

# NEWSLETTER

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

## STATE OF THE ART

### ACT News

#### Australian Heritage Commission

##### *New Federal environmental and heritage legislation status.*

It was previously reported in the Newsletter that the Federal Government was proposing to introduce a new scheme for dealing with heritage at the Federal level. By making changes to the Environmental Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999 (EPBC Act), repealing the Australian Heritage Commission Act (1975), and establishing a new Australian Heritage Council.

The three heritage bills were tabled in Parliament on 7 December 2000, and then referred to the Senate Environment, Communications, Information Technology and the Arts References Committee for scrutiny. Following public advertisement, submissions to the Committee closed on 2 February 2001. A total of 31 submissions have been received to date and are progressively being made available on the Committee's web site and are available for viewing on at:

[http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/ecita\\_ctte/he rt2000/Sublist.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/senate/committee/ecita_ctte/he rt2000/Sublist.htm)

Eleven people/organisations have been invited to appear at two Senate Committee hearings on the Bills on 28 February and 7 March. A Hansard transcript will be available on the Committee's web site.

The Committee is scheduled to report back to the Senate with a report by 28 March. After this, the Government will respond to the Committee's report and debate on the bills will be scheduled. The timing for both these steps is unknown at this stage, but the Minister is committed to getting the bills debated at the earliest possible time.

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

Allied to these foreshadowed changes and the need to deal with workloads associated with already existing obligations for heritage referrals under the EPBC Act, the present staff supporting the Commission is preparing for a restructuring.

## Australian National University

### Archaeological Field and Laboratory Methods Course

The ANU recently held a two-week residential archaeological field school from 3-17 February 2001 as part of the above course. The course is designed to provide students with a practical introduction to basic archaeological field and laboratory methods. Its focus is on techniques of excavation, archaeological stratigraphy, the recording of artefacts, the analysis and interpretation of structures, features and excavated material, and report presentation.

Excavations were carried out at the remains of a 19th century Chinese miners' settlement near Kiandra, a deserted gold rush township located in the Kosciuszko National Park in the Snowy Mountains of southern NSW. Results of a previous small-scale excavation undertaken at the site show that Chinese gold miners occupied the area continuously 1860-1890s. Twenty undergraduate and postgraduate students spent 2 'long' weeks in the heat, cold and rain of the mountains with the snakes and flies examining the material culture and structural history of the site.

Although sorting and cataloguing of artefacts recovered from the site is nearing completion, analysis is yet to begin in earnest. However, preliminary observations show that a high proportion of, largely fragmented, traditional Chinese ceramics were recovered from the site together with the remains of mining equipment and a range of domestic and personal items, such as food tins, cooking containers, cleavers, buttons, a razor, and a number of Chinese coins. Examination of the structures and surrounding landscape revealed the remains of an extensive camp with at least fifteen hut structures identified along with a number of pits - one of which contained a large amount of butchered animal bones, drainage canals, access routes and mining sites. With permission from the NSW Parks and Wildlife Service and the Heritage Council of NSW, four structures, two pits and a number of possible dwelling platforms were excavated during the two-week period.

Students are currently undertaking a variety of projects associated with the excavation including mapping of surface archaeological features, analyses of soils, stratigraphy and site formation, and detailed studies of the artefacts recovered from the site. Final results from the excavation will be available towards the middle of the year with a report to be provided to the Heritage Council of NSW in the second half of the year.

*Richard Morrison*

## New South Wales News

*News from Prehistoric & Historical Archaeology, University of Sydney.*

Following a major restructure the Faculty of Arts has been divided into four Schools. P&H Archaeology, together with Near Eastern and Classical Archaeology, are now part of the new School of Philosophy, Gender, History & Ancient World Studies with Associate-Professor Richard Waterhouse (Department of History) as Chair. The formal Head of all archaeology (small 'd') departments is Professor Dan Potts (NE Archaeology). Restructuring has had most impact so far on administrative support for the three archaeologies in the new School. Last year all the administrative staff jobs in the Faculty were restructured with some staff taking voluntary redundancy. The new Administrative Manager for the School of PGHAW is Henry Storey while Patty Henderson and Gina Scheer are student advisers for all three archaeologies, with an office in Room S247 off the Main Quad. Other administrative SPGHAW staff are located on Level 8 of the Mungo MacCallum Building (previously the Department of History main offices).

Aedeen Cremin retired in July 2000, and John Clegg retired suddenly in January 2001. Academic staff who leave are not being replaced in the current financial climate. P&H Archaeology staff now comprises Peter White (part-time), Roland Fletcher and myself. This semester Wayne Johnson is teaching an 8-unit Senior Level historical archaeology course fully subsidised by Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority. This replaces the same course taught by Aedeen Cremin last year.

The Department was allocated a small amount of part-time teaching money to cover Fourth Year Honours teaching for this year, and a practical work class (both of which would also have been taught by John Clegg in Semester 1). There is no other money and at time of writing the future of our first year ARPH 1002 (Introduction to Australian Archaeology) is uncertain. Other practical work classes are at risk due to lack of part-time teaching funds. A Senior Level 8 credit point unit on rock art, taught by John Clegg, has been cancelled.

These changes to P&H Archaeology need to be understood within the context of funding cuts and major restructuring to the Faculty of Arts as a whole. Many other departments have also lost staff. This has nothing to do with student numbers, demand for archaeology, or research performance. Many students still want to study archaeology. Archaeology (NE, Classical and P&H) have been identified by the University as an area of major research strength in the Faculty.

Our challenge for the time being is to maintain a full undergraduate teaching programme in P&H Archaeology with very few staff. In 2001 we will cancel several existing courses and change the content of others. A new Dean of Arts will be appointed sometime next year - we really don't know what will happen beyond this.

If anyone has any comments, queries or can assist (with student projects or Honours supervision in HA topics) please contact me.

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Tel: 02 9351 3035.

*Sarah Colley, Prehistoric and Historical Archaeology, University of Sydney.*

## *Heritage asset management at the NSW Department of Urban Affairs and Planning*

I have been seconded for two years to the Department of Urban Affairs and Planning [DUAP] from the National Parks and Wildlife Service. My aim is to make sure that the department's 33 heritage buildings and sites are properly conserved and managed as part of the DUAP property portfolio. The department got most of its heritage properties through the acquisition of land for major road reserves, regional open space and special use corridors in western Sydney. Several of our sites were also bought before there was adequate provision for protecting historic sites through the Heritage Act.

As DUAP is not a long-term property owner and manager one of my roles is to manage the process of transferring these properties to other owners who can look after them. This can include transfer to councils, sale to private owners, developing the buildings and their surroundings to a higher density, creating a new use for a building and so on. The first year has concentrated on completing conservation planning on major properties while the second year will be more focussed on undertaking conservation works and disposals.

From an archaeological perspective perhaps the most significant group of properties that we own are three market gardens in the southern Sydney suburb of Rockdale. These are currently farmed by Chinese tenants, but in their 150+ year history have also had Irish and German farmers. The market gardens have survived without any active intervention to date, but they may become unviable if they were forced to comply with current environmental and heritage and health standards. Our conservation planning for these sites is therefore concentrating on how to retain them as viable farming operations, while meeting modern expectations. This has implications for how we as heritage practitioners have to decide to sometimes bite our tongues and let, to an unusual degree, market forces continue to operate.

Current conservation management plans [CMPs] and other studies that are under way

- Four Winds, Torquay and Rose Cottage, all at Werrington - three CMPs by Mayne-Wilson and Associates
- CMP for three market gardens at Rockdale - Architectural History Services
- Loder House, Windsor - CMP by Clive Lucas, Stapleton and Partners
- Sugarloaf Farm, Menangle - updating CMP by Graham Brooks and Associates
- Mamre, St Marys - CMP by Graham Brooks and Associates
- Glenalvon, Campbelltown - conservation works by Otto Cserhalmi
- former Prospect Post Office - precinct development

In the near future DUAP will be planning to undertake excavations on the site of the former Male Orphan School at Bonnyrigg and site stabilisation works at a building associated with a government farm at Rooty Hill.

*Denis Gojak  
DUAP Heritage Asset Manager*

The *Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority* has released a promotional video on recent archaeological works in The Rocks. Of nine minutes duration it is intended as an overview of the potential for historical archaeology to present a different perspective on the past and focuses not only on excavation but also other physical evidence of the built environment. The video incorporates footage of recent excavations as well as computer assisted 3d reconstruction of the Cumberland Street site, Dawes Point and the Government Dockyard at Sydney Cove. The video is available from the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority (free of charge to academic institutions or schools) by emailing Wayne Johnson at [johnson@shfa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:johnson@shfa.nsw.gov.au).

Casey & Lowe are busy as usual. Mary has just completed a four-volume epic on the CSR site, all 100,000 words. The final draft of the Conservatorium site report should be finished at the end of April. Tony is busy assessing, monitoring and testing at Tempe House, Kings School, Parramatta, Scottish Hospital, Paddington and many more.

#### *2001 ASHA Sydney Seminars*

Seminar 1 - Thursday 3 May 2001 Wayne Johnson, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority "In-Situ Archaeological Conservation and Public Interpretation: The Dawes Point Battery Case Study."  
Venue: ASN Theatre (next to the Billich Gallery at 100 George St, The Rocks) at 6PM.

Seminar 2 - August 2001 (exact date to be confirmed) Dana Mider, Consultant Archaeologist "Public Archaeology in Rural Centres - Working with Communities" Venue: to be confirmed, probably Glebe Library, Glebe Point Road.

Seminar 3 - November 2001 To be announced (suggestions invited)

Mac North is organising the Sydney lecture series for 2001. If you have suggestions for topics or speakers please contact Mac at: [maclaren.north@dpws.nsw.gov.au](mailto:maclaren.north@dpws.nsw.gov.au) or (02) 9372 8440.

*Jennie Lindbergh*

#### **South Australia News**

##### *Preliminary Archaeological Investigations at Monarto Zoological Park*

Monarto Zoological Park ([www.monartozp.com.au](http://www.monartozp.com.au)) is a natural wilderness sanctuary and open range zoological park. It is situated 70km east of Adelaide not far from Murray Bride, located on the River Murray. Invitation by the Director of the Park, Chris Hancock, saw preliminary investigation by the authors, Dr. Mark Staniforth and Peter Birt (Department of archaeology, Flinders University) of a number of potential archaeological sites situated within a region of the park know as 'Bretag Scrub'

*Compiled by Pam Smith*

#### **West Australia News**

##### *Excavations at the Old Farm, Strawberry Hill, Albany*

As anticipated in the last ASHA newsletter, during February postgraduate

Amy Gardos (Centre for Archaeology, UWA) conducted archaeological

excavations at the Old Farm, Strawberry Hill, Albany. This is a

collaborative project with the National Trust (Western Australia) with a

three week excavation season conducted by Amy's volunteers and the

week-long UWA archaeology field school. The dig was a source of great

interest to locals, who were well informed by Amy's interviews on local

radio and in the newspaper.

##### *Abrohlos Island archaeological season*

The West Australian Museum conducted research in the Abrohlos Islands

during February 2001. Much of the this work related to the Batavia event

(1628) and followed from work conducted in 1999. Both projects are

funded by a Coastcare grant. Jeremy Green and Corioli Souter directed

remote sensing of several islands and underwater locations for Batavia

material. Juliette Pasveer, Alistair Paterson and Juliet King excavated

a mass grave containing six Batavia victims. This excavation involved

the complete removal of a 250 kg feature at the base of the grave where

vegetation formed a solid matrix around human and artefactual remains.

This feature is currently been excavated at the Maritime Museum of

Western Australia by King and Paterson. Some of this fieldwork was

recorded for a television documentary series due for broadcast in 2002.

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*Gaye Nayton*

#### **Queensland News**

##### *Heritage Trails Network*

The Queensland Government's massive push into cultural heritage tourism gained momentum in recent months. Apart from 30 odd major projects across the State receiving

assistance in the \$1m plus range local councils have also been busy applying for smaller grants. These have been offered for:

- Building the QHTN – medium sized projects up to \$100,000 (with matching contributions where possible);
- Regional linkages projects up to \$50,000; and,
- Community network projects up to \$20,000

About 150 applications are understood to have been received for these smaller grants.

The scheme aims to provide tourists and locals the opportunity to visit well presented heritage places. They are to be interlinked by common threads and themes.

Concurrently with all that going on the major projects have been progressing to the point where consultancies have closed for work as diverse as Atherton Chinatown, Mt Morgan Mines and Cardwell Telegraph Station.

Most projects focus on Interpretive Centres containing relevant displays, walking tracks and the inevitable souvenirs. At present it looks like teams of historical archaeologists, architects, interp planners, business analysts and display gurus will be kept off the streets well into 2002 when projects have to be completed. Gordon Grimwade & Associates Heritage Consultants

#### *St Helena Artefact Project*

St Helena Island National Park was instituted as Queensland's first Historic National Park in 1979. The island's penal establishment was instituted in 1867 and continued operations until 1932. Apart from ruins visible today, the history of indigenous and non-indigenous usage is also evident in a diverse array of artefacts gathered on the island or else returned from other sources. These artefacts have now been progressively assessed, documented and accessioned to Queensland Museum standards, forming a significant collection assisting with interpretation of this Moreton Bay site.

The St Helena Artefact Project was first commenced in 1998 through the co-operative direction of Jenise Blaik (Ranger, St Helena Island, Queensland Parks & Wildlife Service) and Dr Judy Powell (Environmental Protection Agency). During 1999 this Project was again undertaken through similarly placed efforts of Jenise Blaik (QPWS) and Catherine Westcott (EPA). Over these first two years, and with the assistance of university student volunteers, approximately 1200 artefacts were processed.

During September 2000, Jenise Blaik and Jeff Hopkins-Weise co-ordinated further groups of University of Queensland student volunteers during their mid-semester break. This resulted in 447 new artefacts being accessioned. The type of artefacts encountered range from indigenous stone tools; industrial, agricultural and pastoral equipment; material associated with buildings and construction; spent munitions and cartridges; glass and earthenware; to items related to the day to day lives of prison staff and families, the prisoners, or later leasees of the island.

Evidence of the Project's success is visible in the displays utilising selected accessioned artefacts in the Museum located in the restored Chief Warder's and Superintendent's

Quarters. The Museum's interpretative displays provide visitors insights into not only the lives of the prisoners, but also the prison's staff and their families who together formed St Helena's prison community. An important aspect of this ongoing Project has been the opportunities it has offered archaeology, anthropology, and cultural heritage and history students. Over the last three years student volunteers have been provided invaluable practical experience in archaeological recording methods, life in the field and working with others, and an appreciation of Queensland's cultural heritage.

*Jeff Hopkins-Weise*

#### **NORTHERN TERRITORY**

##### *More on the Fort Dundas Project, Melville Island*

Late last year Cyril Rioli, elder at Pularumpi, facilitated a visit by Colin DeLaRue and myself to Harris Island, a small but relatively high islet in the Apsley Strait that separates Melville and Bathurst Islands. Various reports, including oral testimony of local Tiwi people, mention the existence of structures on the island that relate to the time of British occupation of Fort Dundas. Informants state that structures are present on the southern end of the island, rather than the north as might be expected (sailing ships entered the strait from the ocean, northern, end).

After a few minutes speedboat trip from Pularumpi, courtesy of Lawrence Rioli, we arrived off Harris Island to find that a small bay on the southern end is the only suitable landing spot. Lawrence was able to direct us to the exact location of the remains, immediately above the high tide mark. Dense bush hindered visibility but two roughly parallel lines of stones were visible demarcating an intervening area cleared of stones. One interpretation we entertain is that this is a haulage area, where land was cleared to allow a rowing boat to be pulled clear of tidal currents (which can be incredibly strong in Apsley Strait). At least two low but distinct platforms of stones were discovered either side of the stone alignments. They are clearly artificial but their function remains a mystery.

If they are associated with British occupation in the 1820s (the only other likely possibility lies with more recent mission activity) then a good guess is that they were platforms for cannon positioned to cover the narrow passage between Harris and Bathurst Islands. This passage is on the blind side of Harris Island when looking from Fort Dundas, so any captain of a marauding French or Dutch vessel could have used the island to conceal his ship from horizontal cannon fire directed from the fort. Tiwi informants also mention a well and the remains of a dwelling in the interior of the island. An attempt to locate these was unsuccessful owing to limited time and the physical constraints imposed by primary vegetation cover that has not been set alight in living memory.

A report will be published on the evidence and its possible connection with other military outstations associated with the occupation of Fort Dundas.

*Clayton Fredericksen*  
*Northern Territory University*

## NEWS FROM THE TREASURER

Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology Inc.  
Financial Statement 1st July to 31st December 2000

## Income

Subscriptions	4441.85	
Book Sales	110.00	
1999 Conference Surplus	1720.65	
Bank Interest	5.19	6277.69

## Expenses

Audit Fees	660.00	
Bank Fees	19.24	
Fid/Bad Tax	24.94	
Credit card Fees	81.30	
Postage	610.35	
Printing Sept Newsletter	1008.30	
Stationery	262.90	
Federation Book Exp.	769.00	
Membership Fees	60.00	
GST Paid 1st Qtr.	287.00	3783.03

2494.66

Bank balance 1st July 2000 10544.10

Bank Balance 31 Dec. 2000 13038.76

## Accounts payable in near future

GST 2nd Qtr	224	
Adelaide Conf and Fed/Book launch	1142	
Dec Newsletter	1778	
(increased by \$443)		
Annual Publication	8000/11000	
Subs. amount above include approx	\$3000 of 2001 fees	

Charles Brackenridge 10/01/2001

## CONFERENCE NOTES

This year's *Society for Historical Archaeology* annual conference was themed "Teach the Mind, Touch the Spirit" and was held aboard the *Queen Mary*, a 1930s Art Deco luxury liner now used as a hotel and tourist attraction, in Long Beach California, an oceanside resort community just south of Los Angeles.

The program for the conference was extensive, with 8 symposia running simultaneously each morning and afternoon for three days. The conference venue, while sounding good in theory, was frustrating in practice, with labyrinthine corridors which made it difficult to get from symposium to symposium and lecture halls with noisy air conditioning and windows without blinds, making it at times both to hear speakers and see their slides or presentations. The weather was also poor, being mostly cold and rainy and, astoundingly, the ship's roofs leaked, at one point spectacularly spreading water all over a bookseller's table of wares in the book room.

The sessions were extremely varied, with many seeking to address the conference themes, however plenty of others being research and fieldwork reports. I spent most of my time in sessions related to public archaeology, community outreach and interpretation. Particularly interesting was a session related to archaeological interpretation in the city of Quebec, by William Moss and Reginald Auger. They run a joint program within Laval University and the City of Quebec which has provided an ongoing public excavation for interpretive purposes, as well as a "branded" archaeological interpretation system for the city.

Other particularly notable sessions on public archaeology included reports on highly successful museum-based archaeological interpretation programs in the American South. This involved students at a range of ages from 8 or 10 up to late high school in both day trip archaeological programs as well as more intensive fieldwork, or simulated fieldwork, -based programs. These programs were helped along by a commitment to including local, historical archaeology into the school educational curricula and included a week long field school for history teachers.

Virgil Noble, of the US National Parks Service, gave an interesting paper on the interface and debate between archaeological and social significance, i.e. what we value as archaeologists versus what the public might value or perceive as significant. This theme was taken up again and again in other sessions, culminating in an excellent round-table discussion of public archaeology with consultants, academics, government officers and interpreters. It was interesting to learn, for instance, that some of the initiative which have been undertaken in NSW, such as requiring public interpretation programs for prominent archaeological projects as a part of consent conditions, have not been widely taken up in the USA. It raised interesting question for me as to how we can overcome the academic/consulting dichotomy to accommodate the realities of the way historical archaeology is largely undertaken in Australia, which merit discussion in a wider Australian forum.

From a purely technical and field reporting perspective, two papers on "military archaeology" were particularly interesting, one on the use of archaeological techniques in Vietnam to recover the remains of American servicemen killed in action during the Vietnam war. The other an amazingly well funded project to raise an intact American Civil War iron submarine and transport it wholesale to a warehouse fitted out as a conservation lab, to allow it to be conserved, studied and eventually investigated internally over a number of years.

MacLaren North

Gaye Nayton writes:

I have just taken part in a on-line conference on Australian heritage organised by Australian ICOMOS and the Australian Heritage Commission. The conference was called *Involving People in Heritage* and was conducted over two days with five forums running simultaneously. The forums were great and there was also a project database which was very interesting. There were also two lunch time discussions

which did not appear to be so successful and tended to disappear into the five forums.

The conference was a great idea and attracted over 400 delegates most of whom were Australian but with a sprinkling of people from all over the world dropping in to add their comments. Discussion was lively and across several disciplines and viewpoints although some of us had minor problems dealing with the technology, such as myself.

Joy McCann - Convenor Forum 1

Key themes and issues

#### 1. Defining heritage

a.. Heritage is what we inherit, and generally defines us - it embraces different aspects of culture, including objects, dress, traditional practices, songs, stories, etc.

b.. Formal heritage processes tend to focus on places and ignore intangible heritage.

c.. Heritage practitioners tend to compartmentalise heritage when consulting communities, while communities see their heritage holistically.

d.. The concept of 'place' is often reduced to 'site', and ignores larger units such as streetscapes that are often more important and valued than a single site.

#### 2. Defining levels of heritage significance

a.. Communities can play a key role in the process of defining significance and making local comparisons, but if communities adopt heritage processes such as ranking significance, they may lose confidence in appreciating their own environment and look to professionals to verify what their heritage is.

b.. People value many more things than those places that may end up on registers. Oral history one way of finding what people really value, rather than asking them to 'rate' significant places.

#### 3. Intangible heritage

a.. Intangible heritage is integral to cultural identity, but is vulnerable in a rapidly changing world (eg urban development, redundant industry). For example, municipal mergers in Canada show how such changes can have a huge impact on the cultural heritage of an community through loss of its distinctive cultural institutions, and pose threats to the less obvious heritage sites of the different cultural groups.

b.. A need to challenge the view that community heritage values and intangible heritage values such as social value are too 'warm and fuzzy', not professional or reliable.

c.. Where tangible heritage can be readily linked into a heritage program, the community can be on its own in preserving intangible heritage like music and dance. Examples showed how intangible heritage can be managed and cultural identity maintained through oral traditions, stories, customs, songs, ceremonies, etc associated with Indigenous communities, including being actively backed by legislation.

d.. Concern about how information, once collected, can be protected and used in culturally appropriate ways.

e.. A need to develop assessment and management techniques that deal with traditional community uses of a place with cultural values in areas managed for natural values.

f.. A need to look at examples of where intangible practices are being invigorated or where legislation and policies promote continuity and respect for traditional practices, and

to consider ways other than listing to actively manage change and continuity.

#### 4. Many heritages, different voices

a.. Lessons to be learned by heritage practitioners from consultation with indigenous communities about respecting differences of other groups and their right to speak for themselves.

b.. Consulting communities requires taking many heritages into account, but this can be difficult with resource constraints. Changing exhibitions, displays and other activities can help a community appreciate different views and changing sense of its heritage, and keep it from fossilising.

c.. Defining a community's heritage often involves the need to deal with contested views of the past.

#### Recommendations or other outcomes

a.. It would be useful to have contributions of good examples and techniques for assessing and managing intangible values from forum participants and others, to be included on an Australia ICOMOS web page.

b.. The web page could also include internet sites suggested during the forum concerning Indigenous communities and their interests.

#### Issues for further discussion

a.. How heritage practices be adapted to ensure that communities don't just end up 'playing the heritage game', but remain confident in valuing their own heritage, and are able to remain involved in the process.

b.. How is intangible community heritage being recognised and cared for in Australia and overseas?

c.. Should heritage listings encompass cultural activities associated with place?

d.. How heritage agencies can form partnerships to overcome the generally fragmented approach to heritage work in Australia.

Meredith Walker - Convenor Forum 2

Issues and a summary of contributions

Discussion ranged over a variety of issues related to the theme with entertaining and helpful contributions from a variety of people and places, including the Carribbean and Scotland.

#### Issues: What guides practice?

The net can be used as a guide for action about issues and for inspiration. The technique of asking 'Who else do it talk to?' is good for finding community opinions

Issue: Role of the practitioner - How hard should a practitioner push to save a place when there is little or no community support?

Response: Awareness raising for community, if place really significant. Community must be responsible for its heritage. Grass roots support is essential. In hard to achieve an informed community so that debate is rational (especially with conflicts). Fine line between advocate and advisor. Practitioner can't back away from professional judgement just to keep the peace; a practitioner defines ones role at the beginning rather than during a skirmish! Community views need to be wholeheartedly considered by practitioners

**Issue:** Community ownership of heritage (and lists)

**Response:** Community ownership essential, especially as being on a list is 'no sure protection' against big developments, and people less ready to nominate privately-owned sites than publicly owned buildings/sites. Loss of valued sites stirs community action about heritage. Community valuing of heritage must work hand in hand with statutory protection. Energy needs to be injected into community activist sector and practitioners can work in their own communities.

**Issue:** Need to develop a more informed/skilled activist sector

**Response:** Help the community become familiar with heritage language; practitioners can provide help in their own communities. People unaware of archaeological values - practitioners and community (at least in WA)

**Issue:** Balancing development with preservation and gauging the community opinion

**Response:** Concepts of value to the community (social value) hard to understand and assess; conflicts between local views/values and national (or out of town) views - how can practitioners gauge local significance and reconcile different views?

**Issue:** Is heritage only what practitioners/statutory provisions say it is?

**Response:** So many lists suggest thoroughness and perfect knowledge. Its important to let communities know that it is OK and important to defend places not on lists. Basic approach of assessing significance vital. Are places doomed if not caught in the net of lists?

**Issues for further discussion**

Some topics are worthy of further discussion to improve the heritage 'system':

- a.. Further discussion of select issues could help improve heritage systems and practice:
- b.. Ways of 'protecting heritage' in addition to listing
- c.. Assisting community understanding/appreciation of heritage (not just listing)
- d.. Links or heritage to community portfolio's (not just planning/environment)

**Chris Johnston - Convenor Forum 3**

This forum was a place to talk about our experiences with involving the community - literally what works, what doesn't - and most importantly why! Many people joined in, telling their stories about community process they have been involved with.

**Themes that emerged included:**

- a.. Honesty - the best way to demonstrate your respect for those at your public meeting, and to win their respect
- b.. Setting the parameters for consultation so that people's expectations match the process. Be honest about what is and isn't negotiable in the process and why.
- c.. Communities don't box up issues the way that government, consultants etc do. Communities have a wholistic, integrated view. Be open to their agendas (and let go of your own) and start where the community is at.
- d.. How to build trust, and what breaches it. Feedback to a community =

is essential if trust - once given - is to be maintained. Trust may take time to establish. It's not automatic! And don't forget to give something back (not just take).

e.. At times communities need to be difficult, angry and demanding to achieve their goals (don't take it personally - unless its meant that way of course!)

f.. Letting the community decide how they want to work with you, rather than government/consultant imposing their favourite method.

g.. Smaller, informal groups often work better (for everyone) than larger meetings/workshops.

h.. Its important to distinguish between community information (telling people about something that may affect them), community consultation (asking for people's reactions and views) and community involvement (which has more of a partnership element).

i.. Be flexible to the community's needs and timelines.

j.. Is consultation co-option, manipulation, market research or therapy? (read the debate!)

k.. Why not get communities more involved in archaeology - great opportunities to learn, participate and have fun too.

l.. When you are dealing with factions within a community, it is crucial to let people see that you are taking on board - and representing - their views impartially.

m.. Consultation methods can be creative and fun, and still have a serious purpose. Try new things!

n.. Photos speak louder than words!

o.. Intangible values (a common theme across the forums)

p.. Dealing with the loss of a place - the role of grieving and support.

q.. And even economic issues and financial incentives got an interesting run!

And as well as all these great ideas, the forum included lots of practical project examples. If you didn't get a chance to participate, please have a read.

**Laura Gray - Convenor Forum 4**

Did you get the anticipated outcome from your community's heritage project? If not, why not? This forum was an opportunity to have a say about your experiences and learn from other people's experiences.

In summary, the stimulating on line discussion raised the following issues:

- a.. Inequality of community position.
- b.. Need for resources to provide an equitable community situation
- c.. Loss of community facility in the loss of heritage places
- d.. Heritage advisers as a community resource
- e.. Community recognition of intangible heritage values
- f.. Power of \$\$\$ - developers
- g.. Lack of political will (local) or initiative to seek proactive solutions to retain heritage
- h.. Relocation not the most appropriate option to conserve a place
  - i.. Should 'outsider' (professional or heritage body) impose their values upon a community?
  - j.. Reacting to heritage significance when it is under threat - often too late
  - k.. Broad community understanding and appreciation of heritage - to inform debate
    - l.. How do we know you really got what you want early enough?
    - m.. What makes one point of view within a community

group more relevant than another?

- n.. Be flexible in process
- o.. Exploding the myths
- p.. Community empowerment essential to success
- q.. Commercial realities of conservation
- r.. Imposition of external views onto a community
- s.. Awareness of good practice standards must come from outside the community
- t.. Limitations of funding processes and project eligibility
- u.. Do the policies and meet the needs of the communities
- v.. How do we evaluate the success or failure of policies 'on the ground'
- w.. Positive community pro-action from a successful empowering project
- x.. The selection of an appropriate 'professional' can make a real difference
- y.. Exclusive local government processes
- z.. Token community consultation in a process that is already a fait accompli
- aa.. Divide and conquer the community by forming focus groups
- ab.. Community involvement not valued.
- ac.. Honesty and integrity at all times
- ad.. Presentation of information to community needs to be a medium appropriate to the target audience=20
- ae.. Volunteers management and responsibility for heritage places
- af.. Lack of volunteer resources
- ag.. Tourism as a \$\$ driver
- ah.. Alternatives to tourism- adaptive reuse
- ai.. Heritage tourism for appropriate places- not a universal answer
- aj.. What is community? (interested parties?)
- ak.. People power

The two days provided very informative discussion, excellent examples and experiences and typical demonstrations of community interaction from very satisfying and proactive to 'token consultation at its worst. Thank YOU! Please keep the discussion going on the post conference forum, we'd love to hear more. Recommendations arising out of the forum will be posted at a later date.

Philippa Menses - Convenor Forum 5

General Comments

This forum was designed to allow people to discuss any topic they wished that was not being covered in the other forums. Overall there were almost 20 major issues raised, some of which were dealt with in greater detail in other forums such as 'intangible heritage' and others which were new to the forum, such as developing a strategy for marketing heritage in Australia.

The Key Themes and Issues were:

- a.. How to ensure consultation with Indigenous Communities
- b.. Models for funding heritage assessments to remove the conflict of interest by developers funding their own EIS
- c.. Concerns regarding the changes in Federal Legislation for heritage
- d.. Whether we can integrate all forms of heritage in our assessments or whether we must leave them in their separate categories.

e.. The importance of intangibles in heritage assessments and how we should deal with them

f.. How to save a heritage place in the face of economic imperatives - there are good examples of community action in relation to this plus examples of losses.

g.. Whether local heritage is of any lesser value than places of State

or National Significance, whether these differentiations should be made at all.

h.. Recognising the community right to have input and questioning the role of professionals in ensuring the consultation is genuine.

i.. Whether we put people off getting involved in heritage because we are always fighting / arguing in order to protect heritage

j.. Looking at alternative ways to seek protection of heritage such as demonstrating that heritage conservation and development are not mutually exclusive. Finding 'win win' outcomes

k.. Recognising that we are multicultural

l.. Recognising that different points of view can be enlightening when presenting a heritage place to the public.

m.. Recognising the value of archaeological evidence and seeking ways to ensure it is managed appropriately in relation to development

n.. Working more together within the profession, breaking down the current divisions and involving community more.

o.. Seeking to mobilise the community more on major issues. It was pointed out that it is relatively easy to do this for individual places, but what about the big issues that affect most of us - we sit back and let a few speak for us.

p.. Working together on a national marketing strategy for heritage.

q.. Capacity building for organisations that find themselves with large heritage grants and don't know how to manage the project

r.. Different perceptions of what our heritage is and a tendency to disregard our heritage, or question that we have any at all, because it is not grand.

s.. Whether the professional view of heritage truly recognises community values.

Recommendations or other outcomes

a.. That we look into alternative ways to fund/manage heritage studies

such that those who have a commercial interest have less control over the outcome.

b.. That we properly debate whether local heritage is of lesser significance, does it need fewer controls, and are local communities satisfied with the current practices.

c.. That we consider alternative ways of saving our heritage such as better utilisation of the planning system and where heritage

departments/ branches should be placed in government so that heritage is taken seriously.

d.. That training programs be developed for heritage consultants in public consultation or they team up with experts in consultation.

e.. That as a profession we be more tolerant of the decisions we each make when choosing a management outcome for a place. There is no right answer we simply need to demonstrate that the outcome reflects the significance and circumstances of the place adequately.

f.. Having a focus on finding solutions, challenging

perceptions and demonstrating that heritage is relevant to our economy, and our social well being, without always fighting a rearguard action.

g.. Working together on a national strategy to promote heritage utilising the feel good projects in order to raise awareness and generate more political clout for heritage conservation

Issues worthy of further discussion in a forum.

a.. Multicultural, Indigenous and Natural heritage received minimal

discussion in this forum

b.. We could also expand on all of the above recommendations and issues.

c.. Sporting heritage was raised but not pursued - it would be a wonderful theme as so many in the community idolise sport.

*Gaye Nayton*

[gnayton@cygnus.uwa.edu.au](mailto:gnayton@cygnus.uwa.edu.au)

#### FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES

**ENGENDERING THE LANDSCAPE**  
Sixth women in archaeology conference  
All Seasons-Mermaid Waters Resort  
Gold Coast, Australia  
8 – 10 July, 2001

- First Announcement and Call for Papers -

This interdisciplinary conference will examine how successful archaeologists have been at putting people into their interpretations of past life styles. Landscape may be considered from its physical or geographical aspect, or from a cultural viewpoint of structures and concepts. There has always been an interplay between people and these various landscapes. How may these landscapes be engendered?

It is expected that this conference will explore the roles of Aboriginal women in their traditional landscapes, the roles of women in the various post 1788 Australian landscapes, together with a variety of more theoretical studies concerned with how archaeologists can better engender their interpretations of the archaeological record.

This conference, the sixth so far, builds on over ten years of feminist research in archaeology, a discipline centred on the study of the record of people through the things they left behind and their impact upon the places in which they lived. However, the conference explicitly aims to further the development of interdisciplinary research and networks and to stimulate new research directions in feminist scholarship into culture, gender and landscape.

This conference will be of interest to scholars in archaeology and history, anthropology and sociology, geographical sciences, architecture, horticultural and agricultural sciences, museum studies, education, and anyone with an interest in feminism.

For further information, offers of papers, and/or sessions contact: [www.turnix.com/wiac6](http://www.turnix.com/wiac6)

The conference organisers are: Robyne Bancroft, Laila Haglund and Eleanor Crosby

[e.crosby@turnix.com](mailto:e.crosby@turnix.com)

Phone: +61 7 5578 2255 Fax: +61 7 5527 3255

Mail: Women in Archaeology (or WIAC6)  
P O Box 3216 NERANG BUSINESS CENTRE  
NERANG QLD 4211  
AUSTRALIA.

#### Letter to the editor.

I noted the West Australia News article published in Volume 3.4.2000 of the Newsletter. The article raises concerns in relation to historical archaeological work and the provisions of the *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (WA).

As current Registrar of Aboriginal Sites I would like to clarify the situation for your readers. Heritage sites in WA, and I am sure elsewhere, provide physical evidence of the activities of a wide range of people. Aboriginal people are known to have had close associations with explorers, pastoralists, whalers, sealers, pearlers, miners, missionaries, government agencies and so on. It follows that the excavation of sites associated with the activities of such people may also provide evidence of the activities of Aboriginal people.

In Western Australia it is an offence to disturb an Aboriginal site unless a permit has been obtained from the Registrar of Aboriginal Sites under section 16 of the Act or authorisation of the Minister has been obtained under section 18. Without going into further detail I can advise that section 16 applies to most readily archaeological research whereas section 18 applies most often to development proposals.

On the basis of the likelihood of encountering objects of Aboriginal origin when undertaking historical archaeological, described above, the Aboriginal Affairs Department (WA) urges historical archaeologists to apply for a section 16 permit when doing field research. To assist, the Department has developed a specific application form for investigations at historical sites.

If any historical archaeologists want copies of the application form or further information please write to the Registrar of Aboriginal Sites, Aboriginal Affairs Department PO Box 7770 Cloisters Square WA 6850

Yours sincerely

Dr Madge Schwede  
A/MANAGER – HERITAGE, CULTURE & BUSINESS SERVICES.

#### CALL FOR PAPERS

The 2001 ASHA Conference will be held at the Australian National University, Canberra, from Friday 28 September to Monday 1 October 2001. It is sponsored by the School of Archaeology and Anthropology and organised by Graham

Connah and Aedeon Cremin. The registration fee will be around \$120 (concessions available).

Submissions are invited for both individual papers and collective sessions. Individual speakers should send an abstract of c. 250 words and session organisers an abstract of c.500 words, plus a list of proposed speakers. There will also be an opportunity for poster displays.

Please send abstracts by Friday 29 June to: Emeritus Professor G. Connah (ASHA), School of Archaeology and Anthropology, Faculty of Arts, Australian National University, Canberra, ACT 0200, or email: [graham.connah@effect.net.au](mailto:graham.connah@effect.net.au), cc to [aedeenc@bigpond.com](mailto:aedeenc@bigpond.com)

## EDITORIAL

First may I thank those of you who responded so promptly to my calls for info. I particularly appreciate Richard responding to my comment in the last Newsletter about the changes to the EPBC Act, and Gaye Nayton's and Mac North's reviews. To generate some additional interest, or points for discussion, I asked for comments on the state of funding at universities for Historical Archaeology and its impact on the practice. As you can see by Sarah Colley's piece the situation at Sydney Uni is pitiful, and I was wondering if this was reflected elsewhere. Gordon Grimwade was the only person to respond:

"Interesting point here for wider debate. As most of you are aware, we operate as a private consultancy in North Queensland and often find difficult to recruit good staff consultants. At a time when universities are actually reducing training opportunities this is ironic and bad planning I venture to suggest. Given the impetus being provided through Centenary of Federation funding there is a need now for good graduate staff. In the aftermath there will be a need for graduates to manage/advise re continuity for many of these projects. Or can we expect a progressive backward slide because there are not enough managers (and insufficient funds) (1988 revisited?) I am not sure if there is a correlation between university funding and declining ASHA membership, but there is certainly a tie up between university training and industry demand. Is there a role for ASHA to lobby government and universities?"

*Gordon Grimwade & Associates  
Heritage Consultants.*

Some Sydney consultants have commented on the fact that although there are some talented people coming through, there are some gaps, particularly among more recent graduates. The other interesting point is that many students are going straight into postgraduate degrees with little or no field experience. Where is this leading? Recently (in a Newsletter?) someone commented that they were writing a lot of management plans, but not excavating. So is this the way of the future? However, it is unlikely that excavation will cease altogether. It has been suggested by some that the Newsletter could include more than just "I dug that!" and become a forum for debate. And for those who missed it!

The JAPAN TIMES for March 11, 2001 had a brief report on the suicide of the archaeologist Professor Mitsuo Kagawa. Kagawa was the excavator of the supposed Palaeolithic site of Hijiridaki Cave, Oita Prefecture. On March 6, the which re-opened the excavation of the site announced their results that the site was younger than the Palaeolithic (unfortunately no information was given on the date of the finds found in the cave). Kagawa left notes explaining he was going to kill himself over these new findings. It couldn't happen here - could it?

*Jennie Lindbergh*

## Amendment to subscription rate

Info (for both current members and any potential new ones).  
\$28.00 - Full-time Student / Un-waged /Pensioner, \$50.00 - Individual (Australia and NZ only); \$60.00 - Overseas Individual (excluding Australia & NZ); \$55.00 - Household; \$55.00 Corporate.

## FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS

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

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

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

Sept Rick McGovern-Wilson  
email: [rncgwilson@historic.org.nz](mailto:rncgwilson@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 ASHA contacts on last page for address 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)

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