe (c.1926) uncovered during road-widening works on the Cumberland Highway in western Sydney. Built in response to water shortages during the summer of 1925-6 the timber stave pipe was capable of carrying 50 million gallons of water per day. Although this form of construction was relatively common during the early decades of the 20th Century (an estimated 200 towns and cities in Australia had timber pipe reticulation), this

pipeline appears to be the only extant example in Sydney and possibly NSW. If anyone knows of other examples still in-situ elsewhere, please let either Claire or Adam know on (02) 9662 5773.

## Queensland News

### *Ceramic jars, Cooktown*

Research by Ian McCrae (Heritage Officer at Cook Shire Council, Cooktown) on a local Chinese ceramics site, has drawn interest from overseas. Priscilla Wegars, University of Idaho, is assisting in the research after visiting the site earlier this year. Shards of large pots lie exposed on a tidal flat of the Endeavour River. The jars stand 475 mm high, maximum diameter is 375 mm and base diameter 225 mm. They are associated with Cooktown's Chinese occupation. Ian would be interested in hearing from anyone with information on similar large jars.

### *Military Heritage*

Green Hill Fort, Thursday Island continues as a major project for Gordon Grimwade and Associates. Sections of the former guardhouse were exposed by shallow excavation in June 2000. A floor area well in excess of that previously assumed was revealed near the main gate. Further excavation is planned for 2001. In the meantime the central parados is to be cleared of foundations relating to the 1954 – 1994 Bureau of Meteorology huts. Once that area is completed, archaeological investigation will focus on an area used as a vehicle ramp to the meteorological offices which now covers part of the guardhouse.

### *Chinese skeletal remains*

The skeleton of what is claimed to be a Chinese miner recovered from the Palmer River Gold Field is to be interred in the Cooktown Cemetery. The remains are stored in the ceramic burial jar in which they were originally found by fossickers in the 1980s. Suggestions that the remains are returned to China gained little support; primarily because no one was able to suggest the origins of the unknown miner.

*Gordon Grimwade*

## Victoria News

### *Conservation Bond*

The Heritage Council endorsed the Conservation Bond policy in December 1999. The policy requires all applicants for excavation permits and consents in Victoria to

provide a contribution towards the costs of artefact conservation and management. Under the terms of the conservation agreement all artefacts which are deemed to be of significance are required to be conserved and catalogued to the satisfaction of the Executive Director.

Past experience has shown that archaeological excavations are carried out without adequate resources allowed to undertake basic conservation of the artefacts recovered.

The Conservation Bond system has become an integral part of all archaeological excavation and monitoring projects in which there is a likelihood of artefacts being recovered.

### *Staff*

David Bannear now working for Heritage Victoria and Parks Victoria to co-ordinate regional archaeology advise. His specific program is to look at developing regional heritage tourism projects that will incorporate archaeological sites.

Sam George stepped in to backfill Jeremy Smith while he was writing a new draft of the survey guidelines

### *Heritage Inventory is now online.*

In July the Heritage Inventory went online. The Inventory can be searched by accessing the Heritage Council web site. In the complete Inventory is listed by number. However the search button enables specific enquires to be undertaken. The online Inventory record displays: site number, site name, site description, Municipality and site references held by heritage Victoria.

See it at:

[www.heritage.vic.gov.au](http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au)

### *Excavations*

#### *Camp Street*

In December Andrew Long and Associates conducted test excavations at the historic Camp Street precinct, Ballarat, as part of preliminary investigations into the archaeological potential of the site. Using the preliminary findings Heritage Victoria designed the project outline for a larger excavation project. Godden, Mackay Logan in partnership with La Trobe University successful tendered and conducted their excavations in June and July. The project included an education component that was project managed by Allen Jones and Jeremy Smith for Heritage Victoria. Daily tours of the site were conducted, school projects were initiated involving construction of web sites,

weekly lectures. The education component continues to be expanded.

#### *Excavations in the Central City*

A number of excavation have taken place in Melbourne CBD in the last few months. They include: Police Garage on Russell Street, the new County Court site on Williams Street, the former Fox and Hounds Hotel site on the corner of Flinders and Queen Street. It is anticipated that a number of archaeological projects in the city will continue to increase in the coming months.

#### *Mahogany Ship (Stick)*

An amateur historian reported earlier in the year that he had located the remains of the fabled Mahogany ship. He presented a sample of the wood that was sent for analysis. The lab report indicated that the wood was English White Oak. In August the maritime and historical archaeologist at Heritage Victoria conducted a two-day excavation in the sand dunes near Warrnambool. The excavation showed that while the wood was introduced it did not show any sign as having come from a wreck let alone the mahogany ship. The deposit in which it was located was shown to be relatively recent. The mass media coverage has ensured that the legend still lives.

#### *GIS and the Heritage Inventory*

The Heritage Inventory has recently been electronically mapped using a GIS/MapInfo package. It is now possible to obtain printouts of specific areas showing all known archaeological sites and heritage registered places.

*Leah McKenzie and Jeremy Smith*

### **Western Australia News**

#### *Archaeology field school*

The 2000 'Bridgedale' Archaeological Field School is a joint collaboration between the Centre for Archaeology, University of Western Australia and The National Trust (Western Australia). Excavations were held at the property 'Bridgedale', a National Trust site located on the Blackwood River, in the south-west of Western Australia. Excavations involved 27 students and four staff, and revealed material related to the earliest use of the house, mainly in the period from 1860 until circa 1900, a period about which very little is known concerning the property. The homestead was established by the Blechynden family as a pastoral property, although much

of that original property was to become occupied with the establishment of Bridgetown, in which the house has played a central role for 160 years. The excavated material is being analysed by the archaeology students, and they will write up the results for the National Trust during the semester ahead.

#### *News*

Rodney Harrison has taken up a job at NPWS, NSW.

#### *Seminars*

"Beyond Fremantle Prison - The archaeology of the convict system in Western Australia" Martin Gibbs (James Cook University). Paper contributed to 'Constructing the Colony: the convict legacy', a one-day conference held by the Fremantle Prison and the Centre for West Australian History.

Although Fremantle Prison represents a monumental legacy to convictism in W.A., it is also true that it provides us with little insight into the a system which mostly revolved around regional hiring depots and the construction of numerous public buildings, roads, bridges and other public works. This paper briefly examines the physical dimension of the operation of the convict system in W.A., and the extent to which it transformed the nature of the colony. It also presents the initial results of the author's ongoing research into what might be considered a convict 'site' in W.A., as well as the current status of standing structures and archaeological sites directly related to the convict system.

*Alistair Paterson*

### **Northern Territory News**

#### *Second Season of Investigation at Fort*

#### *Dundas*

Between June 14 and July 6 2000 Clayton Fredericksen and students from Northern Territory University and Flinders University carried out a second season of investigations at Fort Dundas, Melville Island. (A report on the first season can be found in ASHA Newsletter 29(4)). This work was made possible through an ARC Small Grant and the cooperation of the Tiwi Land Council and the Pirlangimpi Local Government Council. The second season involved conducting excavation of two areas (presumed sites of the settlement's hospital and Commandant's house) and undertaking a detailed survey of the fort itself. The choice of excavation areas was determined by the interests of NTU

archaeology students undertaking Honours research on the settlement, and a requirement to sample various parts of the site for management and interpretive purposes.

#### *Hospital Excavation*

The infirmary is described in written sources as a 'good weatherboard hospital containing sixteen beds'. It was completed in March 1825, some five months after the British landed on Melville Island. The location of the hospital site was determined by Eleanor Crosby to be 150m southeast of the fort, by reference to an 1827 plan of the settlement. A number of possible stone alignments and a pile of stone identified by Crosby as a possible collapsed chimney mark this locality. Our excavation of the 'chimney' revealed however that it is unlikely to have functioned as such and was more likely constructed as the foundation platform for a small building outside the hospital, possibly a dispensary. Locating the hospital itself proved difficult as no traces of a definite floor were present and artefacts were few. However a real excavation of the seaward stone alignment uncovered the remains of a substantial post. This suggests that the hospital may have been raised above ground level. Also in this area was a concentration of artefacts, comprising glass from broken bottles (including fragments from possible medicine bottles) and yet to be identified metal fragments.

#### *House Excavation*

Crosby identified a stone platform 40m south of the fort as the site of the Commandant's dwelling. This was constructed for the settlement's second commandant as a more comfortable abode than the dwelling originally constructed inside the fort. Little written information has been found on this structure but it must have been substantial, judging from the size of the foundation platform (larger than 100m<sup>2</sup>), although of course the platform may have been the location of a dwelling and associated outbuildings. Our excavation revealed that the platform was composed of loosely piled stones to a depth of almost 1.5m. Artefacts were few on and in the platform and consisted of mainly nails, no doubt remaining from the original structure(s). A large amount of industrial slag and some coal was recovered from the excavated southern side of the platform. The slag had almost certainly been produced in a forge. There are two possibilities for this occurrence: slag was used as a building

material during construction of the platform; or the platform has been misidentified as the Commandant's house site and was in reality the floor of a forge or smithy. The former interpretation seems more likely as excavation on the seaward side of the platform revealed an ornamental brick path and expertly shaped stones forming a well-constructed dry stone wall. These are features that in this settlement would be expected for a high-status dwelling rather than an industrial area.

#### *Fort Survey*

The fort was one of the first structures built at the settlement. Henry Ennis, in his *Remarks on Board His Majesty's Ship Tamar* (1825), provides the following description:

Fort Dundas is rectangular, seventy five yards in length, by fifty yards wide; with turrets *en barbette* at each angle, surrounded by a ditch fifteen feet wide by ten feet deep, with a drawbridge on the land side. The curtain, at the base, is seven feet in width, and five at the top, and is about seven feet high; and is armed with four 18-pounders and one 12-pounder carronades, and two long 9-pounders...

Today the fort is under a cover of tropical vegetation and is in places quite badly eroding. Nevertheless the ditch and earth bank with bastions are plainly visible. The remains have been previously surveyed by Crosby in 1975 and Ian Pengelly in 1986. The resulting plans provide a valuable aid to site interpretation but are difficult to incorporate into digital analysis, especially GIS. Consequently one aim of this season's investigation was to completely resurvey the fort using an EDM.

This project, carried out by Nathan Richards and Colin De La Rue, involved many hours cutting survey transects through dense vegetation. This effort resulted in the collection of more than 1300 survey points, which provide an extremely good coverage of the fort and the land outside. The resolution of the information is such that artificially modified areas within the fort should be able to be easily identified and targeted for further investigation. The data will also enable a detailed contour plan to be formed and the intention is to eventually render this into a 3D model for interpretive and presentation purposes.

This second season of investigation at Fort Dundas greatly expanded on information obtained last year and by other investigators in previous years. Assuming success in obtaining funding, next year will see the excavation of

two further areas of the settlement, including parts of the fort itself, and the extension of digital surveying to the southern sector of the site.

*Clayton Fredericksen*

### **South Australia News**

Mark Staniforth has just returned from six months overseas on OSP (Outside Studies Program). Mark spent time at three Universities in Europe and North America to take part in their teaching activity in the form of giving lectures and seminars in maritime archaeology and related areas primarily at a Masters (MA and MSc) level. The universities involved were the University of Southampton, UK, the University of Ulster in Coleraine, Northern Ireland and the East Carolina University, North Carolina, USA. Also, it was an opportunity to see different ways of teaching field methods, innovative uses of remote sensing equipment, and useful ways of structuring maritime archaeology teaching programs.

Mark also visited a number of whaling station sites in the USA and Canada including the Basque sites at Red Bay in Labrador, Pemaquid in Maine and the Great Island Tavern site on Cape Cod. He also conducted research into shorebased whaling on the East Coast of North America that will be used to compare with shore-based whaling activity in Australia.

*Mark Staniforth*

### **Tasmania News**

While winter is not really the best time of year for field work in Tasmania and many of our public service archaeologists may well be hibernating in their office until the spring thaw occurs, as discussed below, a number of our intrepid consultant archaeologists are out in the wilds.

Anne McConnell has just completed a historic heritage evaluation of Fort Direction - a WWII coastal battery and training camp at the mouth of the Derwent River. The study was undertaken as part of a suite of environmental studies being carried out by Inspiring Place for the Department of Defence. The coastal battery and camp structures are remarkably intact, although as for most similar sites in Australia, most of the equipment has been removed. It is also the only known WWII coastal battery to have been documented in Tasmania. Anne has, in association with Lindy Scripps and Steve Stanton just

completed a two part cultural heritage (Aboriginal and historic) study for the Hydro Electric Commission (HEC) related to the proposed Basslink development. The study assesses the likely effects of altered power generation from the Poatina Power Station and Gordon Power Station downstream of the power stations. It is part of a suite of environmental studies that are being carried out by the HEC.

Anne has also been working with Austral Archaeology on a Conservation Management Plan of Van Diemens Land Company sites for North Forests Burnie on their freehold land. The VDL Co was primarily a pastoral company, which operated out of NW Tasmania from the mid-1820s to c.1930, although the bulk of their pastoral activities occurred between c.1830 and 1850. There was also some small-scale mining and logging that occurred in relation to the company, mainly in the late 19th century. The sites on North Forests Burnie land include most of the VDL rural site other than at the Woolnorth settlement).

Charles Parkinson, of Kithbrook Heritage Consultants has been busy finalising a series of archaeological test excavations and monitoring exercises at the Highfield Historic Site in NW Tasmania. Highfield House served as the base for the Van Diemens Land Company and is a core component of the site complex that forms the first permanent European settlement in NW Tasmania.

During the excavations, associated with the implementation of the site's landscape management plan, a series of hand laid beach cobble surfaces and sub surface structural features were located. The features revealed were associated with the initial occupation and building phase of the 1820's.

Through careful management and the use of archaeological testing to inform the management process, these significant components of the site have been preserved in-situ, whilst allowing the development of toilet, car park and garden facilities to occur.

Apart from their work on the Van Diemens Land Company sites, Austral Archaeology are also in the process of carrying out a number of conservation plans on historic huts located in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area. The work which is being undertaken for the Department of Primary Industries Water and Environment is part of the Community Huts Partnership Program.

*Michael Jones*

## VICTORIA NEWS

The Department of Archaeology at La Trobe University has been involved in a number of field projects over the past few months.

- Former Police Garage/Old Melbourne Gaol Hospital

Maddy Atkinson and Peter Davies completed subsurface testing and excavations at the former Police Garage site in Russell Street in anticipation of landscaping work to be carried out by RMIT. Bluestone footings of the former Old Melbourne Gaol Hospital, dating to the early 1860s, were exposed in order to determine their extent and condition. The footings were largely intact and in sound condition.

- Gabo Island 1

A team of students directed by Susan Lawrence completed excavations at the rear of the Gabo Island jetty shed prior to the reconstruction of the southern stone wall. The excavation confirmed the existence of a further extension to the south. While the building dates to the 1840s, artefacts recovered suggest occupation between 1860 and 1890.

- Gabo Island 2

Maddy Atkinson, Laurinda Dugay and two students from La Trobe, on behalf of Susan Lawrence and Andrew Long and Associates, completed a GPS surface survey in the north of Gabo Island. A rough sketch map from the 1860s shows a small settlement existing on the shore of the bay. The purpose of the GPS survey was to map surface features in order to determine any patterning indicative of subsurface remains relating to nineteenth century occupation. The survey highlighted the presence of most of the features shown in the early map and identified features that could warrant further archaeological investigation.

- Camp St Ballarat

Godden Mackay Logan provided La Trobe students with valuable field experience during excavations at Camp St Ballarat.

*Maddy Atkinson*

## STATE OF THE UNIVERSITIES

### Flinders University

#### *The Fern Avenue Community Gardens*

#### *Archaeology Project*

Archaeological excavation recently commenced at the Fullarton Jam Factory, Unley, Adelaide. The project is co-ordinated by Jody Steele and Timothy Owen, Archaeology Postgraduate Students of

Flinders University. Excavation is now in the second season with more extensive work focussing upon features that became apparent during season one.

The factory was established in 1880 by Mr Thomas Fairbrother (Burgess, 1978: 230) and developed through three construction phases. The first was a galvanised iron structure (The Observer, 3/2/1883: 14a), the second phase, one of stone and brick construction (Payne & Cosh, 1972: 101). The third phase was an expansion of the original stone structure completed by his son Thomas Franklin Fairbrother (The Adelaide Chronicle, 23/8/1913: 1062c&d). The factory was disassembled in 1919 for reasons unknown (Payne & Cosh, 1972: 102).

The first excavation season (March 2000 to June 2000) involved pre-disturbance site survey, geophysical resistivity survey, surface artefact collection and excavation of six trenches. The trenches revealed substantial evidence of the external and internal wall foundations of the factory.

A large amount of indeterminate glass, ceramic, brick, metal, bone, coal artefacts have been recovered from all trenches.

In addition a schools education program was co-ordinated in conjunction with Kate Walker, Curator of the Unley Museum. This involved both classroom and field based teaching activities.

Evidence of variance amongst floor features within the site during the first season requires further archaeological investigation. Season Two has opened a further two trenches, with the intention of expanding two of the already existing trenches. Full details of all Archaeological activity at Fern Ave can be found online at Owen & Steele, 2000.

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*Jody Steele and Tim Owen*

### *Burra Community Archaeology Project*

In 1998, Flinders University, the Regional Council of Goyder, the National Trust of South Australia Burra Branch and the Mid-North Regional Development Board began a collaboration to provide an academic research platform in Burra, that would also benefit the local community. Initial results of this project included a survey of the miner's dugouts on the Burra Creek and one Honours thesis, both in 1998. This was followed by a second Honours thesis in 1999 on Hampton, one of Burra's outer townships, that has led to a PhD project on colonial multiculturalism for Peter Birt.

The year 2000 has seen further survey work conducted at the creek and a preliminary excavation of one of the collapsed dugouts, by staff and students from Flinders, as part of the PhD project. The Burra dugouts were literally homes dug into the banks of the Burra Creek and in 1851 housed 1800 of the 4400 people living in the townships. Unfortunately floods, including three in quick succession in 1851 collapsed many of these homes, which coincided with an exodus to the Victorian goldfields and led to the abandonment of most of these dwellings.

Consequently, the remains of the dugouts offer potential insights into the lives of Burra's earliest European residents. Most were probably Cornish miner's and their families, but evidence exists for both Welsh and Scots living in the creek, while the town also had a significant German minority.

The excavation undertaken in April recovered little material culture at living floor levels, but did record the remains of lime mortared walls and floor and a second season will be conducted in September. Other areas of focus will include a German home recorded at Hampton, a reputed Chinese garden a few kilometres out of town and the extant Cornish architecture.

While the project is still in its early stages, it has already helped bring increased media exposure for the town, provided a focus of interest for the locals and visitors, and generated an archaeological exhibition. As the project progresses, it is planned to produce more interpretive material, that can be used to add to the visitors experience in Burra.

*Peter Birt*

### *Recently published papers*

Staniforth, M. 2000. A future for Australian maritime archaeology? *Australian Archaeology* 50:90-93.

### **La Trobe University**

La Trobe University's Department of Archaeology is currently expanding its historical archaeology program through a range of initiatives:

1. 'Archaeology of the Modern City'. This SPIRT-funded project is well underway, in partnership with the Historic Houses Trust of NSW, Godden Mackay Logan Heritage Consultants, the Heritage Office of NSW, Sydney City Council, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, and Heritage Victoria. Applications have been received for a PhD Fellowship and a scholar will shortly be appointed to this position. Advertisements for project archaeologist and project historian will appear within the next fortnight.

2. La Trobe University has signed a collaborative agreement with Godden Mackay Logan Heritage Consultants, which will see a range of archaeological projects carried out jointly between the two organisations. The first excavation to be conducted under this agreement was successfully concluded at Camp Street Ballarat in July, with analysis to follow. Fieldwork was supervised by Graham Wilson, Dominic Steele and Dan Tuck of GML, assisted by La Trobe archaeology students.

3. Another outcome of this agreement is that Richard Mackay has been appointed as an adjunct Professor of La Trobe University, and he will be involved in teaching within the Department of Archaeology.

4. Jane Lydon has been appointed to the position of Lecturer in the Department, in order to develop a program in Archaeological Heritage Management which will be taught from 2001. A Curriculum Development Committee will be set up to provide advice in this process which will comprise industry as well as academic practitioners.

Jane will also contribute to teaching and training in historical archaeology and Aboriginal history. This appointment reinforces La Trobe's strong commitment to the study of historical archaeology and Indigenous Australia. Jane would be happy to receive applications from graduate students in the areas of Aboriginal history, material culture studies, and Australian historical archaeology generally.

5. Dr Susan Lawrence's book, 'Dolly's Creek: An Archaeology of a Victorian Goldfields Community', published by Melbourne University Press, was launched by Professor Alan Frost on 7 August at La Trobe University.

6. Four Honours level dissertations sponsored by the Strathbogie Shire Council are in progress, exploring issues in heritage archaeology and tourism in regional Victoria.  
*Jane Lydon*

University of Canberra: Cultural Heritage Management

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Info: Dr Linda Young,

[linda.young@canberra.edu.au](mailto:linda.young@canberra.edu.au) 02-6201 2079

[small letters in inconspicuous spot!] New course to be confirmed.

**University of Western Australia**

*Recently published papers*

Paterson, A. & Wilson, A. 2000. Australian historical archaeology: Retrospects and prospects. *Australian Archaeology* 50:81-89.

Paterson, A. & Harrison, R. 2000. Workshop: The archaeology of culture contact in Australia and beyond. *World Archaeology Bulletin* 11:119-26.

*Alistair Paterson*

**Honours theses**

**Flinders University**

Susan Briggs

Blood in the Street: An Archaeological Examination of a Commercial Faunal Assemblage from Lot 10 Divett Street, Port Adelaide. This thesis examines the butchery techniques used by Robert 'Harry' Allen at Lot 10 Divett Street, Port Adelaide. Past work in this field has used domestic sites. This commercial assemblage is therefore significant in advancing knowledge of

attitudes towards meat and the disposal of associated waste.

Ashley Matic

[amatic@esc.net.au](mailto:amatic@esc.net.au)

The History and Archaeology of 8 to 12 Divett Street, Port Adelaide. The aim of this thesis is to provide a history of site usage at the Divett Street archaeological site in Port Adelaide, South Australia utilizing both historical documentation and archaeologically acquired data. This will be in order to provide a more comprehensive history of the site than would have been gained through the use of only one method, focussing on the people who worked on the site over the past 160 years, what they used it for, and how this is represented in what they left behind. Hopefully this thesis will show the potential for similar studies on sites in the Adelaide metropolitan area, in particular Port Adelaide.

Christopher Lewczak

[drphatty@senet.com.au](mailto:drphatty@senet.com.au)

Formation Processes of an Archaeological Deposits in Coastal Zones: Holdfast Bay. The focus of this thesis was on the formation of archaeological deposits within a coastal zone. An excavation of deposits by the Society for Underwater Historical Research under and around the Holdfast Bay Jetty, South Australia, provided the assemblage. During the excavation each artefact was plotted three dimensionally. Examination of the artefact deposits will reveal how they are organised. Whether in chronological sequence or by other factors such as fabric or density.

Katrina Stankowski

[stankat@hotmail.com](mailto:stankat@hotmail.com)

Katrina's thesis explores how the use of ritual manifests itself in the planning and location of domestic dwellings (including gravesites) in the landscape.

The Chinese use of Feng Shui in colonial Australia is presented as a case study. Archaeological sites analysed in this thesis include a Chinese camp at Kiandra, New South Wales; Ah Toy's Garden, Queensland; a Chinese Temple at Croydon, Queensland; the Chinese Cemetery at Nyngan, New South Wales and Cedar Camp at Atherton, Queensland.

**Australian National University**

Meaghan Russell

[miarey@hotmail.com](mailto:miarey@hotmail.com)

Meaghan is an Hons Archaeology student with the topic of the archaeology of 19<sup>th</sup> century Benedictine monastic settlement in WA. This project will examine the settlement and early development of the New Norcia estate. The aim is to contrast this place against similar monastic communities in Europe and the Americas for variation against idealised settlement patterns.

Sophie Pullar

[sophie.pullar@bigpond.com](mailto:sophie.pullar@bigpond.com)

Sophie is an Hons Archaeology student studying lighthouses involving models of habitus, isolation and government bureaucracy. This study covers lighthouses from Barrenjoey in northern Sydney, to Gabo Island, Victoria. Sources will include original plans, field survey and oral history.

Samantha McKay

[sammckay@one.net.au](mailto:sammckay@one.net.au)

Samantha is an Hons Archaeology student investigating demolition processes at Saumarez Homestead, near Armidale, NSW. Her aim is to determine if analysis of an artefact assemblage can identify an archaeological signature which differentiates between abandonment and demolition processes. This uses data from Graham Connah's excavation of the original 1840's homestead, known to have been demolished in 1888.

Lindsay Smith

[lindsaysmith@ozemail.com.au](mailto:lindsaysmith@ozemail.com.au)

Broadly, the purpose of Lindsay's PhD research is to establish, using historical archaeology, the place of the Chinese people of rural SE Australia in the 'Chinese diaspora' in Australia in the 19<sup>th</sup> century. More specifically, it aims to use historical records (for an indication of the social and economic activities and/or influences of the Chinese people at a number of locations, and establishing any relationship/interconnection between Chinese people here and overseas) and archaeology (by examining the structural history of Chinese settlement sites, and artefact analyses) to identify cultural and commercial connections of Chinese people in SE Australia in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and overseas, and to gain a better understanding of the lives of a little known minority ethnic group in Australia in this period.

Display and Power: An archaeological assessment of a German 8.8cm Flak 36.

David Pearson

[David.Pearson@nga.gov.au](mailto:David.Pearson@nga.gov.au)

A dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Bachelor of Arts (Honours) Department of Archaeology and Anthropology The Australian National University, Canberra.

**Abstract**

This thesis reports the results of an investigation of a gun from World War Two currently located in the collection of the Australian War Memorial, Canberra. The gun is a German 8.8cm Flak 36, alleged to have been captured at the battle of El Alamein in 1942. The investigation has two main aspects. The first is a non-destructive forensic analysis of the gun itself, investigating evidence for construction materials, manufacturers' marks, paint, graffiti and damage. This analysis includes visual examination of the construction, manufacturers' marks and graffiti, a scientific analysis of the paint using photomicrographs and Raman Imaging Microscopy, and a terminal ballistics examination of the damage patterns. The second is an account of the history of the gun using documentary sources.

The results of this examination show that many details of the provenance of the gun recorded by the Memorial are incorrect. This thesis provides a more accurate and comprehensive account of the gun's life history and also identifies its possible symbolic significance in its current display context.

In addition, this study ratifies the use of a methodology that combines both archaeological approaches (scientific analyses of the artefact) and historical approaches (research into primary and secondary sources) as a productive way of studying archaeological artefacts. It also demonstrates the contributions that archaeology can make to the important museological task of determining provenance. The elucidation of provenance, through detailed archaeological analyses, has also enabled this object to enhance our understanding of wartime history.

**Postgraduate theses - Flinders University**

Cassandra Philippou

[cassandraphilippou@yahoo.com](mailto:cassandraphilippou@yahoo.com)

Cultural Heritage Management Issues in



## ASHA PUBLICATIONS

### *Australasian Historical Archaeology*

	Members	Non-members
Volume 1	<i>out of print</i>	
Volumes 2- 13	\$10.00 each	\$12.00 each
Volume 14 (1996)	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 15 (1997)	\$18.00	\$22.00

### Major Publications

Birmingham, J., D. Bairstow, & A. Wilson (eds) \$26.00  
*Archaeology and Colonisation: Australia in the World Context, Papers from the Seventh Annual ASHA Conference.*

Birmingham, J. \$36.00  
*Wybalenna: The Archaeology of Cultural Accommodation in Nineteenth Century Tasmania.*

Lawrence, S. & M. Staniforth (eds) \$40.00  
*The Archaeology of Whaling in Southern Australia and New Zealand.*

Rogers, B. \$12.50  
*Nineteenth Century Salt Manufacturing Sites in Tasmania.*

### Occasional Papers

Maureen Byrne, *Ross Bridge, Tasmania.* \$6.00 each

Eleanor Crosby: *Survey and excavations at Fort Dundas, Melville Island, NT.*

Marjorie Graham: *Printed Ceramics in Australia.*

R.V.J. Varman: *The Marseilles or French Pattern Tile in Australia.*

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Journals—Occasional Papers add \$4.00 per item  
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Major publications add \$15.00 per item

## ASHA CONTACTS

ACT	Richard Morrison 25 Forbes Street, Turner, ACT 2612	ph: 02 6274 2133 W 02 6247 9574 H fax: 02 6274 2095 e-mail: <a href="mailto:richard.morrison@ea.gov.au">richard.morrison@ea.gov.au</a>
NSW	Jennie Lindbergh 23 Thomas Street, Darlington, NSW, 2008	ph: 02 9698 2417 e-mail: <a href="mailto:Jennie.Geoff@bigpond.com">Jennie.Geoff@bigpond.com</a>
NZ	Neville Ritchie Dept of Conservation, Private Bag 3072, Hamilton, NZ	ph: 0011 64 838 3363 e-mail: <a href="mailto:NRitchie@doc.govt.nz">NRitchie@doc.govt.nz</a>
NT	Clayton Fredericksen Dept of Anthropology, Northern Territory University Darwin, NT, 0909	ph: 08 8946 6865 fax: 08 8946 6955 email: <a href="mailto:clayton.fredericksen@ntu.edu.au">clayton.fredericksen@ntu.edu.au</a>
QLD	Gordon Grimwade PO Box 9, Yungaburra, QLD, 4872	ph: 07 4095 3737 fax: 07 4095 2117 e-mail: <a href="mailto:gga@internetnorth.com.au">gga@internetnorth.com.au</a>
SA	Pam Smith Dept of Archaeology, Flinders University PO Box 2100, Adelaide, SA 5001	ph/fax: 08 8278 8172 e-mail: <a href="mailto:smithric@tpgi.com.au">smithric@tpgi.com.au</a>
TAS	M. Jones Parks and Wildlife Tasmania PO Box 44A, Hobart, TAS 7001	ph: 03 6233 3840 fax: 03 6233 3477 e-mail: <a href="mailto:mickj@dpiwe.tas.gov.au">mickj@dpiwe.tas.gov.au</a>
VIC	Fiona Weaver 24 The Avenue, Belmont, Vic., 3216	ph: 03 5243 1462 e-mail: <a href="mailto:fjweaver@iname.com">fjweaver@iname.com</a>
WA	Alistair Paterson Archaeology, University of Western Australia Nedlands, WA 6907	ph: 08 9380 2867 fax: 08 9380 1023 e-mail: <a href="mailto:paterson@cyllene.uwa.edu.au">paterson@cyllene.uwa.edu.au</a>

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 30.4.2000  
Print Post Regulations No: PP24359/00114  
ISSN 0156-9295

ABN: 41 196 332 496

Box 220 Holme Building  
University of Sydney 2006  
Secretary: (02) 9558 6618

[www.archaeology.usyd.edu.au/ASHA/newsletter/news-1.html](http://www.archaeology.usyd.edu.au/ASHA/newsletter/news-1.html)

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## STATE OF THE ART

### ACT News

#### *Australian Heritage Commission*

##### **Cultural Heritage Projects Program (CHPP)**

This Commonwealth Government initiative provides financial assistance to support the conservation of places of national significance. The CHPP grants application period of the next round of is to be advertised nationally from 25 November 2000. The application period will end on 2 March 2001. The total funding is unknown at this stage but individual grants would be expected to be in the range \$10,000 to \$250,000. The funding will primarily and directly support conservation works to places of national significance, which can bring benefits beyond local, regional or state communities, and are able to be completed within 12-18 months after commencement.

For further information contact CHPP, Heritage Assistance and Projects Section, Department of the Environment and Heritage, GPO Box 787, Canberra, ACT 2601. Ph: 1800 653 004 Fax 02 6274 2092. Email: [haps@ea.gov.au](mailto:haps@ea.gov.au)

##### **National Cultural Heritage Forum (NCHF)**

In 1996 the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment reviewed arrangements for Ministerial consultation with conservation organisations and decided to establish a separate forum for those groups principally interested in cultural heritage issues. Membership of the National Cultural Heritage Forum includes non-government organisations representing interests such as engineering heritage, history, archaeology, architecture, museums and shipwrecks. Aedeon Cremin represents ASHA at the NCHF.

The NCHF met with the Minister Senator Robert Hill in Canberra on 9 November 2000 and Aedeon raised, inter alia, issues of concern to ASHA connected with industrial, rural and regional heritage. The next meeting was foreshadowed for April 2001.

#### *ACT Government Heritage Unit*

The Heritage Council of the ACT grants program for 2000-2001 includes a number of grants focusing on historical places and events. These are:

##### **Historic Pisé Places in the ACT**

This project proposes a study and report, and will include architectural advice, conservation strategies, and a checklist for conservation work.

##### **'Southern gold'**

This is the proposed title of an exhibition of photographs and artefacts demonstrating the life of Chinese people in the Canberra region (at Araluen, Major's Creek, Mongarlowe, Lambing Flat, Kiandra, Delegate and Nerrigundah goldfields, as well as in market gardening in Canberra) over the last 150 years. 2001 is the 150th anniversary of the discovery of gold in Australia. Themes include: the Chinese people as miners on the goldfields in the 19th Century; movement into other occupations; and contributions of specific families to the present day. The project has the support of the local Chinese community.

The exhibition will include information on descendants of these families now living in Canberra and will be at the Canberra Museum and Gallery for July-September 2001. The Australian Embassy in Beijing has been approached and given their 'in principle' support for displaying the exhibition at the Embassy.

Other grants are for Conservation Plans for: Ginninderra Blacksmiths Workshop, Duntroon Dairy, Rose Cottage, and Blythburn homestead.

For further information about these grants please phone the Council Secretariat on 02 6207 2417

#### *Australian Alps National Parks Cultural Heritage Working Group*

This Group is undertaking a number of projects relating to historical issues:

### Historic scientific sites in the Alps

This project will identify the key cultural heritage themes of scientific research that can be interpreted across the Alps parks (eg research sites relating to the effects of grazing, timber harvesting, arboreta, human induced change, etc)

- identify the sites which best demonstrate these themes
- formulate the interpretation message for promotion of these sites, including the significance of the sites in relation to the establishment of the parks.
- determine the most appropriate style of promotion for each theme of sites (signage, pamphlet, etc)
- identify any management issues relating to the sites and their promotion, such as visitor impact, interpretation issues, and suggest strategies to ameliorate these.

### Historic mining sites

The project involves the development of a strategy for consolidating all research information about mining in Alps and identifying places that should be presented to the public as to demonstrate the history and significance of mining throughout the Alps. The strategy would recommend a staged process for conserving and developing historic mining sites for visitor use. The project would provide directions for the development of Alpine historic mining sites suitable for use in celebrating the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Victorian Goldrushes in 2001.

For further information about these projects please phone Debbie Argue on 02 6207 2167.

*Richard Morrison*

### New South Wales News

Things seem to be pretty hectic in NSW at the moment – the pre-Christmas rush is on with frantic attempts to finish report writing and finalise projects. There has been a bit of people shuffling as well.

Nadia Iacono is currently on leave from Godden Mackay Logan, caring for Luc Pawal Czastka, and writing up the report on her work in the UAE.

Anna Wong left the NSW Department of Public Works Services to take the position of Collections: Centenary of Federation at the National Trust. She says she's very busy, but finding it very stimulating. Anna's move left a vacancy at the DPWS which has now been filled by Mac North, who left the Heritage Office in October to become the DPWS' Archaeologist in the Heritage Design Services section, a commercial consulting group operating within the Department. Current projects include archaeological test

excavations at Parramatta Hospital and work on the Conservatorium of Music Interpretation Plan, so he too is finding the move stimulating.

Mac's move to the DPWS has left his former position as an archaeologist at the Heritage Office up for grabs. Natalie Vinton, who is normally the archaeologist and heritage specialist for Sydney City Council has temporarily moved in to Mac's old desk, in order to lend a hand until the position is permanently filled.

Mac North will be going to the SHA conference in Long Beach in January and has committed to providing a Conference Review for the first quarter newsletter. Mac will be having a busy year as he hopes to upgrade to a PhD, and has also indicated an interest in organising the ASHA seminars for next year, so please be assured that these will re-commence in 2001.

No doubt someone will write a review of the ICOMOS Conference held on the weekend of 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> Nov. at Old Parliament House Canberra. The theme was World Heritage Listing, Management and Monitoring, so there was a lot of discussion about the potential listing of the Blue Mountains and the Opera House as World Heritage sites. The question of identification of intangible heritage was addressed in a number of papers, particularly one by Dawson Munjeri of Zimbabwe. Closer to home – mention was made of the implications of the EPBC Act and the National Estate – perhaps when things are clearer Richard Morrison could write something about what it all means. The "new improved" ICOMOS Burra Charter was also launched.

*Jennie Lindbergh*

### South Australia News

#### St. Mary's Cemetery

Excavations of the pauper's graves at St. Mary's Cemetery (in suburban St. Mary's) are currently in its second two-week field season. The first field season was held in 40+° heat in February this year. This second season is proving to be more enjoyable and productive - with the help of an excavator. An added incentive is the presence of the ABC Quantum team who are videoing all of the two week excavation. To find out more about the excavation look up Bill Adams on the Flinders University website:

[www.ehlt.flinders.edu.au/archaeology/](http://www.ehlt.flinders.edu.au/archaeology/)

#### Gubernatorial Residences in South Australia

*By Gordon Copland*

Having completed the 'Chinaman's Hut' project (ASHA Newsletter 30:3) priorities have now shifted to the current PhD work on settlement theory and South Australia's Government Houses. The thesis examines

the relationship between the Governors, their family, and entourage and the building and/or additions to the various residences. Continuing in a similar vein to the Honours project on Chinese in South Australia, consideration is being given to the transient nature of the Governor, the impact of transported ideologies on the landscape, and the nature of settlement theory. South Australia has something of an advantage when considering settlement theory in that it was a methodological experiment to test a theory of settlement proposed by Edward Gibbon Wakefield. As archaeologists we are familiar with such testing processes but it is questionable that we could get such an experiment in human dynamics past a board of ethics today. However as a case study this State's close relationship to settlement theory is quite unique and valuable. As regards the Governors, who built or adapted the residences, few who know South Australia will be surprised to find that the research has shown some interesting connections between them, the colonists, and a number of well known characters on the world stage. Much like Adelaide today almost everyone seemed to know or be connected in some way to everyone else. It is arguable that this close community or small town relationship is a remnant of the past however, as many of the original names still crop up today in the day to day affairs of this State this could be a possibility. The four major Government Houses, three of which remain today, plus other temporary residences provide a view of the questions of power and prestige displayed through buildings. The hunt for the exact location of the first Government House, known as Government Hut, which was destroyed by fire in 1841 still continues but it is not surprising that the buildings in existence would suggest to archaeologists certain values in terms of status, power, economic wealth, etc. However, having the advantage of written records, it is already proving, in some cases, simply to be a facade. Moreover it suggests that without the written word, regarding the ephemeral issues of politics, economics and social conditions, we must be extremely diligent in our deductions of status based on a structure's size, style, and place on the landscape. The final product of this work, apart from the thesis and theory development, will hopefully add to the archaeological connection to heritage in South Australia, bring to life part of the heritage of this State in which there is a growing interest, and at the same time provide opportunities to develop cultural/heritage tourism options. The combination of archaeology, heritage, and the Governor's Residences will, I am sure, be a winner in attracting public attention.

*Compiled by Pam Smith*

## Victoria News

### *Heritage Victoria*

#### Staff

It is with sadness that Heritage Victoria bids farewell to Shirley Strachan who has left Heritage Victoria to work in the Department of Infrastructure's Geelong Regional office. Shirley is looking forward to managing programs and projects for the Geelong and coastal region but will still take a keen interest in Maritime Archaeology in Victoria. Peter Harvey is currently acting manager of the Maritime Heritage Unit.

Annie Muir has recently started part time as the Curatorial/Technical Officer at Heritage Victoria. She will be responsible for the curation of the historical archaeology material excavated in Victoria for which a conservation bond has been required.

#### Excavations

The Maritime Unit has recently returned from three weeks of fieldwork at the *City of Launceston* site. The *City of Launceston* (1863 - 1865) was a 368-ton Clyde-built steamship from the small Scottish shipbuilding yard of Blackwood and Gordon. It was built to order for the fledgling Launceston and Melbourne Steam Navigation Company. Its early role in colonial steam shipping was the forerunner of the modern Bass Strait ferry service between Tasmania and Victoria.

For two years, and without incident, the *City of Launceston* carried passengers (it could accommodate 188), the Royal Mail and cargo across the Strait. On 19 November 1865 the vessel was under the command of Captain Thom. Within two hours of its 7.20pm departure from Melbourne to Launceston the ship was involved in a collision with the inbound *SS Penola* from Adelaide. The 25 passengers and 24 crew were rescued by the *Penola* before the *City of Launceston* sank by the stern.

Intact from the keel to the deck and sitting upright in a silty seabed in 21 metres of water, the shipwreck has been the subject of intensive archaeological investigations since 1997, with funding provided by the Heritage Council. A national team of maritime archaeological and conservation experts under the direction of Heritage Victoria's Maritime Heritage Unit has conducted a deck and silt survey, trial excavation, stabilisation and a full corrosion assessment of the ship's hull.

The *City of Launceston* has tremendous archaeological and scientific significance. The vessel is representative of a period in the steam trade and it was part of the flourish of activity stimulated by the Australian

colonies forging strong independent identities. The *City of Launceston* site is unique because of the extent of its structural integrity, and the substantial archaeological deposits it contains. It is the only steamship in Victoria (and possibly Australia) to have survived with such a degree of cohesion.

The recent excavation has revealed a site intact with an enormous amount of organic material still preserved. This will prove to be a challenge for the maritime archaeologists and conservators. During this season's fieldwork an assortment of the distinctive *City of Launceston* ceramics and a 2-meter long wooden table were raised from the wreck.

#### **Excavations in the Central City**

There was a noticeable slump in the amount of archaeological work being commissioned in the Melbourne central city area during the winter months. This may have been due to the introduction of the GST and to the reluctance of developers to work on site during the wet winter months. However, in the last few weeks a number of new excavation projects have been organised and it looks like archaeologists will soon be busy in the city. An excavation is planned on the Former Money Order Post Office site in Little Bourke Street, and two sites in Wills Street will also be excavated in the next few weeks.

The third phase of archaeological excavation in the Camp Street Precinct, Ballarat, will get underway around the end of January next year.

#### **Interpretation at Cohen Place**

Heritage Victoria is currently working with Deal Corporation to install a display of archaeological artefacts in the foyer of the new hotel. The artefacts were recovered during a six-week excavation conducted by Sarah Myers in 1999. The site is in Melbourne's Chinatown and was occupied from the 1840s to the 1960s. A large and varied collection of material was recovered during the excavation. While it is often hoped that developers will perceive that they could use the material from archaeological excavations as part of interpreting a place it is rare to have them seek to display some of the objects recovered from the site. Heritage Victoria hopes that Cohen Place can offer a model for developers to see it as a long-term advantage to them in undertaking archaeological work.

#### **Publications**

The Heritage Council has recently published Jane Harrington's *An Archaeological and Historical Overview of Limeburning in Victoria*. It is available for reading on the Heritage Council web site [www.heritage.vic.gov.au/Archaeology\\_limekilns.html](http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au/Archaeology_limekilns.html)

as a PDF file or in hardcopy for \$11.95 from the Planning Information Centre or Information Victoria.

Shirley Strachan's publication of the *City of Launceston Silts in the Sight Glass: Protectors and Raiders of the SS City of Launceston 1863-1865* is also available from the Planning Information Centre or Information Victoria at \$22.00.

Heritage Victoria has also recently released draft *Guidelines for the Assessment of Heritage Planning Applications*. They are available from the Planning Information Centre or Information Victoria for \$5.50. They can also be viewed at the Heritage Council web site:

[http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au/heritage\\_planning\\_app\\_index.html](http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au/heritage_planning_app_index.html)

The Draft Guidelines have been designed to provide assistance in assessing planning and development applications for heritage places. The guidelines could also assist owners of heritage places to determine what may be acceptable in the development of their heritage place.

Planning Information Centre  
Department of Infrastructure  
Upper Plaza Level at Nauru House  
80 Collins Street, Melbourne  
Victoria, Australia 3000  
Telephone (03) 9655 8830  
Fax: (03) 9655 8847  
Email: [planning.info@doi.vic.gov.au](mailto:planning.info@doi.vic.gov.au)

Information Victoria  
356 Collins Street  
Melbourne, Victoria  
Australia 3000  
Telephone: 1300 366 356 or 613 9603 9900 for international callers  
Fax: (03) 96039920  
<http://www.information.vic.gov.au/bookshop/index.html>

*Leah McKenzie and Jeremy Smith*

#### **West Australia News**

##### **Old Farm on Strawberry Hill, Albany**

Archaeological work has begun at the Old Farm on Strawberry Hill, Albany by Amy Gardos, a postgraduate student at the Centre for Archaeology, University of Western Australia. The site has exceptional significance due to the age of the settlement and historical individuals associated with the site. The site is one of the earliest pioneer farms in the state, being established in 1827. It was here that the first wheat was grown in the west (1831). The

farm was established in relation to the small military encampment that was established in King George Sound from Sydney in December 1826. Fieldwork will be undertaken by Gardos during the first fortnight in February 2001.

Two honours theses in historical archaeology were recently submitted to the Centre for Archaeology, University of Western Australia.

Rapley, Stuart. 2000. Lake Coogee: A comparative analysis of the archaeological records of two cottages at Lake Coogee, Western Australia.

Flemming, Kristal. 2000. The construction of a glass bottle typology for the Swan River region: In relation to bottles excavated from sites associated with the period 1830-1908.

*Alistair Paterson*

#### Consultants

This is only a partial accounting as it relates mainly to the work of my consultancy and to those people I have been working with. Conservation plans still appear to dominate historical archaeological work in WA with all but three of the projects being either for conservation plans, adjuncts to conservation plans or the result of conservation plans. I know of only one project related to conservation works on a standing building this year – Fiona Bush's excavation at Fremantle Prison.

Fiona reports that the aim of the excavation was to determine the original levels in the prison yard near the gates prior to conservation works on the gates. Unfortunately she discovered a buried Telecom cable had wiped out every thing of interest in the area. A secondary aim was to determine the original surface finishes of the gates and she was able to take paint scrapes and determine the original colour scheme.

Archaeological surveys for conservation plans have been conducted by myself at Thomas River Homestead, Guildford Town Hall, Albany Fish Ponds and Mundaring Weir. Thomas River Homestead is east of Esperance. Two standing buildings and four small stone ruins had been located prior to fieldwork commencing. Aerial photographic analysis indicated that the main activity area around the homestead extended for approximately 200 metres and 11 other previously unidentified sites or groups of sites were identified during fieldwork. These sites included former buildings, yards, paddocks and a series of very early dams. The standing buildings were examined for evidence of construction techniques, fixtures and

fittings and dating the nails helped define the date of construction.

When built the homestead was at the extreme edge of the southwestern frontier, initially settled forty years before at the Swan River. Lessons learnt in the focal area would have been brought to the new region but the remoteness and different agricultural conditions at Esperance would have forced further adaptations of the mixed farming regime originally brought to the Swan River. The history and archaeology of the homestead and its pastoral leases are therefore an ideal place to study these adaptations.

Fiona Bush also undertook a conservation plan of a homestead, that of Long Homestead at Coorow. Also a frontier site settled in 1860, the archaeological survey found the remains of the homestead, barn, 2 wells and 2 graves. The local shire is keen to incorporate the site into a heritage walk and the site has great archaeological potential for research incorporating a public archaeology element to raise the profile of historical archaeology in this state.

Guildford Town Hall is partly built over the site of the Guildford Convict Station therefore consideration of this was incorporated into the conservation plan. The commissariat store is still standing next to the town hall and the archaeological survey was of the car park between the two buildings. A metal detector survey isolated several patches of signals that corresponded to the locations of former convict depot buildings.

Albany Fish Ponds is another convict built site. It is a series of three ponds dug into a stream for the first official pisciculture enterprise in WA. The area around the ponds was also planted out as a botanical garden. The archaeological survey found some evidence of these planting and was able to determine that the lower fishpond and the wall between it and the middle pond had been little altered. The top pond was replaced by a town reservoir in 1888; the reservoir being an historic site in its own right was also close to original condition.

An archaeological survey of the Mundaring Weir precinct (No. 1 pumping station) was undertaken as part of the precinct conservation plan. The survey identified industrial sites associated with pumping water and raising the height of the dam wall in the 1940s. Part of the original turn of the century construction camp, the 1940s construction camp, and sites associated with resident water workers were also identified. The survey also forms part of a larger survey of sites associated with the Perth to Kalgoorlie water pipeline that is being undertaken by Fiona Bush and myself. Surveys of No. 2 pumping station and the Mt Charlotte reservoir identified both technological

and domestic sites within the precincts. Early gold mines were also found to have survived in the protected area around Mt Charlotte. The archaeological surveys are part of the Golden Pipeline project being undertaken by the National Trust (WA). The Trust plans to conserve and interpret the pipeline over a 10 year period and it is planned to incorporate archaeology into both the management and interpretation of the pipeline.

Other projects of note were a survey of two historic homesteads in the Pilbara for Hamersley Iron. This is the first time the management of historic sites has been investigated by a Pilbara mining company. Excavation of buried Chinese gardens at Robertson Reserve located evidence of cultivation under over a metre of bricks used to fill the old lakebed. Evidence of cultivation methods by both the Chinese market gardener and an earlier colonial farmer were uncovered. Historical research, archaeological survey, monitoring and eventual excavation in the former Busselton locomotive yard uncovered evidence for two different yards complete with their own loco sheds. The original yards and loco shed were excavated and recorded and the evidence will be incorporated into the new Justice precinct.

A monitoring project at Perth Oval, undertaken with the assistance of Sally McGann and Ambika Flavel also found evidence of previously unknown structures and located two historically known structures on the opposite side of the oval to where they were expected. The project also uncovered a turn of the century rubbish dump that could be associated with one of the structures, the 1909 refreshment rooms. The artefacts indicated the refreshment rooms were not using heavy utilitarian ware or a unifying motif or decoration for their tableware.

Perth Oval is also built over a former lake. There is a series of such lakes under Northbridge and surrounding areas. All were drained early, used for market gardening then filled and built over. The work I have carried out indicates that the lake banks are under over a metre of fill, while the lakebeds are lower than 3.2 metres. The lake areas are all currently interim listed on the Aboriginal Sites register as it is thought Aboriginal people probably camped around them before the contact period.

There are provisions in place in WA for dealing with historic sites on Aboriginal sites and section 16 or section 18 permits are needed. However the work undertaken on the two lake areas indicates that these extensive sites across a built up metropolitan area appear to be causing an administrative problem. The sites are so extensive that some sort of disturbance by the shire, main roads or householders is going on most

of the time. The people doing the disturbances are often not told they are disturbing an interim listed area. On both projects archaeology was included at the last minute and for historical archaeological reasons, the project managers had no idea they were working on interim listed sites.

Seeking permits for every disturbance that occurs in these areas would no doubt jam the system solid therefore there appears to be a practice of just going ahead and hoping the local Aboriginal population does not complain. I have written letters to the relevant people asking that a reasonable due process is ironed out for these areas, one that caters for the fact that the prehistoric layers are deeply buried and unlikely to be impacted on by the majority of disturbances. My request has not gotten very far and disturbances continue in the same fashion with the same risks of prosecution to those involved.

After working on Perth Oval with me Ambika, who is a forensic archaeologist spent two months working on war graves in Bosnia. She is now back in Perth after a quick look around Europe after fieldwork.

*Gaye Nayton*

#### **THE LAKE INNES PROJECT: Past, Present, Future**

A second season of excavations was completed in August and September at the Lake Innes site complex, near Port Macquarie, NSW. Non-invasive archaeological investigations commencing in 1993 were published in 1997 (Connah ed. *The archaeology of Lake Innes House*) and 1998 (Connah *Historical Archaeology* 32(2): 7-27), and a three-year programme of excavations started in 1999. The Lake Innes Estate, most of which is now owned by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service, was one of the more ambitious creations of Major Archibald Clunes Innes, who lived there during the 1830s and 1840s, and after whom Glen Innes on the New England Tablelands is named. Subsequently it became something of a white elephant and gradually deteriorated, its buildings being abandoned by the beginning of the twentieth century. The complex now consists of the brick ruins of a grand mansion, associated stables, and servants' cottages, as well as the sites of a servants' village, four brickmaking yards, a boathouse, a home farm, and a corduroy road. This collection of sites provides a good opportunity to investigate the archaeology of socio-economic differences between, at one end of the scale, the family in the big house and, at the other end, the assigned servants in their modest huts. The excavation

programme is part of a research project funded by the Australian Research Council.

In 1999 excavations were carried out on the bathroom-latrines-boilerhouse area of Lake Innes House itself, revealing a sophisticated plumbing system with piped water and flush toilets, the latter fitted with blue-and-white transfer-printed bowls made by the prestigious firm of Wedgwood in Britain. Lindsay Smith supervised this excavation, while David Pearson looked after the excavation of a two-room living unit in a servants' cottage block near the stables. At the same time Terry Moore ran the excavation of an ephemeral living structure in the servants' village near the edge of Lake Innes. Both structural and artefactual evidence from these three excavations suggested a considerable range of social and economic conditions, not just between the Innes family and their servants but also between the servants themselves. More details about the 1999 excavations will be found in *Newsletter* 30(1): 4-5.

This year more excavation was undertaken in the big house but in its public rooms area. The front door and entrance hall were investigated, along with the walls of adjacent rooms and part of the back veranda, providing a transect through the main wing of the house from front to back. Supervised by Rod Mountford, this work provided valuable structural and artefactual evidence, as well as confirmation of the destruction by fire, which is said to have taken place in the early 1900s. Further work was also done in the village site, where Liz White supervised the excavation of another living structure, of a somewhat more substantial character than that investigated in 1999. More brick had been used, although mainly for a chimney base and for exterior paving, and the artefactual evidence suggested a slightly higher standard of living. Even better conditions were indicated by the third excavation, however, which was conducted in the southwest gatehouse of the stables. Supervised by Paul Rheinberger, with the assistance of Ross Gam, this indicated that some of the stable-workers, although housed in a very limited space, had rather more comfort than the village dwellers. Whether these differences were between assigned servants and free wage-earning servants remains unclear at this stage.

Participants in this year's excavations included students from Sydney University, the Australian National University, the University of New England, and Uppsala University, Sweden, as well as a number of other volunteers most of whom were already graduates in archaeology. The excavations lasted four weeks and were followed by three weeks of primary analysis, during which all the excavated artefacts were

subjected to initial examination and photography, and some conservation work was carried out.

Excavations will continue in 2001, again examining three sites of contrasting socio-economic background, one of them probably the home farm. The dates will be from Saturday 4 August to Sunday 2 September for the excavation; followed by a period of post-excavation analysis until 23 September. Target average numbers for participants will be 20-25 per day during the excavation and 8-10 per day during the analysis. Accommodation will be provided free of charge, in shared holiday apartments (all cooking etc equipment provided) but participants will have to meet the costs of their food and transportation. For those without their own transport, there are both rail and bus services to Port Macquarie as well as an air service, and other participants can usually offer help with daily transport to and from the site (which is only 11 kilometres from Port Macquarie). Anyone interested in participating in the Lake Innes Project (and 2001 will be its last year of excavation) should contact me at the Department of Archaeology and Anthropology, Faculty of Arts, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200, or by telephone/fax 02 6288 9105, or (best of all) by e-mail: <graham.connah@effect.net.au>. Preference will be given to those willing to make a firm commitment for at least two weeks. One week will be a minimum, because volunteers coming for shorter or broken periods of time are likely neither to learn much nor contribute much to the success of the research project. For those with professional ambitions, it is particularly important to experience the whole process of an excavation from beginning to end and it is hoped that a few participants may be able to do this.

I would be pleased to hear from interested students of any university and from interested members of the public. Previous experience of excavation is not required, although those who have such experience will be particularly welcome, as will anyone particularly interested in the analysis period rather than the excavation itself.

*Graham Connah*

#### NEWS FROM THE SECRETARY

**Studies in Victoria's Goldfield Heritage: The Mount Alexander Diggings, 1851-1901.**

**AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT POSTGRADUATE AWARDS (APAI) IN HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY.**

The Australian Research Council recently announced three-year funding support (2001-03) for a cross-disciplinary research project on the Mount Alexander Diggings in central Victoria. 'The Mount' is widely regarded as the greatest shallow alluvial goldfield in world history, and today the Mount Alexander Shire contains the largest assemblage of gold mining artefacts in Australia.

The project partners are: Department of History, University of Melbourne; Department of Archaeology, La Trobe University; Chinese Museum, Melbourne (Museum of Chinese Australian History); Mount Alexander Diggings Committee.

The new SPIRT project will study social life on the goldfield from discovery in 1851 until Federation (1901). Particular attention will be paid to Chinese miners and settlers, who comprised the largest group of non-British immigrants on the goldfields. The research team will build upon heritage surveys undertaken by David Bannear between 1993-99 for the Department of Natural Resources and the Environment, and archaeological and historical research funded by the Australian Research Council during 2000 (including the survey of approximately 300 miners' habitation sites).

Two Australian Government Postgraduate Awards (APAI) for PhD research will be offered. One PhD scholarship will be offered in history, the other in historical archaeology. These scholarships will be provided at the highest rate of the Australian Postgraduate Award range. Scholarship rates are indexed annually. Contributions towards relocation and other expenses are provided for. Applicants should normally have at least a four-year honours degree in history or archaeology. Applicants for the PhD in historical archaeology should also demonstrate a familiarity with historical archaeology, and field experience in excavation and survey methods. Full details about entry requirements and facilities for postgraduate study at the two partner universities are available from:

The School of Graduate Studies at the University of Melbourne:  
<http://www.unimelb.edu.au/research/sgs/>

The Research and Graduate Studies Office at La Trobe University:  
<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/www/rgso/>

The successful applicants will participate in a team that is committed to integrating history with archaeology (involving close research collaboration between the University of Melbourne and La Trobe University); the channelling of this research in support

of a significant national museum (the Museum of Chinese Australian History); and the practical expression of its findings through community-history activities within the Mount Alexander Shire (co-ordinated by the Mount Alexander Diggings Committee).

The project team welcomes enquiries from potential applicants. Email addresses and telephone numbers for members of the team are included below.

The Team Leader is:

Associate Professor Alan Mayne (Department of History, the University of Melbourne).  
Email: [a.mayne@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:a.mayne@unimelb.edu.au).  
Tel: (03) 8344 5975.

The other Chief Investigators are:

Dr Susan Lawrence (Senior Lecturer, Department of Archaeology, La Trobe University).  
Email: [s.lawrence@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:s.lawrence@latrobe.edu.au).  
Tel: (03) 9479 1790.

Paul Macgregor (Curator, Museum of Chinese Australian History).  
Email: [mcah@vicnet.net.au](mailto:mcah@vicnet.net.au).  
Tel: (03) 9662 2888.

David Bannear (Regional Archaeologist, Parks Victoria & Heritage Victoria).  
Email: [david.bannear@doi.vic.gov.au](mailto:david.bannear@doi.vic.gov.au).  
Tel: (03) 5434 5150.

The application procedure, and a closing date for receipt of applications, will be announced as soon as possible.

#### ASHA PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2000

The decentralisation of the Committee away from Sydney presented some new challenges but these were largely overcome through the use of teleconferences and e-mailings particularly between the Executive members. In addition to meetings of the outgoing and incoming Council during the Bendigo conference, teleconference meetings were held in November 1999, and February, May, July and October 2000. However, there is a cost, a one hour teleconference involving Australian based Committee members costs the Association c\$150; but as soon as New Zealand is connected (i.e. the call goes international) the cost doubles. As a consequence of this, I limited my participation to every second teleconference. Not a 100% satisfactory solution but one I felt was necessary in view of our financial situation. One outcome of holding teleconferences is that the meetings are over

quickly. I aim to knock them off in no more than one hour. However, there is some good news in this area, I understand Telstra is changing the system, so that participants will ring in to a number, and this will greatly reduce the costs of future teleconferences.

Major issues dealt with during the year (some took all year) included:

- We registered ASHA for GST in April 2000 after evaluating the pros & cons of the move. At this point in time I have reservations that we made the right move (but more on that later).
- After a somewhat protracted process, in September we appointed the ASHA Editorial Board. Eight persons were sought but after receiving nine good nominations, the Council opted to appoint all nine for a 3-year tenure. The appointees are: Dr Susan Lawrence, Prof Tim Murray, Dr Iain Stuart, Prof Graham Connah, Dr Clayton Fredericksen, Dr Sarah Colley, Prof David Carment, Penny Crook and Dr Eleanor Casella. The current ASHA President is also automatically on the Board.
- In September Iain Stuart and Penny Cook were confirmed as General Editor and Assistant Editor of AHA for a 3-year tenure. I would like to personally thank Iain and Penny for taking on this challenge. It is a big one, and it involves far more than just the mechanics of editing and conferring with referees etc. As long as I can remember there has been a barely adequate supply of papers for each issue of the Journal, so there is considerable pressure on editors to maintain the desired standard (ie. not accept papers which are sub-standard just to make up the numbers).
- A continuing shortage of papers for the Journal is a major problem and it is by no means solely the editors concern or responsibility. If we are to have a vibrant appealing journal it beholds on all of us, including the Editorial Board members, to promote and write for the Journal. This year Ian and Sarah Colley, as guest editors, opted to produce a slim edition in order to keep on track. To maintain the size and quality of the Journal in 2001 and beyond it is imperative that many of the presenters at this and future conference offer their papers for publication in the Journal.
- One source of concern to Iain was what he called competing publications, particularly the planned volume of thematic papers, edited by myself) arising from the Chinese Heritage workshop held in Sydney in February. At the time the Committee gave support in principle to the Chinese volume, we were mistakenly under the impression that the Journal editors had more than enough copy for this year's Journal. We now know this was not the situation. So where does this leave us? The Committee feel there is a demand for and a place for occasional ASHA thematic volumes such as the Whaling & the Chinese volumes, despite the possible loss of papers to the Journal. However, as a rule of thumb, the Committee in future will not support the publication of mixed non-thematic volumes of papers presented at conferences, including this one, unless the Journal has a backlog of papers to publish. A number of other changes have been mooted for the Journal including the publication of short reports. I will leave Iain to address these issues, but personally I have some reservations about too many short reports appearing in the journal. To me, by definition an archaeology journal article is a well-researched paper of 8 to 16 pages in length and short papers are more Newsletter material. However, the issue has yet to be considered by the Editorial Board. The Committee would appreciate feedback on this matter.
- In October the Committee, supported by Iain in his Editor capacity, adopted the key tenets of the draft Journal Style Guidelines prepared by Susan Lawrence a couple of years back. The major point is the adoption of the Harvard system for references in future.
- As a cost saving measure the feasibility of distributing our Newsletter via email was examined, but rejected on the grounds that many of our members are not on-line, and at the last AGM a majority of those present indicted they would prefer to receive a hard copy. However, if ASHA is seriously strapped for funds in future, the question of having an email or Web-based Newsletter will undoubtedly be tabled again.
- At the last AGM Council was directed to consider producing a publication on Standards and Guidelines in Historical Archaeology. This proposal was sidelined when Sarah Colley who put up the proposal decided to follow her own research interests in this topic.
- Discussions were held with AIMA during the year with regard to holding a joint conference with them on Norfolk Island in 2002. AIMA (at least the AIMA Executive) were not keen on the proposal, so we reverted to plan B: a joint conference with AIMA in Townsville in 2002, followed by an ASHA conference on Norfolk in

2003 organised by Neville Ritchie and Mark Staniforth.

- During the year Aedeon Cremin put the finishing touches to "1901" (earlier known as the Commonwealth Book) which will be launched here later in the week. This has been a marathon effort by Aedeon and I would like to congratulate and thank her on behalf of ASHA. Aedeon was ably assisted by Penny Crook. This volume was externally funded and will return a profit to ASHA.
- Not only was the Bendigo conference, one of the best, it also made a profit of c\$1800. As I said last year the onus is all our future conference organisers to aim to avoid running their conferences at a loss because with a fairly static membership, the Association just simply cannot afford to subsidise the conferences. The easiest way to avoid making a loss is to budget conservatively with the intention of making a profit, albeit small. However, the Council will continue to assist conference organisers by advancing funds to cover pre-conference costs.
- The possibility of hosting one of the annual SHA meetings in Australia was discussed during the year, without any real resolve to pursue the matter in the near future. It was felt that such a large conference would need to be organised by a professional conference organiser, the Council was unaware of any of our members who had the time or inclination to organise the event, and the upfront costs could probably only be met by loaning funds.
- In February, a highly successful Workshop on the Overseas Chinese in Australasia was held at UNSW in Sydney. The workshop was organised by Prof Henry Chan, assisted by Kate Bagnall and Anna Wong. It included three sessions of special interest to ASHA members - the Chinese Heritage Review by P Bell, G Grimwade & J McCarthy, a workshop on Chinese Graves and Temples and a more general Archaeology of the Chinese symposium. The conference will result in two publications, one being the thematic historical archaeology volume I mentioned earlier. However, although the intention was to get it out this year, virtually all the contributors and the editor have been so over-committed this year, that it is unlikely to appear before mid 2001. A further major complication is that our application to the Ian Potter Foundation for funding to publish the volume failed on a technicality- ASHA is not a 'deductible gift recipient' and therefore the application was declined by the IPF. It would be a

sad day, but in the event that we cannot get outside funding to publish the volume (we need c\$10,000), I propose to can it and ask the contributors to offer their papers to the Journal.

- Eleanor Casella has promoted and offered to edit another thematic volume on Penitentiaries. As I've said the Committee supports the production of thematic volumes in principle, but in each instance in future we will assess their likely impact on the flow of papers to the Journal. One thing is certain: the majority of the funds required for thematic volumes will have to come from external sources. With our present funds, we have little left over after meeting the costs of publish our Journal and Newsletters.
- Newsletter and Journal printing costs are now totalling over \$10000/annum (to put it in perspective that's the equivalent of 250 ordinary memberships at \$40 a shot). The year 2000 Journal will cost c\$13,000.
- During the year Council moved to fund \$100 towards the cost of a HA/cultural heritage workshop in S.A. but also declined requests to fund the cost of interstate speakers at public lecture series. We simply don't have the spare funds.
- Election Matters. At this AGM you will be presented with a draft of a series of amendments to the Constitution to remove the need for postal voting by substituting having a vote (if necessary) at the AGM and allowing proxy & postal votes. Postal ballots are extremely unwieldy and costly, and successive Committees have rightly done their best to avoid them.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to the outgoing Committee (many of whom will continue to serve). It may be not the done thing to single out individuals but I'd especially like to acknowledge the contribution of Rowan Ward, our Secretary, who really does keep the show on the road, in no small part due to the institutional memory she has built up over many years service to ASHA. I'd also like to thank Charles Brackenridge, our Treasurer, who was cruising along until we registered for GST and with the extra work and hassles that has involved his life has never been the same since.

I'd also like to acknowledge Mary Casey's contribution. Mary was Guest Editor of the 1999 volume of AHA. Not only did she do a great job, she got it out in the year of issue. Iain Stuart and Sarah Colley took on the year 2000 Journal, and as I've mentioned Iain and Penny Crook have been appointed

as General Editor & Assistant Editor of the Journal for a 3-year term.

Ross Gam produced our Newsletters during the year, but the burden was shared with four members who acted in the capacity of Guest Editors for each issue: Susan Lawrence (December) Mac North (March), Wayne Johnson (June), Mark Staniforth (Sept) and Rick McGovern-Wilson is putting together the December 2000 issue. Tracey Ireland took on the role of Reviews Editor and I presume there will be some of her handiwork appearing in the year 2000 journal.

We are all here because a team of AIMA and ASHA members, known as the COC (Conference Organising Committee) have organised the conference here in Adelaide. As those who have organised conferences know, they are big events and very demanding of ones time, and the situation is more complicated when two Associations are trying to run a joint conference. Although its early days yet, from what I've seen so far, this promises to be a great conference, and I'd like to thank everyone involved in its organisation. The Committee has received the odd comment questioning the benefits and costs of joint conferences and ASHA's role in them. If anyone has any views on this matter they might like to raise them in General Business, or perhaps in a more measured way by submission to the Committee. We are scheduled to have another joint conference with AIMA in Townsville in 2002. If it's not what members want or there are specific grizzles about the organisation of the joint conferences we need to address these issues and take up them up promptly with AIMA to resolve them.

On a sadder note, in September, one of our longest serving members, Ilma Powell passed away. For many years Ilma served the Association as Treasurer and Secretary. Compared with many of you, I did not know Ilma well but I always enjoyed her warm and friendly personality. Graham Connah has kindly offered to say a few words in her memory.

To conclude, I've dwelled on the Association's finances a bit more than usual. I'd like to stress the Association is by no means in financial strife, but with substantially increased printing costs, we do have to keep a tight rein on expenses to maintain our present projects, without raising subs substantially, a move which would probably be counter-productive.

*Neville Ritchie, President, November 2000*  
[nevalex@wave.co.nz](mailto:nevalex@wave.co.nz)  
[nritch@doc.govt.nz](mailto:nritch@doc.govt.nz)

### Newsletter via email

ASHA is planning to make the 2001 editions of the Newsletter available via email- in an effort to cut back on production and postage costs. Any member who wishes to receive the Newsletter via email, beginning with the March 2001 issue, should let the ASHA Secretary know asap at the address below (no later than February 2001):

ASHA Secretary: [Rowan.Ward@bigpond.com](mailto:Rowan.Ward@bigpond.com)

## FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

### NZ Archaeological Association 2001 Conference

The 2001 Conference will be held in Akaroa (Banks Peninsula, Canterbury) from the 30 May to 3 June 2001.

The Conference will be centred on the Akaroa Village Inn, which provides a conference venue and catering service based around accommodation facilities. The conference venue is the former Akaroa Boating Club, an ambient historic building jutting out over the harbour waters next to the Akaroa wharf.

The Akaroa Village Inn offers a range of accommodation - from \$40 to \$72.50 a night, per person, on a twinshare basis. Additional people in a unit cost \$15 per night. As Akaroa is geared to tourism, there are a host of other accommodation options ranging from the local pub, cabins and campsites, backpackers and motels, to luxury bed and breakfast establishments - all within walking distance of the venue.

A shuttle service from Christchurch airport will be organised for delegates.

Proposed conference schedule:

Wed 30 May Fieldtrip; a cruise on the 'Canterbury Cat' to look at some of the natural and human history around Akaroa Harbour.

Shuttle available to meet the last flight, Christchurch airport.

Evening - Wine and cheese and registration.

Thurs 31 May Workshops

Fri 1 June Papers and AGM

Sat 2 June Fieldtrip - walking tour of the local historic precinct in the morning.

Papers - afternoon

Conference dinner

Sun 3 June Fieldtrip – returning to Akaroa in time to meet shuttle for last flight

Costs are expected to be about \$100, with the possibility of a cheaper student registration fee.

There will be a mailout of conference details early in the New Year. For further information in the meantime contact:

Kath Prickett, Auckland War Memorial Museum,  
Private Bag 92018, Auckland.  
phone (09) 309 0443,  
e-mail [kprickett@akmuseum.org.nz](mailto:kprickett@akmuseum.org.nz)

Call for Papers: NZAA Conference, Akaroa, 31 May – 2 June 2001

Proposals for papers on any aspect of archaeology in New Zealand are welcome.

Papers on Pacific archaeology, world archaeology or archaeological theory or method that may be of interest or relevance to the NZ archaeological community are also welcome. Proposals for sessions on particular topics or for poster presentations may be submitted as well.

Paper titles and abstracts of no more than 200 words should be submitted on or before 2 April 2001 to:

Mary O’Keeffe  
56 View Road  
Melrose  
Wellington  
Ph (04) 934-3837, Fax (04) 934-3836  
Email: [mary.okeeffe@paradise.net.nz](mailto:mary.okeeffe@paradise.net.nz)

Wherever possible, please submit abstracts in electronic form, preferably within the body of an email message. For a session proposal, please also nominate a willing session chair.

There will be a cash prize of \$150 awarded for the best student paper.

#### FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS

The ASHA Newsletter is produced quarterly with the assistance of guest editors. The 2001 guest editors are:

March Jennie Lindberg  
email: [Jennie.Geoff@bigpond.com](mailto:Jennie.Geoff@bigpond.com)

June Jeremy Smith  
email: [jeremy.smith@doi.vic.gov.au](mailto:jeremy.smith@doi.vic.gov.au)

Sept Rick McGovern-Wilson

email: [rmcgwilson@historic.org.nz](mailto:rmcgwilson@historic.org.nz)

Dec Aedeon Cremin  
email: [aedeenc@bigpond.com](mailto:aedeenc@bigpond.com)

In order to facilitate a more efficient newsletter production, all contributions should be forwarded to the e-mail address of your state rep by the second week of the month prior to circulation. See the last page of the *Newsletter* for contact details.

The guest editors are asked to finalise the newsletter in the third week of the month prior to circulation. Final copy must reach the General Editor, (Ross Gam), by the final week of the month prior to circulation.

This is your newsletter and your contributions are vital. Please check deadlines diligently. Your efficiency will be greatly appreciated. I look forward to your forthcoming news of events.

Ross Gam  
General Editor  
ASHA Newsletter  
email: [agam@turboweb.net.au](mailto:agam@turboweb.net.au)  
Post: “Allambie Heights”  
Forest Road  
Tamworth NSW 2340  
Phone: 02 67618061

#### EDITORIAL

As guest editor I get to have the final word.

First – I want to thank those state reps and others who managed to (eventually) send me copy for the Newsletter, but it was only after quite a bit of prompting. For many members the Newsletter is their only avenue for finding out what is happening in the historic archaeology world in Australasia and so it would nice to provide them with that overview on a quarterly basis. It is not a very onerous task – just a matter of ringing around and compiling some notes, but it is important. I will be doing another issue in 2001 and I hope I don’t have to repeat this message.

Second – no doubt there will eventually be a serious review of ASHA Conference, but I want to thank the organisers for an excellent time. There was the usual mix of good and other papers, and a seemingly endless supply of social events. Highlights to be noted include: a certain colleague who climbed over the wrong wall on his way back to the college, but got a lift home as a result; “e type jazz” playing at the Oxford and Royal Oak pubs; Callum’s lid typology from Kormode St (he does have a future as an historic archaeologist!); the ‘Conehead TV’ at the Royal Oak, and having the other Adelaide Cathedral (The Oval) just across the road from the venue.

## PROPOSAL TO CHANGE VOTING FOR COUNCIL

The following is a preliminary notice of a motion that will be moved at a Special General Meeting of the Association during the first half of 2001. The purpose of the motion is to replace the present unwieldy system of postal voting for Council elections with a ballot conducted during the Annual General Meeting. Members are asked to familiarise themselves with the proposals, to ask questions if there are aspects of the proposal that they want clarified and to make any suggestions they think appropriate. The proposed process is as follows:

Clause	Background to and Terms of Amending Provision
17.	[The present form of cl 17 provides that the National Committee comprises the <i>President</i> , two <i>Vice-Presidents</i> , the <i>Treasurer</i> and the <i>Honorary Secretary</i> , with four ordinary <i>Members</i> who may be appointed to the subsidiary offices of <i>Assistant Secretary</i> , <i>Newsletter Editor</i> , <i>Publications Office</i> and <i>Publicity Officer</i> . The <i>Journal Editor</i> is <i>ex officio</i> a member of the National Committee. <u>The Constitution does not appear to contain any provision empowering the National Committee, or the members in Annual General Meeting, to co-opt additional members to the National Committee.</u>
ction:	In cl 17., after 'ex officio.', insert the words 'At any ordinary meeting of the National Committee, by an ordinary resolution of those participating in the meeting either personally or electronically, the National Committee may co-opt as an ordinary member of the National Committee any member qualified to hold office either for the term of office of the National Committee or for any shorter time and to serve in office either generally or for any specific purpose or task.'
24.	[Nominations for office are specified to close NO MORE THAN TWO MONTHS BEFORE the AGM so that no alteration is required here].
30.	[The present cl 30. requires that, if the number of nominations for any position exceeds the number required to be elected to a position, that a postal ballot be conducted].
Action:	In cl 30., delete the words 'with voting...annual general meeting' and insert in lieu '...by a secret ballot to be conducted of all members who are qualified to vote and who are present in person or by proxy or by attorney at the Annual General Meeting of the Association.'
31.	[In the present cl 31., part of subcl. (d) and all of subcl. (e) and (f) relate exclusively to the conduct of a postal ballot. In this context:]
Action: *1	In cl 31., subcl. (d) delete the words 'Such directions...despatched to the members.'
Action: *2	In cl 31., delete subcl. 31.(e) and 31.(f) and insert in lieu:  31.(e) The chairperson of the Annual General Meeting shall call upon the Returning Officer to conduct the election of the National Committee and for that purpose only the Returning Officer shall chair the meeting. At the conclusion of the election the Returning Officer shall forthwith call upon the Chairman to resume the chair of the meeting.  31.(f) During the conduct of the election of the National Committee the Returning Officer may call for and may appoint up to three volunteers from the floor of the meeting to assist in distributing and gathering ballot papers and as tellers and recorders for the counting of votes provided that; [i] office-bearers and/or members and/or candidates for any position on the National Committee shall be ineligible as volunteers; [ii] the Returning Officer shall direct and supervise the activities of volunteers.
32.	[The present cl 32. relates solely to the procedure to be followed by the returning officer in the conduct of a postal ballot.]
Action:	Delete the present clause 32. <i>in toto</i> and insert in lieu:  32. Prior to the commencement of the Annual General Meeting the Returning Officer shall have compiled a register of all members of the association who are qualified to vote in the election of the National Committee and shall notify any person in attendance at the Annual General Meeting who is not qualified to vote. The Returning Officer shall:  (a) ensure that the number of ballot papers distributed for any ballot is equal to the number of members qualified to vote who are present at the Annual General Meeting either in person or by proxy or by attorney; (b) authenticate each ballot paper that is distributed by his personal mark or signature; (c) scrutinise each ballot paper prior to the counting of votes cast in a ballot so that a ballot paper shall be declared informal if it: [i] is not in the form prepared by the Returning Officer; [ii] does not bear the Returning Officer's authentication; [iii] does not comply strictly with the Returning Officer's instructions for the casting of formal votes and the conduct of the ballot; [iv] otherwise fails to comply with the provisions of this Constitution or any Bye-laws from time to time of the Association.
37.	[The present cl 37. guarantees the integrity of an election result in the event of a failure of the returning officer to comply specifically with formal electoral requirements. One of these failures is the 'omission...to forward a ballot paper' to a qualified member. In this context:]
Action:	In the second line of clause 37, delete the word 'forward' and insert in lieu the word 'provide'.

The contact person for comments, complaints and suggestions is: Paul Rheinberger, 21 Macquarie Grove, Caves Beach, NSW 2281, or PO Box 838, Toronto, NSW, 2283 [e-mail: pr@umwelt.com.au].

ASHA 2001 COMMITTEE

ASHA Newsletter 30:4.2000

**President: Dr Neville Ritchie**

Department of Conservation  
Private Bag 3072  
Hamilton New Zealand  
Ph: (64 7) 838 3363 work  
(64 7) 847 1695 home  
Email: [nevalex@wave.co.nz](mailto:nevalex@wave.co.nz)

**Vice Presidents: Dr Susan Lawrence**

Department of Archaeology  
La Trobe University  
Bundoora VIC 3083  
Ph: (03) 9479 1790  
Fax: (03) 9479 1881  
Email: [s.lawrence@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:s.lawrence@latrobe.edu.au)

**Paul Rheinberger**

21 Macquarie Grove  
Caves Beach NSW 2281  
Ph: (02) 4950 5322 work  
(02) 4972 1138 home  
(02) 49505737 fax  
Email: [prheinberger@umwelt.com.au](mailto:prheinberger@umwelt.com.au)

**Treasurer: Charles Brackenridge**

3 Beatty Court  
Baranduda VIC 3691  
Ph: (02) 6020 8176  
Email: [chaval@iprimus.com.au](mailto:chaval@iprimus.com.au)

**Secretary: Rowan Ward**

11 / 19b Riverside Crescent  
Marrickville NSW 2204  
Ph / fax: (02) 9558 6618  
Email: [Rowan.Ward@bigpond.com](mailto:Rowan.Ward@bigpond.com)

**Committee: Maddy Atkinson**

11 Gertrude Street  
Preston VIC 3072  
Ph: (03) 9479 1386 work  
(03) 9416 8964 home  
Email: [m.atkinson@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:m.atkinson@latrobe.edu.au)

**Dr Aedeon Cremin**

53 / 47 Kennedy Street  
Kingston ACT 2604  
Ph: (02) 6295 6979  
Email: [aedeenc@bigpond.com](mailto:aedeenc@bigpond.com)

**Dr Clayton Fredericksen**

Anthropology  
School of Humanities & Social Sciences  
Northern Territory University  
Darwin NT 0909  
Ph: (08) 8946 6865 work  
(08) 8948 3941 home  
Fax: (08) 8946 6955  
Email: [clayton.fredericksen@ntu.edu.au](mailto:clayton.fredericksen@ntu.edu.au)

**Ross Gam (Newsletter General Editor)**

RMB 148, Forest Road  
Tamworth NSW 2340  
Ph: (02) 6761 8061  
Email: [agam@turboweb.net.au](mailto:agam@turboweb.net.au)

**Nadia Iacono**

1 / 19 Hough Street  
Bondi Junction NSW 2022  
Ph: (02) 9389 1668  
Email: [nziacono@hotmail.com](mailto:nziacono@hotmail.com)

**Jennie Lindbergh**

23 Thomas Street  
Darlington NSW 2008  
Ph: (02) 9698 2417  
Email: <insert correct>

**Dr Rick McGovern-Wilson**

Historic Places Trust  
PO Box 2629  
Wellington New Zealand  
Ph: (64 7) 472 4341  
Fax: (64 7) 499 0669  
Email: [rmcgwilson@historic.org.nz](mailto:rmcgwilson@historic.org.nz)

**Mac North**

48 Percival Street  
Lilyfield NSW 2040  
Ph: (02) 9372 8433  
Email: [maclaren.north@dpws.nsw.gov.au](mailto:maclaren.north@dpws.nsw.gov.au)

**Public Officer: Denis Gojak**

Heritage Asset Manager  
Dept of Urban Affairs and Planning  
2-10 Wentworth Street  
Parramatta NSW 2150  
Ph: (02) 9895 7940 work  
(02) 9517 2410 home  
Fax: (02) 9895 7946  
Email: [denis.gojak@duap.nsw.gov.au](mailto:denis.gojak@duap.nsw.gov.au)

**Co-opted: Professor Graham Connah**

2 Warner Place  
Holder  
Canberra ACT 2611  
Ph / fax: (02) 6288 9105  
Email: [graham.connah@effect.net.au](mailto:graham.connah@effect.net.au)

**Iain Stuart (Journal General Ed)**

HLA-Envirosciences Pty Ltd  
PO Box 726  
Pymble NSW 2073  
Ph: (02) 9988 4422 work  
(02) 9818 7770 home  
Fax: (02) 9988 4441  
Email: [istuart@syd.hla-enviro.com.au](mailto:istuart@syd.hla-enviro.com.au)

## ASHA CONTACTS

ACT	Richard Morrison 25 Forbes Street, Turner, ACT 2612	ph: 02 6274 2133 W 02 6247 9574 H fax: 02 6274 2095 e-mail: <a href="mailto:richard.morrison@ea.gov.au">richard.morrison@ea.gov.au</a>
NSW	Jennie Lindbergh 23 Thomas Street, Darlington, NSW, 2008	ph: 02 9698 2417 e-mail: <a href="mailto:Jennie.Geoff@bigpond.com">Jennie.Geoff@bigpond.com</a>
NZ	Neville Ritchie Dept of Conservation, Private Bag 3072, Hamilton, NZ	ph: 0011 64 7 838 3363 e-mail: <a href="mailto:NRitchie@doc.govt.nz">NRitchie@doc.govt.nz</a>
NT	Clayton Fredericksen Dept of Anthropology, Northern Territory University Darwin, NT, 0909	ph: 08 8946 6865 fax: 08 8946 6955 email: <a href="mailto:clayton.fredericksen@ntu.edu.au">clayton.fredericksen@ntu.edu.au</a>
QLD	Gordon Grimwade PO Box 9, Yungaburra, QLD, 4872	ph: 07 4095 3737 fax: 07 4095 2117 e-mail: <a href="mailto:gga@internetnorth.com.au">gga@internetnorth.com.au</a>
SA	Pam Smith Dept of Archaeology, Flinders University PO Box 2100, Adelaide, SA 5001	ph/fax: 08 8278 8172 e-mail: <a href="mailto:smithric@tpgi.com.au">smithric@tpgi.com.au</a>
TAS	M. Jones Parks and Wildlife Tasmania PO Box 44A, Hobart, TAS 7001	ph: 03 6233 3840 fax: 03 6233 3477 e-mail: <a href="mailto:mickj@dpiwe.tas.gov.au">mickj@dpiwe.tas.gov.au</a>
VIC	Fiona Weaver 24 The Avenue, Belmont, Vic., 3216	ph: 03 5243 1462 e-mail: <a href="mailto:fjweaver@iname.com">fjweaver@iname.com</a>
WA	Alistair Paterson Archaeology, University of Western Australia Nedlands, WA 6907	ph: 08 9380 2867 fax: 08 9380 1023 e-mail: <a href="mailto:paterson@cyllene.uwa.edu.au">paterson@cyllene.uwa.edu.au</a>

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