

NEWSLETTER

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STATE OF THE ART

ACT NEWS

Compiled by Richard Morrison

HERITAGE DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND WATER RESOURCES (DEW)

Australian Heritage Council (AHC)

By the time this newsletter is distributed the new AHC members will have been appointed with the expiry of the terms of the first members of this council established in 2004. The historic environment-related council members are Howard Tanner and a re-appointed Dr. Jane Lennon. The previous chairman, Tom Harley, has also been re-appointed.

National Cultural Heritage Forum (NCHF)

Representatives of the NCHF, a non-government body of cultural heritage organisations formed to advise the dew minister, attended a meeting in Victoria of the heritage chairs and officials of Australia and New Zealand, participating in a special breakout session on 13 April 2007. ASHA was represented at the briefing by Caitlin Allen. Matters discussed included: progress on the NCHF vision statement, including key messages from it; proposed revisions to the protocols which set out the operations and membership of the NCHF; and suggestions of matters that the chairs and officials could take up such as lack of resources at the local government level, a program for protection of items on the register of the national estate not listed elsewhere, and overcoming the current lack of interest in heritage at all levels of government.

Representatives of the NCHF were also briefed by dew on the Australian government budget 2007-2008 as it relates to heritage three days after the budget was handed down. NCHF was represented by Dr Tracy Ireland.

National Heritage Investment Initiative (NHII)

Grants from the second round of the NHII were announced recently, amounting to more than \$2.7 million designated to help conserve and restore 12 historic places of national heritage significance around Australia:

- Port Arthur's Separate Prison A Wing and exercise yard, Tas (\$454,445) - restoration and stabilisation
- Cascade Female Factory, TAS (over \$63,000) - urgent structural stability works
- Zig Zag Railway, NSW (\$298,028) – restoration of the remaining 3 kilometres of the line
- Old Government House and Domain, Parramatta, NSW (\$147,329) - works including restoring pathways, carriage drives and the lemon hedge walk to Mrs Macquarie's pavilion.
- Bonegilla Migrant Experience Heritage Park, Vic (\$143,864) – repairs
- Rippon Lea Estate, Vic (\$115,000) - restoration of the conservatory

- Echuca Wharf, Vic (\$500,000) - structural works
- Lennox Bridge and Mitchell's Pass sites, NSW (\$20,000) – preparation of Conservation Management Plan

Tannery Building, Hermannsburg, NT (\$254,091) - restoration works

Grants included: the North Head Quarantine Station, NSW (\$500,000) - repairs to the roof, windows and brickwork.

To be eligible for funding under the NHII, a place must be entered on either the Australian Government's National Heritage List, or on a state or territory government statutory heritage register, at the time at which an application for funding is submitted. Information on the program and the Guidelines are available from: <http://www.deh.gov.au/heritage/programs/index.html>

Archaeology Survey, Headquarters Joint Operation Command (HJOC), Bungendore - Department Of Defence

Archaeological survey and excavations undertaken prior to construction for the \$300M new HJOC facility for the Australian Defence Force - covering some 220 hectares south west of Bungendore, outside of Canberra (both in NSW and the ACT) - has revealed, inter alia, thousands of Aboriginal artefacts, the remains of the Hibernia Hotel and an early settler's hut (1860s to early 20th century). The Hibernia, constructed in 1859, was an inn and coach house. Over many months Doug Williams of Archaeo Analysis has, with a large team, surveyed the Defence project site, made preservation recommendations and conducted both salvage and investigatory excavations. Discussion is occurring with both the ACT and Australian Governments over the conservation future of the remains.

NEW SOUTH WALES NEWS

Compiled by Tim Owen

ACHM

A fairly busy time in the last six months at AHMS. Lisa Campbell and Felicity Barry have joined us, from Sydney University and AMBS, to work with Jim Wheeler in Aboriginal heritage. In addition, Fiona Leslie has returned to us after a six-month stint working in the Heritage Office and will shortly take over the management of the Historic Heritage team while I take myself away to write up the things that are due. Our office manager Cynthia Paterson has been joined by Bernice Ngo, an archaeology grad from Sydney Uni, who's taking over the day to day running of the place while also looking for as many opportunities as possible to do fieldwork.

Matthew Kelly, Adam Paterson and Graham Wilson are currently test excavating at the site of the Newcastle convict Commandant's cottage and excavations are also scheduled to begin soon at the Commercial Hotel in Orange (Fiona and I co-directing), the first Bathurst Hospital site and at Liverpool Hospital (Matthew Kelly and Adam Paterson). Meanwhile, further south, Sophie Pullar continues her historic heritage recording work on the Hume Highway duplication. This project now mainly requires provision of advice to the construction design team as they look to finalise details of the road alignment and the form

of the embankments and cuttings - most of which will avoid the historic sites and items identified during last years Environment Assessment. Some limited excavation may be required along the route and, if it eventuates, along with the other projects on the Tableland, it looks like a cold winter awaits us.

Peter Douglas

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Adaptive Reuse of the Former Post Office

Parks and Wildlife Division of the DECC are proposing to lease the former Post Office at Hartley Historic Site for use as a commercial café/tea rooms. The former Post Office stands on section 9, lots 9 and 10, on land granted in 1845 to Michael John Finn, a well-educated Irish Catholic immigrant, son of Mary Finn, and pharmacist for the village. The site is marked Finn's Store on an 1858 road survey plan (NSW State Records, Map 3104). It also operated as a post office, continuing in this use until 1982 when it ceased operations.

As part of the planning works an Archaeological Assessment was undertaken for the site to permit excavation associated with the development. The objectives of the assessment were to:

- evaluate the probable extent, nature and integrity of the archaeological resource at the former Post Office, Hartley Historic site;
- determine the significance of that resource; and
- define the appropriate management for that resource having regard to significant and statutory requirements.

The areas excavated had been extensively disturbed in the past and only an early Commonwealth Savings Bank sign was located. Building works to permit adaptation of the building are nearing completion and have added greatly to the Departments understanding of the development of the building over a period of approximately 160 years. A final report will be prepared on the project outlining the results of the excavation and the historical development of the building.

Steve Ring

AMBS

Jennie Lindbergh has moved to the Australian Museum Business Services (AMBS) as the Senior Project Manager. She is responsible for managing the Aboriginal Archaeology team and is extending AMBS' capabilities to include historical archaeology, built and industrial heritage. No doubt we will have more to report in the next Newsletter. (Jennie's new contact details are Ph: 9320 6007 and email: jennie.lindbergh@austrmus.gov.au).

Jennie Lindbergh

AINSWORTH HERITAGE

State Rep's Note – while this publication is not normally used for providing short reports relating to specific research topics, the general interest generated through the

ASHA email list and in general discussions relating to Bellman Hanger's means that it is warranted to publish the following. I personally thank Jane for her distribution of this information, which will prove useful to the Australian heritage industry in the future (TO).

As part of our on-going contracts at Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome, we have been preparing a CMP for the one surviving Bellman Hangar at the aerodrome. This included a comparative analysis of Bellman Hangar's in Australia and has provided some very useful comparative information, primarily by establishing that Bellman Hangars are not rare in Australia, NSW, VIC or QLD. The following outlines the results of the comparative analysis (please note that our comparative analysis was not example comprehensive or exhaustive, many more surviving examples may exist).

Bellman Hangars were fabricated and erected in Australia from approximately 1939-1940 onwards. The hangars were particularly used on aerodromes constructed as training bases for the Empire Air Training Scheme.

The Rarity of Bellman Hangars

A brief desktop study, which is not comprehensive, established that there at least 130 surviving Bellman Hangars across Australia, with more than 70 in NSW. The location of these Bellman Hangars is noted in the table at the end of this document.

The large number of Bellman hangars shown in the above Table of known Bellman Hangars in Australia (and we stress that our search was not extensive or comprehensive) indicates that World War II in-situ Bellman Hangars and post-war relocated Bellman Hangars are not rare in Australia or in NSW. Further, it indicates that Bellman Hangars are not rare on bases established for the Empire Air Training Scheme, or in Defence ownership (more than 70 are still owned by Defence).

However, it does appear that groups of Bellman Hangars are becoming increasingly rare and these groups of Bellman Hangars (those sites which retain three or more Bellman Hangars) may warrant higher significance. Defence owns the three largest groups of Bellman Hangars, at RAAF Wagga Wagga, RAAF Amberley and RAAF Point Cooke – these three bases each retain 14 Bellman Hangars.

Three Bombing and Gunnery Schools were established for the EATS including Evans Head; each of these former schools retains one Bellman Hangar. The hangar at No 2 BAGS (Port Pirie) is in quite good condition.

New South Wales retains the largest number of Bellman Hangars and groups of Bellman Hangars, with at least 70 individual hangars and 10 groups of Hangars. Victoria and Queensland both retain good populations of hangars; however the ACT and NT each only retain one known Bellman Hangar, and WA only 3, which makes these hangars very rare at their state level.

STATE	POPULATION AT 23/11/1945 ¹	CURRENT KNOWN POPULATION	PERCENTAGE OF ORIGINAL POPULATION
VIC	85	26	31%
TAS	4	0	0%
NSW	122	70	57%
QLD	55	30	55%
SA	40	6	15%
WA	26	3	12%
NT	4	1	25%
ACT	0	1	+100%

Representative Bellman Hangars

Representativeness refers to the ability of a place to demonstrate an important type or class of building. In this sense, all Bellman Hangars are representative of World War II prefabricated temporary hangars. Each Bellman Hangar also represents the transference of technology from Britain to Australia prior to and during World War II. The condition and integrity of each hangar varies however, and those in original or near original condition would best represent this class of Hangar. Although it appears that most hangars have post-war cladding, this should not detract from the hangars significance as the Bellman was designed with the cladding sitting independent of the portal frame structure to allow easy re-cladding, repairs and addition of doors and windows to suit each hangars specific requirements.

The surviving groups of Bellman Hangars, which are becoming increasingly rare, would better represent the function of Bellman hangars in Australia. For example, Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome (formerly No 1 BAGS) originally contained 17 Bellman Hangars arranged in an arc, as did No 2 BAGS at Port Pirie. The third BAGS, at West Sale, originally contained 15 Bellman Hangars in two groups. These three aerodromes only retain one Bellman Hangar each, and accordingly, the ability of these Bellman's to demonstrate their large-scale maintenance role and the importance of that role is greatly diminished. As such, aerodromes which retain their original group, or a large group, of Bellman Hangars, better represent the maintenance function that most Bellman's serviced.

The tables on the following pages supply more details on known surviving Bellman Hangars.

Jane Ainsworth

¹ NAA; 705, 102/1/293. RAAF [Royal Australian Air Force] - DWB [Directorate of Disposals] - Disposal of Bellman Hangars – Policy. 1945-1946.

State	Location	Airfield Name	Airfield Type	EATS base?	Number of surviving Bellman Hangars	Number of Hangars as at 23/11/1945 ²	In Defence Ownership?	Condition of Bellman Hangars (if known)
ACT	Majura	RAAF Fairbairn		No	1		Yes	
NSW	Armidale	N/A	N/A	No	1		No	Used as A Factory
NSW	Bankstown	Bankstown Airport	Parent Operational	No	5 original 1 relocated	6	No	
NSW	Camden	Camden Airport	Central Flying School	Yes	5 or 6	7	No	
NSW	Deniliquin	Deniliquin Airport	No 7 Service Flying Training School	Yes	4	13	No	
NSW	Dubbo	RAAF Stores	N/A	No	3 1 dismantled	2	Yes	2 single hangars; 1 double
NSW	Evans Head	Evans Head Memorial Aerodrome	No 1 Bombing & Gunnery School; No 3 Air Observers School; Care & Maintenance Unit	Yes	1 original 1 relocated	17	No	Poor Many modifications
NSW	Griffith	Griffith Airport		No	1		No	Extended to one side
NSW	Narrandera	Narrandera-Leeton Airport	No 8 Elementary Flying Training School	Yes	2	6	No	
NSW	Narromine	Narromine	No 5 Elementary Flying Training School	Yes	1 1 dismantled	6	No	
NSW	Nowra	HMAS Albatross	N/A	N/A	4	4	Yes	
NSW	Parkes	Parkes Airport	Wireless and Air Gunnery	Yes	3	5	No	

² NAA; 705, 102/1/293. RAAF [Royal Australian Air Force] - DWB [Directorate of Disposals] - Disposal of Bellman Hangars – Policy. 1945-1946.

State	Location	Airfield Name	Airfield Type	EATS base?	Number of surviving Bellman Hangars	Number of Hangars as at 23/11/1945 ²	In Defence Ownership?	Condition of Bellman Hangars (if known)
			School					
NSW	Richmond	RAAF Richmond	Moved to Richmond post-WWII	No	3 - at least		Yes	Possibly moved from Evans Head
NSW	Temora	Temora Airfield	No 10 Elementary Flying Training School	Yes	1 or 2	5	No	
NSW	Tocumwal	Tocumwal Aerodrome	Aircraft Depot	No	2 Timber		No	2 x Timber framed Bellman Hangar Good condition
NSW	Tottenham	Tottenham RAAF Store	N/A	N/A	6		Yes	
NSW	Uralla	N/A	N/A	No	1		No	Kitchen showroom and factory
NSW	Wagga Wagga	Wagga Wagga RAAF Base	No 2 Service Flying Training School	Yes	14	14	Yes	Good
NSW	Williamtown	RAAF Williamtown	Parent Operational	No	3 original 6 relocated	5	Yes	All good condition; All re-clad; Most extended; Only 1 retains original doors
NT	Alice Springs	7 Mile Aerodrome	N/A	No	1		No	Good; Internally portioned; New long-elevation doors
QLD	Amberley	RAAF Amberley	No 3 Service Flying Training School	Yes	14	14	Yes	13 in group; 1 separate; New concrete floors; Partly re-clad with

State	Location	Airfield Name	Airfield Type	EATS base?	Number of surviving Bellman Hangars	Number of Hangars as at 23/11/1945 ²	In Defence Ownership?	Condition of Bellman Hangars (if known)
								colourbond; Otherwise retain frame and doors; Good condition
QLD	Archerfield	Archerfield Airport	No 2 Elementary Flying Training School	Yes	2	5	No	2 survive of original group of 3
QLD	Kingaroy	Kingaroy Airport	N/A	No	1	4	No	1 survives out of original group of 4
QLD	Maryborough	Maryborough Airport	No 3 Air Navigation School No 3 Wireless Air Gunner School	Yes	1	2	No	1 survives out of original group of 4
QLD	Townsville (Garbutt)	N/A	N/A	No	1		No	Furniture Factory Not on an aerodrome – relocated
QLD	Oakey	Oakey Airfield	N/A	No	1	4	No	
QLD	Townsville	Townsville RAAF base		No	2		Yes	Good Re-clad
QLD	Townsville	Jezzine Barracks	N/A	No	1		Yes	Fair – Poor: Rust damage
QLD	Townsville	Macrossan Stores Depot	N/A	No	3	2	Yes	Good; Timber framed examples (?) Mostly original
SA	Adelaide	Adelaide Airport		No	1?			
SA	Mt Gambier	Mt Gambier Airport	No 1 Air Observers	Yes	1	6		Re-clad

State	Location	Airfield Name	Airfield Type	EATS base?	Number of surviving Bellman Hangars	Number of Hangars as at 23/11/1945 ²	In Defence Ownership?	Condition of Bellman Hangars (if known)
			School					
SA	Parafield	Parafield Airport	No 1 Elementary Flight Training School	Yes	3	2		1 excellent & original, good condition; 2 - minor modifications & re-clad
SA	Port Pirie	Port Pirie Airport	No 2 Bombing & Gunnery School; No 3 Air Observers School	Yes	1	17		Good condition; re-clad
VIC	Ballarat	Ballarat Airport	No 1 Wireless Air Gunners School	Yes	4	4		Good New Roofs In use as Hangars
VIC	Benalla	Benalla Airfield	No 11 Elementary Flying Training School	Yes	1	8		Good (1991); Integrity: Fair (1991)
VIC	Dandenong	N/A	N/A	No	1			Used as a factory
VIC	Essendon	Essendon Airport		No	1	2		
VIC	Fisherman's Bend	Commonwealth Aircraft Corporation	N/A	N/A	3	4		Good
VIC	Mildura	Mildura Airport	No 2 Operational Training Unit	Yes	1	8		
VIC	Nhill	Nhill Airport	No 2 Air Navigation School; No 1 Operational Training School	Yes	At least 1	5	No	
VIC	Point Cook	Point Cook	No 1 Service Flying	Yes	14	14	Yes	

State	Location	Airfield Name	Airfield Type	EATS base?	Number of surviving Bellman Hangars	Number of Hangars as at 23/11/1945 ²	In Defence Ownership?	Condition of Bellman Hangars (if known)
			Training School					
VIC	Werribee	N/A	RAAF camp	No	Several			
VIC	West Sale	West Sale Airport	No 3 Bombing and Gunnery School	Yes	1	9		
VIC	Williamstown, Laverton	RAAF Laverton	General Reconnaissance School	Yes	2 or 3	5	Yes	
WA	Cunderdin	Cunderdin Airfield	No 9 Elementary Flight Training School	Yes	1	4		Structurally: Good Cladding: Fair
WA	Geraldton	Geraldton Airfield	No Elementary Flying Training School	Yes	2	14	No	
					TOTAL:		TOTAL:	

SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWS

Compiled by Bob Stone

BERESFORD ARMS HOTEL

In 2006 the Adelaide City Council purchased the derelict former Beresford Arms Hotel, in Gilles Street, Adelaide. Built in 1839, and licensed in 1840, the building is one of the few surviving buildings shown on the 1842 Kingston map of Adelaide.

It was purchased to ensure that the building was restored and preserved for future generations. The Lord Mayor, Michael Harbison said that "the conservation of this building will include an archaeological dig, which will determine the uses of the various rooms and the exact location of the cellar and well, and is sure to uncover some treasures from the past".

Austral Archaeology was awarded the contract to undertake an archaeological survey and excavation of the site prior to restoration. Work was carried out in consultation with the Adelaide City Council heritage architect with excavation, recording, site plans and packing of artifacts assisted by archaeology student volunteers from Flinders University.

The next stage is about to commence. The remainder of the cellar (yes it was found) is to be cleared by the Adelaide City Council with student volunteers fulfilling the watching brief, and with the restoration commencing in June. The Adelaide City Council is to be commended on its stand to preserve what little is left of Adelaide's early heritage. The building will be opened to the public for one day only as part of History Week.

The project has had additional benefits for Flinders University students with Marica Beric undertaking the cataloguing and analysis of the artefacts as part of her honours degree in archaeology. In 2008, the archaeology faculty will be introducing a new subject "Archaeology in the Field". Students seeking to enrol will be required to undertake at least 120 hours of approved volunteer work in archaeology. Students who assisted with the excavation at the Beresford Arms site and lab work will be eligible to claim up to 30 hours.

ARCHAEOLOGY AND WWII ARCHITECTURE

In conjunction with the Repatriation General Hospital in the Adelaide suburb of Daw Park, students and staff of Flinders University have been surveying the hospital site with the aim of locating the WWII underground hospital.

The survey has been completed and some initial excavations have taken place with encouraging results. In September 2007, Flinders University will be conducting a field school with the aim of locating some of the buildings. Given that there are many buildings on the site, the car park is a logical target.

Continuing the WWII theme, Martin Wimmer, a PhD candidate is researching, 'ARPAeology, the archaeology of fear'. One part of his study is the location of WWII air raid shelters in Adelaide. It hardly seems that a week goes by with Martin finding yet another shelter somewhere.

The two projects are complementary and results are eagerly awaited.

Bob Stone

QUEENSLAND NEWS

NATIONAL ARCHAEOLOGY WEEK ACTIVITIES

Queensland historical archaeologists geared up for a massive National Archaeology Week. There were five specific historical archaeology events during the week. On Monday 21 May four talks were presented under the banner of 'Historical Archaeology in the Spotlight'. Jon Prangnell, UQ, spoke on 'Australian Historical Archaeology', Geraldine Mate, UQ, spoke on 'Early Gold Mining in Queensland', Kevin Rains, from the Gold Coast City Council, spoke about 'Early Queensland Chinese Communities' and Peter Gesner of the Queensland Museum discussed 'Queensland Shipwrecks'. This was followed in the afternoon by a professional workshop, hosted by the Queensland Museum, discussing key historical archaeological issues in Queensland, particularly as related to proposed changes to the *Queensland Heritage Act*.

Between Thursday and Saturday a public excavation was conducted within Toowong Cemetery. This was the third year of excavations in the cemetery during NAW and this year involved students from three different Brisbane schools excavating discarded funerary monuments to assist the Friends of Toowong Cemetery to re-establish lost parts of the cemetery. An exhibition was mounted at Toowong Library during May, which included photographs and artefacts from the previous excavation at the cemetery.

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The Mill Point Archaeological Project is gearing up for another week of fieldwork at the site of a 19th century sawmilling township on the banks of Lake Cootharaba in the Noosa hinterland. This season's fieldwork will concentrate on areas away from the main industrial centre looking for the sites of the schoolhouse, family cottages and timber getting activities in the wider landscape. The fieldwork will be conducted between 8 and 13 July 2007. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Karen Murphy on k.murphy2@uq.edu.au

MOUNT SHAMROCK

In April 2007, the final phase of fieldwork at Mt Shamrock was completed with a return to the industrial area to examine the "Assay Office" and "Store" in closer detail. Mount Shamrock was a gold mine in the Upper Burnett District of Queensland, which operated from 1886 to the 1930s. The site now contains some remains of the township and extensive remnants of the mine and processing operations.

In this visit, we were investigating the one remaining area not previously examined in depth. In particular, we wanted to clear the area to allow us to define the extent of the remnants of two buildings and record these features in detail. It immediately became obvious that the floors of both areas were more substantially intact than we had previously thought. In the assay office this gave us a much better picture of the original size of the building and it became clear that the body of at least one of the two small furnaces housed in this area was located on the exterior of the building, with only the furnace grate within the building. The flooring in this area was completely brick paved, although much of the paving

was obscured by tumbled bricks. As evidence of timber corner posts was also uncovered, we surmised that the brick debris was from the two furnaces.

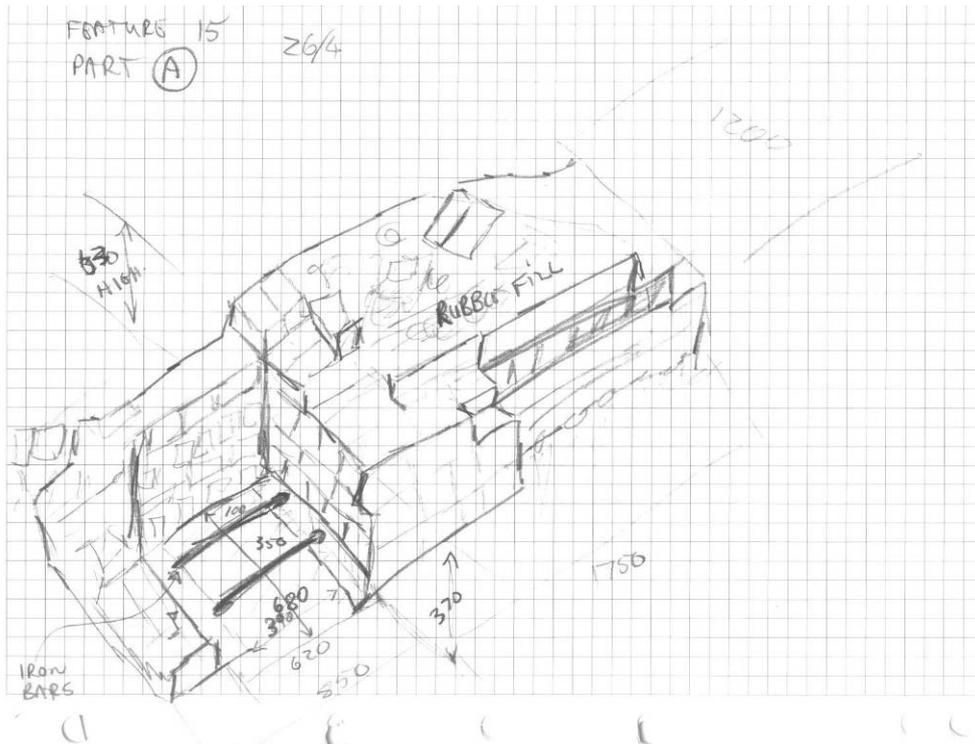
In the area designated as a “Store” on a map from approximately 1930, we had previously identified flooring of paved bricks and concrete render. Closer inspection and clearing of leaf litter provided evidence that more of the brick was rendered than was first thought, with some loose render found. More interestingly, two long depressions previously suspected of being wheel ruts have resolved into a more complex pattern after clearing. We now suspect that this area may have contained tanks and channels in which final precipitation of gold was carried out after either chlorination or cyanidation processes. This building is situated adjacent to and between remnants of chlorination and cyanidation tanks used at different times in the life of the mine. Until now, there has been no indication of a location for this phase of operation.

With the completion of fieldwork for this project, work is now turning to analysis and presentation of data. In particular for the industrial area, forthcoming analysis will focus on the social influences on the technology used.

Geraldine Mate



Birds eye view of “Store” area showing channels and earthen gaps between brick paving suspected of being position of tanks



Field sketch of one of the small furnaces in the “Assay Office” area.

TASMANIA NEWS

PARKS & WILDLIFE SERVICE

Archaeological survey of Sarah Island

The skills of convict shipbuilders at Australia’s first penal settlement, Sarah Island, have been highlighted during a recent comprehensive survey of the land and coastal archaeology. Sarah Island, in the Tasmanian Wilderness World Heritage Area, operated as a convict settlement from 1822 to 1833, predating Port Arthur and the Coal Mines.

The project was a cooperative effort between the Parks and Wildlife Service’s (PWS) Heritage Section and Strahan Field Centre, Port Arthur Historic Site and Flinders University in South Australia. The objective was to complete a comprehensive identification and digital survey of the island’s land and coastal archaeology to support the Sarah Island Visitor Services Site Plan, which proposes to upgrade tracks and other tourism infrastructure on the island that now receives over 100,000 visitors per year.

The results of the original 1980s archaeological survey of the island were revisited with the aid of modern equipment, and 118 features recorded in detail and mapped on a digital base plan. The level of detail recorded will enable effective monitoring of future visitor and environmental impacts.

Archaeology students from Flinders University, directed by Assoc. Professor Mike Staniforth, assisted P&WS maritime archaeologist Mike Nash in recording the complex built

foreshore on the south side of the island, which once accommodated the Commissariat docks and ship building operations.

By 1828 the Sarah Island shipyards were the most productive in the Australian colonies and 180 years later, the complex and backbreaking engineering of the convicts remains remarkably intact.

The project was a great example of how inter-agency links and partnerships with academic institutions can operate to get an enormous amount of work done to an incredible amount of detail, and provide practical and timely outcomes for site management.

Jody Steele

FORESTRY TASMANIA

Bushfire Reveals Unique Mining History at Warrawee Forest Reserve.

A recent bushfire at the Warrawee Forest Reserve behind the township of Latrobe in North West Tasmania has revealed a wealth of artefacts associated with the once thriving shale-mining industry that flourished between 1910 and 1935.

Oil shale was first discovered in the 1850s and in 1861 an operation was set up to extract and process the oil into paraffin and naphthalene. The venture soon folded and it was not until May 3rd 1911 that processing was recommenced with the opening of the Tasmanian Shale Oil Company.

Over the next two decades several companies tried a variety of new technologies to extract the good quality oil from the local shale known as "Tasmanite". Over 1 million litres of crude oil were produced during this time but the rising cost of production eventually spelled the end of what had been a promising venture.

Oil from the shale-works was refined into petrol but was unpopular due to its repulsive odour. Good quality bitumen was produced and various local streets benefited from the local product. At one stage the oil was destined for use by the Australian Navy, as it was ideal for oil burning steamers, however the price offered was below the cost of production so inevitably the deal fell through.

Today the mining leases have been reclaimed by the bush and it is hard to imagine the hive of activity that was once generated by the succession of shale-works with their crushers, retorts and distilleries. The fire, which has destroyed much of the understorey, has revealed a range of industrial relics and two beautifully preserved adits complete with ventilation shafts. Further investigation by Forestry Tasmania has also located extensive relics on the opposite bank of the Mersey River. Mining interests once bridged the river with a tramway but nothing remains of this old bridge except some rotting stumps in the riverbed.

There is little doubt that the shale-mining era made an important contribution to the history of Latrobe and the relics are worthy of interpretation. To this end Forestry Tasmania is undertaking the development of an interpretive loop along the path of the old tramway. It is hoped to combine historical research, archaeology and oral history to provide a real insight into the life of this fledgling industry and the people who championed its development.

Jane Becker

PORT ARTHUR HISTORIC SITE MANAGEMENT AUTHORITY

Port Arthur 'anniversary' symposium 5–6 October

2007 marks a significant anniversary for the PAHSMA, marking the 20th anniversary of the establishment of the Authority as well as 30 years since the first archaeological project was carried out by a team from the University of Sydney led by Maureen Byrne. The PAHSMA is proposing to host a mini symposium on 5-6 October to acknowledge the significant achievements of the past 20/30 years. While a full program is yet to be finalised, it is likely to include a social event on the evening of the 5th and an archaeology planning workshop on the morning of the 6th. One of the desired outcomes of the workshop is a blueprint for a new archaeology plan for the Port Arthur and Coal Mines historic sites that reflect the National Listing of both places, the new statutory Management Plan, and the impending World Heritage nomination of Port Arthur and the Coal Mines as part of the Australian Convict Sites Serial Listing.

So watch this space (and the ASHA list) for further details, and if you are of a mind to reacquaint yourselves with Port Arthur, keep 5-6 October free. We would love to see you.

Greg Jackman

VICTORIAN NEWS

NEWS FROM HERITAGE VICTORIA

Earlier this year, the Minister for Planning appointed an Advisory Committee to undertake an inquiry into the heritage provisions of planning schemes. The purpose of the inquiry was to stimulate discussion and direct debate about possible reforms.

The terms of reference for the review included a requirement to consider the proposal made by the Heritage Council's Archaeology Advisory Committee to deal with the management of historical archaeological matters through the Heritage Overlay.

Over the last two years, the Archaeology Advisory Committee of the Heritage Council has been addressing the issue that there is currently no link between the planning schemes and the provisions of the Heritage Act regarding the protection of historical archaeological places and relics. This means that in many cases local government authorities may not be aware of the existence of Heritage Inventory sites within their municipalities.

The Archaeology Advisory Committee has made recommendations that there should be a modification to the Heritage Overlay to include a section on historic archaeological sites, with reference to the Victorian Heritage Inventory. There should also be a modification to the existing schedule to include a column identifying places listed on the Inventory.

It is understood that it will be necessary to improve the quality of data within the Inventory records prior to the implementation of the system, and extensive consultation with archaeology consultants and other stakeholder will need to be undertaken.

The final recommendations from the Advisory Committee undertaking the review are likely to be presented by the middle of the year.

Jeremy Smith

LIFE ON THE EDGE: THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF PRE-GOLD RUSH SETTLEMENT IN SOUTH GIPPSLAND

It was with some surprise that your June newsletter guest editor skimmed the last few back issues of the newsletter and realised that he hasn't offered an update on this ARC-funded La Trobe University-based project on the material culture of early pre-gold rush settlement in regional Victoria for some months.

Over the course of the last 2 1/2 months, in work previously summarised in this newsletter and the last two ASHA conferences, the project research team of Alasdair Brooks, Susan Lawrence and Jane Lennon, assisted by several colleagues and La Trobe undergraduate volunteers, undertook background research and geophysical survey on several potential sites in south Gippsland. For those not already familiar with the project, Gippsland (SE Victoria) was first settled by Europeans in 1841; Port Albert in South Gippsland was the only port of entry to the region for the first 15 years or so of settlement, and three competing historic townships – Port Albert itself, the government township of Alberton, and the private (and largest) township of Tarraville – sprung up within about a 5km radius of each other.

In September and November of 2006, field staff (directed by Susan Lawrence and Alasdair Brooks, assisted by Sam Spiers, Zvonka Stanin and La Trobe volunteers) completed excavation of three sites: Willoughby Bean's Parsonage, Greenmount, and Wellington Street (Port Albert).

Wellington Street

The site of this 1840s cottage was identified through a combination of geophysical survey and historic map research (a cottage is clearly shown in this location on an 1848 survey map). Documentary research indicates that it was lived in by one of the official port pilots responsible for guiding ships through the sometimes-treacherous waters of Corner Inlet. Initial excavation in April 2006, previously described in this newsletter, revealed what appeared to be an occupation layer (under a mixed fill layer) lying over a series of postholes. Excavation in September suggests that the 'occupation layer' is more probably a destruction layer dating to the first decade of the 20th century, and contains mixed artefacts from the first half of the 19th century through to the very beginning of the 20th. The square postholes – which enclose circular post moulds – almost certainly mark the original back wall of the cottage, and this interpretation is supported by the evidence from the (albeit small) number of early artefacts recovered from these features. A group of irregularly-arranged postholes behind the larger postholes were probably associated with the later addition of a lean-to.

While the long post-gold rush occupation span means that the site presents interpretive challenges for a project focussed on the pre-gold rush period, the site presents an important opportunity to study everyday life in a 19th-century colonial port in regional Victoria. The by no means insignificant pre-gold rush elements of the assemblage will provide the main immediate analytical focus for the project team, but the post-gold rush elements will certainly not be ignored, and are expected to provide ample research opportunities for La Trobe students in the coming months.



Main trench at Wellington Street – primary post hole row left of centre

Greenmount

This site is an early pastoral homestead built by the Buckley family in c.1846. The site was also of interest as the location of the 1841-1842 settlement of Aeneas MacDonnell, the 16th Lord Glengarry. Unfortunately, no evidence of that initial settlement was identified, and excavation in November focussed on the homestead.

While substantial architectural of the Buckley homestead survived, again much of the material culture recovered was from the later 19th and early 20th century. Only a dense artefact scatter behind the kitchen area contained substantial earlier materials.



The homestead kitchen area at Greenmount

Part of the site (though not the homestead itself) was indeed inhabited until the 1930s, and the artefacts recovered from the builder's trench associated with the kitchen area were not themselves associated with an early period of occupation, but instead demonstrated that important parts of the homestead had been substantially redeveloped towards the very end of the 19th century. While the overall homestead site remains significant archaeologically, and is now listed on the state Heritage Inventory, the lack of any readily identifiable pre-gold rush component caused the project team to consolidate its attention on the final, and arguably most important, site: Bean's Parsonage.

Willoughby Bean's Parsonage

This site was the residence of the Rev. Willoughby Bean, the first permanent Anglican Minister in Gippsland. He arrived in 1848 and was recalled by his diocese in 1858. The 'parsonage' burned down in early 1861, and has remained undeveloped agricultural land ever since. Ploughing and grazing have inevitably caused disturbance to the vertical stratigraphy, but geophysical survey and surface collection – as previously described in this newsletter – indicated that horizontal artefact distributions remained substantially intact within the plough zone.

Excavation recovered a rich and period-appropriate material culture assemblage which, apart from a small discreet component apparently dating to late 1861 and one or two modern objects dropped by landowners, entirely dates to the early- to mid- 19th century. Only two pit features were identified below the plough zone (one so large we never did find the boundaries in the limited time available), but geophysical survey, surface collection and plough zone artefact distributions should all assist with overall site interpretation.



Artefacts at base of plough zone, Bean site

Artefact analysis is still ongoing, but it is already clear that Rev. Bean tried to establish an as comfortable as possible way of life on what was at the time an isolated frontier of European settlement. Artefacts recovered, for example, include elaborate cast-iron

furniture feet and crystal stemware. Considerable quantities of ceramic, glass bottles (and the copper wires used for re-sealing bottles), and various small finds have also been recovered. Perhaps the strangest artefact identified so far were six fragments of white salt glazed stoneware, a ceramic type that your guest editor didn't even bother putting in An Archaeological Guide to British Ceramics in Australia, 1788-1901 as the usually accepted dates of manufacture are c.1720-c.1790, meaning that this object was at least 50 years old when taken to Gippsland. Initially it was assumed that the vessel in question was a single item taken to Gippsland by the Bean family (and a one-off extreme example of time lag in deposition), but a single fragment of this ware has also subsequently been identified at the Wellington Street site, raising the possibility that this ceramic that almost entirely pre-dates British settlement in Australia was available to multiple households in Gippsland.

The project team hope to complete the artefact processing, cataloguing, and analysis over the coming months, and we every reason to expect further intriguing analytical issues and interpretations to arise as the year progresses.

Further details on the project were presented by Alasdair at a National Archaeology Week event in Port Albert on the 23rd of May, which also featured the Yarram and District Historical Society, the Port Albert Maritime Museum, and Jeremy Smith from Heritage Victoria.

Alasdair Brooks

NEWS FROM ERM AUSTRALIA PTY LTD

Brad Duncan, Senior Maritime Heritage Consultant in the ERM Melbourne Office has left the company to take up a position as Heritage Registrar at Aboriginal Affairs Victoria. Brad was with ERM for ten months and in that time worked on a range of projects, such as the Gippsland Ports and Port of Melbourne Corporation Heritage Strategies. We wish Brad all the best in his new position.

Darren Griffin

WESTERN AUSTRALIA NEWS

RECENT RESULTS OF FIELD WORK AT PEEL TOWN, HENDERSON WESTERN AUSTRALIA

The on-going research at Peel town, the 1830 campsite comprising 500 men, women and children of the embryonic Swan River Colony, continues to unearth well-preserved material from the camp's occupation between December 1829 and August 1830. The site's use as the University of Notre Dame of Australia's April 2007 field school allowed the excavation of large exploratory areas.

One of these excavations, comprising three 2 by 2-metre pits, occurred near a light artefact scatter of blue underglaze earthenware, salt-glaze stoneware and black bottle glass. One pit proved sterile but the others were rich. One pit exposed part of a feature that further excavation showed to be a floor of limestone cobbles and poorly burnt limestone mortar (Figure). Heavily corroded but still recognisable iron pegs were *in situ* on the floor's margins, while the remains of a timber post – reinforced with nails – survived on the pad's

north east corner. The pegs and post indicate that the floor served as a solid base for a tent, supporting comments made in historical documents that many Peel town settlers were in tents and marques made by Edgington's of London.

Units to the floor's north contained smoking pipe fragments, brass pins and other small artefacts suggestive of a sweep zone, while an area to the floor's east comprised melted lead fragments, shot (ball and pellet), gunflints, copper rod blanks and two brass nested apothecary weights stamped with either King George III or IV's mark. In addition, there was much charcoal. Artefact type and location suggests the area's use for equipment storage and firearm maintenance.



The limestone floor feature looking south east. Scale near left margin is in 0.5 m increments (Simon Meath 2007)

The other pit exposed a rubbish trench. The feature, varying in depth between 250 cm and 1.1 m below ground surface, contained black and red beads, brass pins, a silver plated chain, an 1820 copper shilling pieced with an iron nail and much lead pellet shot. However, the feature's predominant artefacts were ceramics and glass, with low-fragmented blue underglaze earthenware plates and bowls (willow and sheet floral patterns prominent), a pearlware bowl and a yellow ware washbowl and milk jug. Glass comprised black bottle fragments, and stemware and tumbler drinking glasses. A shortage of time stopped excavations on the trench, with the feature continuing in a north west and south east direction.

The finds' preservation are remarkable. The artefacts' context and type suggest depositing during the 1830 camp period, forming an important corpus of data for determining the project's research question of gauging the adaptive processes of the first European settlers in Western Australia. The site will be used for further University of Notre Dame Australia field schools, with work continuing during the June/July semester break.

Shane Burke

OBITUARY

TERRY ARNOTT

Terry Arnett was a long time champion of Victorian Shipwrecks. His fascination with shipwrecks began with an interest in diving around Geelong in his early years, and he went on to become an avid researcher of the State's maritime history. Terry and a dedicated group of enthusiasts spent many years searching for the elusive wreck of the *City of Launceston* and numerous other wrecks, and he was personally involved in the discovery of 100 sites. Originally a rigger and union man at Alcoa, he used this experience in his persistent lobbying politicians and government official for legislation to protect shipwrecks, and his calls for help extended as far as England, when he requested Royal intervention from Buckingham Palace. His discovery of the intact *City of Launceston* in 1980 was instrumental in the introduction of Victoria's Historic Shipwrecks Act the next year.

Terry co-founded the Maritime Archaeology Association of Victoria, a community group that was dedicated to shipwreck research and protection, and was also a founding member of the Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology, and the Historic Shipwrecks Advisory Committee of Victoria. After completing a postgraduate course in museum studies, Terry was involved in the establishment of the National Wool Museum in Geelong, and eventually became the Senior Maritime Heritage Officer for South Australia. His tireless efforts and contributions to the establishment of maritime archaeology in Victoria were officially recognised in 2000, when he was presented with the Jack Loney award, by the Victorian Heritage Councils Historic Shipwreck Committee where he was acclaimed as a "pioneer diver, researcher, lobbyist, author, maritime archaeologist and shipwreck discoverer". It is also befitting that a man so known for his powerful lobbying and strong words, was so humbled by the unexpected presentation that he was left speechless.

Most of us who knew Terry can not but think of him as we often saw him on fieldwork. Terry was a bit of a local legend both for his amazing knowledge of shipwreck history and his stubborn bulldog approach to getting sites protected. I will never forget the first day I met him, on a bitterly cold day on a wreck site in Port Phillip Bay. As the rest of us struggled into our 7mm wetsuits, Terry stripped down to a battered old pair of baggy jocks, and I watched in utter disbelief as this pale white figure threw on a tank and plunged over the side of the boat into the freezing water to start recording the wreck. The jocks became his hallmark signature, and fieldwork wasn't complete without Terry and his family (wife Debbie and sons Doug and Steve) in tow. Terry was known as a larrikin, and loved to recount the various practical jokes he had engaged in over the years. One of the things I remember the most about Terry was his ability to tell the most hilarious stories, but also his inability to finish them without first cracking up. He usually ended up with tears streaming down his face as he anticipated his story's end, and everyone in the room in a similar state. But when he told stories of shipwrecks and their histories, he had the whole room entranced.

I have yet to meet anyone who was as dedicated or passionate to any cause as he was to finding and preserving shipwrecks. His dogged determination is demonstrated in the number and diversity of maritime heritage sites we still have left in Australia today. His encouragement and example inspired so many of us who were just starting off in maritime archaeology in the 80's to achieve our goals, particularly when we could see how long and hard he fought to achieve his. He was a modest working class man, who downplayed his own significant contributions to the field, whilst making sure everyone around him felt

valued and included. Terry would regularly go out of his way to help you, and always took time to listen to what people had to say, regardless of their background. His enthusiasm and resilience had a profound effect on my life, and of so many other lives, and showed me that one average man could make a difference if the cause was worth fighting for. And we all know the difference that he made.

Terry passed away at his home in Adelaide on the 27th February 2007. He will be sorely missed by his family and all those who knew him, but he will be remembered for his love of life and family, and the enduring legacy that he has left behind for future generations.

Brad Duncan

Note

Terry has had an equally long, though less intense, involvement with terrestrial historical sites, going back to his days with the Geelong Regional Commission. After moving to South Australia he was a passionate advocate for historical archaeology within the State Heritage Branch, and carried out research on terrestrial sites all around the South Australian coast, including whaling sites and most recently Second World War defence installations, a subject on which he spoke at the most recent ASHA/AIMA conference in Darwin 2006. Terry became an ASHA member only months before his death, and was already throwing himself enthusiastically into the planning for the 2008 ASHA/AIMA conference in Adelaide. He will be sorely missed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/NOTICES

New Ground: Australasian Archaeology Conference 2007

University of Sydney | 21–26 September 2007 | www.newground.org.au

In 2007 the archaeological societies of Australasia will stage a joint conference entitled *New Ground*. This landmark event will bring together archaeologists and practitioners from all fields of research and practice to establish a new platform for research interchange in Australasian Archaeology. *New Ground* will focus on sharing the results of groundbreaking research, making connections between the diverse array of archaeologies practiced and setting directions for future studies, promotion and conservation practice in Australasian Archaeology. The forum will bring together educators, researchers, consultants, government archaeologists, students and other practitioners grappling with some of the most topical issues in archaeology today.

The conference organisers have received an impressive range of session proposals and papers, including several exciting historical archaeology topics including:

- A future for the past? Law reform and the protection of Australia's archaeological heritage
- A New Landscape for Parramatta
- Agents and Agency: Archaeology, Heritage Management and the Role of Government
- Intimate Encounters, Domestic Engagements: New Directions in Gender and Sexuality Research

- More than mills and mines: Social approaches to the archaeology of resource-driven communities
- New Approaches in Landscape Archaeology
- New Ground in Historical Archaeology Material Culture Studies
- Past, present and future directions for archaeology at Port Arthur
- Recent Archaeological Research Arising From Consulting Projects
- Redeveloping over Archaeological Remains – the physical challenges
- Secret visitors: understanding and confronting pseudo-archaeology
- The Archaeology of Aboriginal Missions
- The Missing Link: Common ground in archaeology
- 'We have the technology': Scientific and experimental archaeology today

Registration for the conference is now open and may be paid by credit card or cheque using a secure online form. Early bird registration closes on **31 July**.

For more information visit the website: www.newground.org.au.

SOCIETY NEWS

Advance Notice: Nominations for ASHA National Committee 2007–2008

With the Annual General Meeting in September to coincide with the conference (21–26 September, University of Sydney: the date and time of the AGM will be confirmed in the coming weeks), it's time to start thinking about elections for the 2007–2008 Committee.

2006–2007 Committee Positions

- President
- Vice President (2 positions)
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Committee member (up to 10 positions)

This year, both the President and Secretary have advised that they will not be seeking re-nominating for election, although both will be retaining a close association with the Committee and will continue to work on behalf of ASHA.

These are two very important positions and we hope many members will consider taking up the challenge and nominate for these positions, along with the other committee positions.

Nominations forms for election will be distributed in July and the call for nominations will close on **6 August**. You must be a financial member of ASHA for 2007–08 to nominate for the Committee, or support the nomination of another member, so if your membership has lapsed please send in your renewal form now or contact secretary@asha.org.au.

A list of nominees seeking election to the committee will be distributed in late August, accompanied by proxy voting forms, annual reports and other AGM documentation.

FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS

The ASHA Newsletter is produced quarterly with the assistance of guest editors. The 2006–2007 guest editors are:

<i>This issue:</i>	Alasdair Brooks	email: A.Brooks@latrobe.edu.au
<i>Sept 2007 issue:</i>	Clayton Fredericksen	email: clayton.fredericksen@gmail.com
<i>Dec 2007 issue:</i>	Rick McGovern-Wilson	email: rmcgwilson@historic.org.nz

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 the 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.

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