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STATE OF THE ART

ACT NEWS

Compiled by Richard Morrison

HERITAGE DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENT, WATER, POPULATION AND COMMUNITIES (DSEWPAC)

DSEWPAC changes – Following the recent Federal election the Department gained a new Minister, the Hon Tony Burke MP, and a new name. More recently, the Heritage Division has also had a change of leadership with James Shevlin moving on to another area of the Department. Dr Greg Terrill will be acting as the Division head for the next six months.

Decaying Industrial Structures and Ruins Workshop – The Heritage Division is proposing to hold a workshop in early 2011 with key stakeholders, including ASHA representatives, on decaying industrial structures and ruins. The Australian Heritage Council and the Heritage Chairs and Officials of Australia and New Zealand have been considering this issue for some time and believe it is a discussion in which the heritage community needs to participate. The workshop will focus on existing practices and then move to identifying any gaps or shortcomings and exploring possible solutions.

AIMA 2011 Shipwreck Photography Competition – The Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology is once again organising its national shipwreck photography competition. The competition starts 1/1/11 and finishes 31/12/11. This year’s competition will again receive corporate support from Mountain Ocean and Travel Publications who print the DIVELOG and Sport Diving magazines, Fresh Creative, DSEWPAC and PADI. The Competition has four image categories: shipwrecks above water, shipwrecks underwater with divers, shipwrecks and nature, and other underwater cultural heritage (i.e. planes, pier footings and fish traps to name a few). The best image submitted each month will win a prize. Prizes include annual membership to the Historic Diving Society, equipment vouchers and day charter diving trips. Mike Ball Dive Expeditions has very generously given a three day fly dive holiday to the Cod Hole as a major prize for some lucky monthly winner. If you are a keen photographer please check out the terms and conditions of entry at www.aima.iinet.au or www.environment.gov.au/heriatge/shipwrecks and send your winning image to AIMAphotcomp@environment.gov.au
Return of Dutch Shipwreck relics to Australia – On 9 January 2010 the Parliamentary Secretary for Sustainability and Urban Water, Senator Don Farrell, accepted an extensive consignment of artefacts recovered from four Dutch shipwrecks found off the West Australian coast.

Until now the collections from the Batavia (sunk in 1629), the Vergulde Draeck (1656), the Zuytdorp (1712) and the Zeewijk (1727) had been located in Australia and the Netherlands under the Agreement between the Netherlands and Australia Concerning Old Dutch Shipwrecks (ANCODS).

Artefacts recovered from these ships include silver coins, bricks, lead ingots, cannon balls, amber and pitch, as well as rare objects owned by crew and passengers such as navigational instruments and ornaments. This is the largest maritime artefact endowment Australia has ever received and these priceless artefacts form an important part of Australia’s rich maritime heritage. The artefacts will be housed in the Western Australian Museum and will be available for museums and scholars, particularly in Australia and the Netherlands, for greater study and appreciation of the entire collection. To facilitate this, an online database has been developed.

A travelling exhibition of the ANCODS collection throughout Australia is foreseen for 2011/2012. More information about ANCODS including images can be found at:


INSTITUTE FOR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN HERITAGE AND THE ARTS (IPPHA), RESEARCH SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & THE ARTS, ANU

The IPPHA have provided advance notice of a course and a study tour:

1. Physical Conservation of Buildings and Structures, 11-16/4/2011, to be held in Kosciuszko National Park. ‘This is a professional development short course that will provide a ‘hands-on’ learning experience of the materials, issues and skills involved in the physical conservation of historic buildings and structures.’

2. The Challenges of World Heritage in the Pacific: Chief Roi Mata’s Domain, Vanuatu, 16-20/5/2011. ‘…you will be immersed in Melanesian heritage and local life. You will also gain a unique insight into how the idea for this World Heritage Site emerged, took hold and has developed with strong local community ownership. Over five days, you will have an opportunity to experience at first hand issues and approaches to cultural heritage, cultural tourism and sustainable development in one of Australia’s near Pacific neighbours.’

In the first instance, further information can be obtained in regard to either of these events from Sandy Blair on ph 02 6125 5887 or sandy.blair@anu.edu.au. See also the IPPHA website, http://ippha.anu.edu.au, for information on other activities of the Institute.

NSW NEWS

Compiled by Tim Owen
SHFA EXCAVATION

A four week archaeological excavation near the corner of Cumberland and Essex streets is coming to an end, having revealed the walls of a 160 year old house, in some places standing 1.8 metres high. The site, being dug by Monique Galloway and a team of four archaeologists, was from 1842-1860 the home and workplace of Irish immigrant and barrel-maker (cooper), Thomas Galbraith. Galbraith appears to have been somewhat of a trouble-maker and was constantly before the magistrate. In 1854-55 he constantly annoyed his neighbours by obstructing the footpath by building barricades of barrels, and claiming the land was his. Domestic quarrels marred the family's life. In 1860 Thomas accused his wife Bridget of continued drunkenness and threw her out of the house. Their young son gave evidence that his mother “pawned nearly everything in the house for drink”. Sometime later Bridget successfully sued her husband of 19 years for maintenance. The Galbraiths, and their stormy relationship, disappeared from history when Thomas, bankrupt, sold the property and moved away. In later years the house was occupied by bootmaker Richard Dwyer and his wife, a dressmaker. In 1925 the house was demolished, and the site has remained vacant ever since.

A second season is proposed for early 2011. Following completion of the archaeological works, the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority will investigate opportunities for integrating the ‘dig’ into the future development of the site.

Wayne Johnson

SYDNEY HARBOUR YHA

The Sydney Harbour YHA has just celebrated its first anniversary in The Rocks. The YHA worked with the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority to construct a 354 bed youth hostel on the site of the Cumberland/ Gloucester Streets archaeological site, excavated between 1994 and 2008 by Godden Mackay Logan and the Foreshore Authority. Remains of some 48 buildings, including houses, shops and five pubs, and two laneways dating from the late 18th century to 1900, have been incorporated into the redevelopment which includes an Archaeological Education Centre with a capacity to accommodate 100 visitors in two interlinking “classrooms”.

Some 85% of the archaeological remains are visible to the public and the three-storey building has been engineered by architects Alex Tzannes Associates to “float” above the remains with minimal impact - both physically and visually - on the archaeology. Extensive interpretative panels and showcases present stories of the site to the public. The Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority operates programs from the Archaeological Education Centre that utilise the archaeological findings of the site with the general secondary and tertiary schools history syllabus. Since opening, over 88,000 people have stayed at the YHA, and $1 per person, per night, goes towards a sinking fund to carry out further conservation, interpretation and education works on site.

The Sydney Harbour YHA has attracted awards for architecture, heritage conservation and interpretation since opening in November 2009, and has featured in national travel programs on television and in print media. http://getaway.ninemsn.com.au/1014087/sydney-harbour-YHA

Wayne Johnson
ANTARCTIC HUTS SURVEY AND SCANNING

This January Russell Gibb and Dan McCurdy from Geometria are undertaking laser scanning and modelling work on Robert Falcon Scott’s expedition huts at Hut Point and Cape Evans, and Ernest Shackleton’s expedition hut at Cape Royds, all in the Ross Dependency, Antarctica. Scan data is being integrated to support multidisciplinary studies on the deterioration of the expedition huts, the impact of introduced and native microbes in the area, and to develop interpretative models for broader public consumption as part of the K021 expedition supported by Antarctic New Zealand. K021 consists of research teams from Waikato, Bath, Minnesota, Cape Town and Hong Kong Universities and private practices Geometria and conservation architects Archifact Ltd. Project funding has been granted by Antarctic New Zealand with commercial sponsorship for the scanning and logistics provided by Leica Geosystems (Switzerland), Global Survey (NZ), Breuckmann GmbH (Germany) and DHL (NZ). This is the first of two trips scheduled for 2011. A second trip in November will continue work on these huts and will also undertake surveys at Cape Crozier.

Russell Gibb, Geometria

NORTHERN TERRITORY NEWS

WHAT THE WRECK IS IT?

In July 2010 the Northern Territory’s Heritage Branch, in conjunction with Flinders University and the NT Police, carried out an investigation and detailed archaeological survey of a newly found wreck in Darwin Harbour. The site was found in the 1980s, however poor visibility combined with difficult diving conditions produced limited site information. Initially, the site was identified as Rachel Cohen, a wooden schooner built in Manning River, NSW in 1871. An Interim Conservation Order (ICO) under the Heritage Conservation Act was recommended so that the site would be protected from looting. The approximate wreck site, “Darwin Harbour unidentified shipwreck No.1,” was added to the NT shipwreck database. Unfortunately the position supplied was inaccurate, and as a result, no archaeological investigation or survey was conducted. Earlier this year, however, the site was relocated by Tek Ventures Diving Services who notified the NT Heritage Branch. The 2010 investigation was conducted in an effort to verify the identity of the shipwreck and to develop an understanding of the site’s current physical condition, determine threats or issues for the wreck, and to develop appropriate management strategies for dealing with the site.

The unidentified shipwreck lies in 9-10m of water southeast of Stokes Hill Wharf. The wreck scatter measures approximately 36m long by 15m wide and is largely buried in a muddy, silty substrate protecting the fragile wooden structure. The vessel settled on the seabed and listed to its starboard side after wrecking. Most of the major features fell to the starboard as well (see Figure 1). It also appears that many of the artefacts have remained in context in relation to their
original location indicating that little natural or cultural disturbance has taken place, with the exception of wood deterioration. There remains a possibility that some of the port structure is buried deeply below the sediment, but only a systematic probing survey will reveal if this is true.

![Frances Bay Wreck](image)

**Figure 1:** Site plan of the unidentified wreck (note major features on starboard side)

Major features exposed on the seabed include a partially exposed large section of wooden hull structure (frames and planking) (Figure 2), the main engine, shaft and propeller (Figure 3), a possible ballast pile, a large deck winch and two large water/cargo tanks (Figure 4). Other artefacts include a possible auxiliary engine, chain, blow light (Figure 5), copper alloy sheathing, metal fasteners and shipboard items.

![Exposed wooden frames](image) ![Three-blade propeller](image)

**Figure 2:** Exposed wooden frames  **Figure 3:** Three-blade propeller
The investigation found the site to be in relatively stable condition with the majority of the wreck covered by a thick layer of silt and mud. The site has been colonised by a variety of marine flora and fauna.

The wreck's size, timber samples and identification of the engine were looked at to help in identifying the vessel. In addition to this, historic records and databases, newspapers and other sources of known Australian shipwrecks were looked at to identify all vessels that sank in Darwin Harbour. This information enabled us to narrow the possible wrecks down to the *Huddersfield* (yet to be confirmed). The *Huddersfield* is a 174-ton schooner built in Jervis Bay, NSW in 1919 and was lost in Frances Bay on December 1928.

The site holds significance for the Northern Territory as, to date, there have been limited wooden Australian built shipwreck sites found within the harbour.

*Toni Massey, Masters student, Flinders University, Adelaide*  
*(Photos courtesy of D. Steinberg Heritage Branch, NT)*

**SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWS**

*Compiled by Adam Paterson*

**GUARDING THE PAST FOR THE PRESENT: FURTHER INVESTIGATIONS INTO THE CONSTRUCTION AND CONSERVATION ISSUES OF THE RANDELL DRY DOCK**

Rising water levels in the Murray are good news for the river’s health, but for Flinders University archaeologists working to conserve a unique 19th century dry dock at Mannum in South Australia, they create an added sense of urgency.

Originally built as a wooden floating dock for use on Lake Alexandrina at the mouth of the Murray, the Randell Dry Dock was towed upstream to Mannum by Captain William Randell and installed onshore in 1876. It is thought that only one other closely comparable structure existed in Albany, Western Australia. Historical research has discovered other wooden floating dock examples from Melbourne in Victoria, New Zealand, Chile, Peru and a large wrought iron floating dock in Bermuda. The Randell Dry Dock appears to be the only one still surviving out of water and fully
intact. Already on the State Heritage Register the site is considered extremely significant for a number of reasons. Constructed during the peak of the river trade and operating for the next fifty years, it symbolises the significance of the inland river system as a transport corridor for European development in the interior of the continent.

Excavations in December 2009 yielded some of the structural secrets of the disused Dock, which was used to repair and refit paddle steamers that plied the Murray’s busy trade up until the 1920s. Staff and volunteers from the Mannum Dock Museum and a team of postgraduate and undergraduate students from Flinders University returned to the site in September this year in order to confirm if any of the Dock’s floating chambers still remain.

The Randell Dry Dock, September 2010 (Photo: M Fowler)

Archaeology students uncovering the Dock’s walkway (Photo: B Burton)

The project combined surveys and the excavation of two trenches and two test pits in order to expose and document the hidden structures underneath the Dock. Rising water levels hindered progress slightly but at the end of excavation it appears as if there are no elements of the floating chambers surviving. However, it is possible that some of this structure is still attached to the base of the Dock, two metres down.

Assessing possible threats to the dock’s integrity from rising water levels was also a part of the 2010 project. Fluctuating river levels and changes within the anaerobic environment surrounding the Dock are causing serious concern. With the current rate of deterioration, there is an urgent need to support and stabilise the Dock’s red gum timbers. Conservationists have reassessed the Dock and the outlook is bleak. There is now only a window of less than ten years in which to take major preservative action. Beyond that time the Dock will probably be too rotten to save. The active Save Our Dry Dock (SODD) group at Mannum has researched options to slow down the increasing rate of deterioration. In the short term, construction of a roof to protect the Dock is being considered.
With a goal to see the Dock on the National Heritage Register, it is important that a solution is found and implemented to ensure the longevity of this site.

Britt Burton, Masters of Maritime Archaeology student at Flinders University, Adelaide

**A NEW APPROACH TO UNMARKED GRAVE DETECTION USING GROUND PENETRATING RADAR**

I have recently completed a directed study project as part of my Graduate Diploma in Archaeology titled *Mapping Anthropogenic Fill with GPR for Unmarked Grave Detection: A Case Study from a Possible Location of Mokare’s Grave, Albany, Western Australia* supervised by Ian Moffat. This project focused on researching a new approach for detecting unmarked burial sites using ground penetrating radar. Geophysical techniques are commonly used for the location of unmarked graves however, contrary to the perceptions of many researchers, most studies rely not on imaging skeletal material but instead on distinguishing the subsurface disturbance created by grave digging. This approach can only be effective when sufficient contrast exists between detectable properties of the grave fill and the surrounding sediment, such as soil structure, mineralogy or porosity. This is particularly problematic where anthropogenic fill is in place, as it is often complex in character and lacks a natural stratigraphy.

In many cultural heritage projects, the avoidance of burials is more important than their location. Under these circumstances, ground penetrating radar (GPR) can be used to locate modern anthropogenic fill (in the same fashion as it is commonly applied in the engineering and environmental literature) to provide evidence of areas of the site which are younger than the targeted graves. This approach was trialled on a site thought to contain the grave of Mokare (Figure 1 shows part of the survey in Albany, Western Australia), a significant historical figure in the Albany area. The delineation of a package of modern fill in the shallow subsurface (Figure 2 shows example GPR data from the survey area) and a consideration of the probable history of earthworks on the site demonstrates that Mokare is not buried in the surveyed location. By avoiding the need to detect burials by grave digging disturbance, this approach could allow wide application of geophysical techniques to suitable sites.

Having the opportunity to undertake research related to a significant Indigenous historical figure, as well as investigating the methodological implications for locating unmarked burials with geophysical methods, has been very rewarding. I have written my study up as an academic paper which will be submitted to the *Journal of Field Archaeology* with co-authors Ian Moffat, David Guilfoyle, Alice Beale and Jennifer Milani. I will also be presenting the study as an academic presentation at the upcoming Australian Archaeological Association Conference at Batemans Bay. Thank you to the Albany Heritage Reference Group Aboriginal Corporation and Dave Guilfoyle from Applied Archaeology for organising for this data to be collected, the Albany Public Library for assisting with historical information, Alice Beale (WA Museum) for assistance with research the life of Mokare, and the Australian Archaeological Association for funding my attendance at the conference to present this work.

Paul Bladon, Flinders University, Adelaide
NEW RESEARCH PROGRAMME IN VICTORIA’S CENTRAL HIGHLANDS

Susan Lawrence and Peter Davies have recently been awarded an ARC Discovery grant for a project titled 'Cultural Landscapes of Colonial Water Management in Victoria's Central Highlands'. This project will explore the extensive remains of dams, water races and other local features used by gold miners, market gardeners and householders to capture, store and divert water.
Archaeological and historical evidence will be integrated in a GIS database to facilitate the investigation of questions relating to the adaptation of technology in new environments and industries, changes in water management strategies through time, and the environmental effects of different kinds and scales of water technology. The analysis of historical archaeological evidence for the active management of water and the associated environmental impacts will improve understanding of changes in land use at a local and regional scale, providing historical context for modern debates about water sustainability and climate change.

Peter Davies

ABSTRACTS FROM THE 2010 HONOURS THESES FROM LA TROBE UNIVERSITY, MELBOURNE

Bennett, Georgia  
*A Grave Matter: a historical archaeological study of ornate iron grave rails in colonial Victoria*

Victoria was a colony shaped and adorned by the boom and bust of the gold rush, where visual displays of wealth and new found status could be found in the architectural ornamentation of the city’s public and private buildings and in the demarcation of its dead. The popularity and widespread use of ornate wrought and cast iron grave rails in Maldon and Echuca cemeteries can be seen to reflect the wider trends and fashions of the time, in which the technological advances of the industrial revolution catered to the ever growing demand for more elaborate and diverse ornamental cast ironwork for use in both the landscapes of the living and the deceased. While the ornate iron grave rail was essentially a decorative element of funerary architecture, its use within this religious landscape resonates with a deeper symbolism of protection, both physical and metaphorical, for the remains of the deceased. This thesis has used the world’s most Victorian city of Melbourne (Turner 1985: 61) to compare the use and popularity of ornamental ironwork within the urban environment to the funerary landscapes of Maldon and Echuca. This has allowed for a study of the evolution of the grave rail, from the locally produced wrought iron rail, to the elaborate mass produced cast iron grave rail, until its eventual simplification and abandonment altogether, as the Victorian era was left in the shadow of the emerging Edwardian.

Dunk, Melissa  
*Made in China: The analysis of the artefact assemblage from Atherton Chinatown, North Queensland*

The Chinese came to Australia, especially to the north, in search of wealth to take back to their homes in China. The movement of the Chinese was guided by their search of a sustainable income as merchants, or in the mining or agricultural industry. Atherton Chinatown was a small Chinese settlement located in north Queensland. This thesis presents the analysis of an assemblage from Atherton Chinatown. The information gained provides insight into the Chinese community at Atherton. This research addresses the similarities and differences in assemblages from comparable Chinese sites and examines the interaction between the Chinese and Europeans. The types of artefacts found at Atherton Chinatown concur with established patterns from Chinese sites elsewhere in Australia. This thesis demonstrates the necessity for consistency in archaeological methodology in Chinese sites across Australia, especially the accurate recording and cataloguing of artefacts. The implementation of these factors will create a solid foundation for future archaeological research on the Chinese in Australia.
Jastrzebski, Fiona  Insanity and Incarceration: An Archaeological Comparative Study of the Treatment of the Mentally Ill and Prisoners in Victoria

The archaeological evidence of the treatment of the mentally ill at Beechworth Mental Asylum is compared with the archaeological evidence from Old Melbourne Gaol to ascertain how differences in treatment philosophies are manifest in the physical structure of the institutions, and how the specific goals of each institution were met. Similarities and differences in room size, size and placement of windows, degree of observation possible and other attributes are indicative of the social ideals, laws, and understanding of the mentally ill and prisoners during the nineteenth century.

Keogh, Christine  A History Never Forgotten: A Collection of Artefacts from the Yandoit Diggings

This dissertation explores a collection of artefacts from a 19th century gold mining site at Yandoit in central Victoria. Yandoit was home to a variety of nationalities during the gold rush, including the Swiss Italians who settled in the area. Other nationalities such as British and Chinese also occupied the region in their search for gold.

The aim of this thesis is to analyse and catalogue the collection of artefacts from a domestic context, which includes ceramics, glass and personal items.

Comparisons will be made with other mining sites by examining patterns, artefact types and trends that were typical during the Victorian era. This will also entail looking at ceramic patterns to see if there may be subtle hints of cultural influence or whether certain patterns were merely a reflection of the types of wares that were popular at that time.

Susan Lawrence, La Trobe University

WESTERN AUSTRALIA NEWS

Compiled by Shane Burke

ARCHAEOLOGY AS A TOOL TO TEACH AUSTRALIAN HISTORY TO US STUDY ABROAD STUDENTS

Since 1997, between 65 and 120 study abroad students per semester from various US universities have spent time studying at the Fremantle campus of the University of Notre Dame Australia. Students take units supplementing their home university degree, but also a compulsory unit covering Australian history. The unit, Australian History and Society (unit AL375), has for two reasons traditionally scored poorly in student feedback at semester’s end. The first reason is that few of the visiting students are doing degrees in history, and therefore the training in the discipline to achieve high grades, while, secondly, many students simply find the study of the past through the written word uninteresting.

In second semester 2007 the course was restructured to include Australian pre-history. In addition, students were invited to volunteer in archaeological excavations run by the university at the 1830 dated Peel town camp site half an hour south of Fremantle. Since then, gradually students numbers interested in participating in the excavation have grown from 15 students in 2008 to 60 students in 2010. The site is an ideal training ground for the inexperienced and for those not studying history or archaeology, with artefact richness and shallow deposits keeping
students occupied and interested at all times. As a group, students receive tuition in excavation techniques and surveying over a three-day period, while the site is used as an interpretation tool in themes covered in *Australian History and Society* - like the British use and colonisation of the western seaboard of Australia, and conflict between the invading British and local Indigenous groups. The excavation also provides another outdoor activity for US students who crave sightseeing.

With the addition of archaeology into the unit, since first semester 2009, *Australian History and Society* has improved its ranking to be one of the most popular units for study abroad students. General student feedback emphasise the 'hands-on' nature of the archaeology as a unit highlight, providing a tangible link to Australian history and making learning about the past easier. Individual student grades have also risen. Some place the unit and its excavation as the highlight of their five-unit semester and of the five-month stay in Australia, while US university study abroad departments are including the excavation into the list of events available to students.

Thanks to students from the University of Portland Oregon, Notre Dame Indiana, College of Saint Benedict/Saint John’s University Minnesota, Catholic University of America Washington DC, Iona College New York, Sacred Heart University Connecticut, St Mary’s College Indiana, Boston College Massachusetts and Siena College New York for contributing to the Peel town research since 2007.

Students from the University of Portland (Oregon) who assisted at Peel town in August 2010 (photograph Douglas Orofino, UP)

_Shane Burke_
EARLY COPPER MINING AND SMELTING IN SOUTHERN AND CENTRAL QUEENSLAND

Over the past few years, DERM has been undertaking a ‘statewide’ survey for places of potential state heritage value that were yet to be recognised in the Queensland Heritage Register. Throughout this work, a number of interesting places with archaeological values have been identified. Some of the most common place types encountered relate to Queensland’s early mining industry. While much interest has been placed on the impacts of the gold rushes in north Queensland during the late 19th century, and the impacts of such discoveries on the development of north Queensland and Queensland generally, other precious metals were also commonly sought, including copper in central and southern Queensland.

A series of small copper mines and smelters were established in Queensland during a copper boom – bust period in the late 1860s - mid 1870s. These operations were established during a period of high international copper prices when the mineral was valued at as much as UK£95 per ton (Pearson 1994a:15). The first mine established during this period was at Mount Perry, southwest of Bundaberg. A mineral freehold had been established at Mount Perry in 1870 and a “copper rush” to the region soon followed. A smelter was erected at Mount Perry in 1871 and was operating by 1872 (Pearson 1994b:72). Little remains of these early operations, but unlike many other mining towns of the period, the township was not abandoned and survives today.

The limited remains of the Mount Perry Smelter (Source: DERM)

The copper rush also resulted in the rapid establishment of additional copper mines and smelters in the region, including at Kariboe Creek, between Monto and Biloela, in 1871, and at Mount Orange southwest of Mackay in 1871. In southern Queensland, copper mining began at Mount Coora and Mount Clara (QHR600640) to the west of Gympie in 1872, and Teebar northwest of Gympie in 1873.
Copper smelting in 1870s central Queensland was often an experimental undertaking, due to isolation from standard and required materials, equipment, expertise and a need to adapt existing technologies to suit the local environmental and economic conditions. Smelter men who came to Queensland were more likely to rely on 'craft' knowledge of smelting than on written instruction and would adapt their approaches to solve problems in personal and idiosyncratic ways (Pearson 1994a:22). These early Queensland copper smelters incorporated reverberatory furnaces for smelting the ore – this furnace type being the dominant copper smelter technology in use throughout central Queensland and across the State until the 1890s, when the water-jacket blast furnace technology developed in the United States of America became more common. The reverberatory furnace was a Welsh technology and was essentially a masonry hearth with a roof erected over it (Bell and McCarthy 1994:3). The Welsh process happened to be very well suited to the rich carbonate ores that characterised the early copper discoveries in Queensland. Finely crushed and concentrated copper ore was mixed with the flux (i.e. the chemicals or other substances added to a load of ore and fuel) and spread on the hearth, under which an intense fire was lit in a firebox situated at one end of the furnace, allowing a flame to pass over the ore (Bell and McCarthy 1994:3; Ritchie and Hooker 1997:20). Common practice from the period was to fire the furnace for up to twenty-four hours, following which the matte (i.e. the intermediate
product of the smelting process which could consist of 40-55% copper) and slag were extracted from separate openings and at different levels on the sides of the furnace (Bell and McCarthy 1994:3; Ritchie and Hooker 1997:20).

Most copper mines, smelters and associated settlements from the initial rush period closed down before the end of the same decade, as international copper prices fell to near UK£60 per ton in 1879. Copper prices continued to fall to a bottom of UK£40 per ton in 1886 (Pearson 1994a:15). Only top producers were able, to some extent, to break the dependence on high prices. Flanagan’s at Kariboe Creek and Great Blackall quickly ceased smelting in 1874, Mount Clara (and possibly Mount Coora as well) by 1875, Adolphus William in 1876, and Mount Perry by 1877 (although Mount Perry was revived again in the late 1880s).

Archaeological remains survive from this rush period, largely in the form of remnant furnaces and chimney structures associated with the smelting process (e.g. smelter chimney’s at Mount Clara and Adolphus William survive in reasonable condition, as do furnace remains at Adolphus William), abandoned mine workings, and, in some instances, the remains of abandoned mining townships (e.g. Dee Township near Mount Morgan).

A second copper boom occurred in the central and southern Queensland regions in the period 1897 - 1907, with mines and smelters established at places such as Sundown, Glassford Creek (QHR602389), Mount Hector, Mount Chalmers, Mount Cannindah, and at Mount Morgan (QHR600751) and the reworking of the earlier Peak Downs/Copperfield site near Clermont. A number of these mines were taken over by overseas capital in this period. At the same time smelters were established in the northern region, notably at Mount Garnet, Chillagoe and Mount Molloy in the Mount Isa District (Pearson 1994a:15).
References


Cameron Harvey, Principal Heritage Officer, DERM

RECENTLY COMPLETED PHD AT UNIVERSITY OF QUEENSLAND

Continuing with the mining in Queensland theme, the following thesis was completed recently and may be of interest to people working on industrial archaeological landscapes. Here is the abstract:

Geraldine Mate

PhD Thesis, September 2010

Mining the Landscape: Finding the social in the industrial through an archaeology of the landscapes of Mount Shamrock

In this thesis I offer a fresh approach to the historical archaeology of industry, using landscape as a framework for the investigation of a mining settlement. This approach marries the study of the social with the industrial reality of mining towns, acknowledging the role of landscape in framing people’s understanding of their everyday world. In particular, I examine how people made – created, constructed and understood – their landscape in the gold mining town of Mount Shamrock, in Queensland, Australia, settled in the second half of the nineteenth century.

Landscape as a theoretical perspective provides a means of articulating how people understood the place in which they lived and worked. Although landscape studies have been undertaken in historical archaeology, they have generally not extended to a holistic view that includes the construction and embedding of meaning in landscape. Instead, landscape studies in historical archaeology have tended to limit analyses to the structuring of a landscape, not taking into account the dialectic of creating meaning in and taking meaning from the landscape. Further, in historical archaeology as a whole and in Australia in particular, there is frequently a false dichotomy in the way industrial towns are approached with the separation of industry and settlement.
This study examines social influences in the establishment and layout of Mount Shamrock, identifying significant elements in the construction of the physical and social landscape of the residents. I also consider how people created landscapes of meaning and attachment as they settled in the area and how this meaning was embedded in the landscape through movement, narrative and experiences. The influence of technologies on the social landscape the residents constructed and lived in is analysed and conversely social influences on the way mining and processing were carried out.

Archaeological survey, historical documentation, maps, photographs and experiential reading were used to examine the remnants of Mount Shamrock. From the analysis of results, I argue that there was a constructed landscape at Mount Shamrock with a degree of structuring, evidenced by spatial arrangement and location of particular features in the landscape. People’s social relationships were embedded in landscape, for example with kinship networks represented in the proximity of properties. However, there was also evidence of social mobility within the social landscape of the settlement, the context of Mount Shamrock as a goldmining town, situated in nineteenth-century Queensland facilitating that mobility.

Residents initially perceived their landscape as wilderness – quickly transforming the landscape into something they could know and understand. They also regarded the landscape as a resource – they conceptualised it as such, they promoted it that way and they structured it that way – as a mining landscape that was experienced in everyday activity and even through sensory perceptions. The influence of technology on the social hierarchy of Mount Shamrock was clear; technology was integral to how the residents operated and how they perceived the social landscape. Further, analysis also demonstrated the role social influences played in the adoption of particular types of technology.

The analysis of the landscapes of Mount Shamrock shows both the applicability of a landscape framework to historical archaeology and the versatility and depth of interpretation that can be gained by considering landscapes as a whole. Further, it is evident that industry and settlement are integrally linked, and all part of a meaningful and engaged landscape. At Mount Shamrock, gold mining was all pervasive in people’s perceptions of the landscape, part of the lived experience and it is clear that the ‘social’ of everyday life was indeed to be found in the ‘industrial’.

Geraldine Mate

TASMANIA NEWS

Compiled by Greg Jackman – nothing to report this issue but he has promised material for the March issue!
OFFICERS' REPORTS

PRESIDENT’S REPORT 2009-2010 [MARTIN GIBBS]

My three years as President of ASHA have gone by remarkably quickly but it is a particular honour that I have been President during 2010, which marks the 40 anniversary of the society. The Australian Society for Historical Archaeology was founded in 1970 for the purpose of promoting the study of historical archaeology in Australia, expanding in 1991 to include New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific region and changing its name to the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology. Although we often take ASHA for granted, it is worth reminding ourselves that the society has been instrumental in the international development and growth of both academic and professional historical archaeology and continues to be vital and active in advancing the goals of the society. One of the pleasures of being President has been to understand and appreciate the breadth of what we do, often with very little fanfare.

I had the good fortune to inherit the presidency in excellent condition thanks to the careful stewardship of my predecessor Susan Lawrence and her committee. In standing for and accepting the role I had several areas which I particularly wanted to work on. Much of what concerned me (and still does) is the question of what we as a society offer not just to our members, but to the discipline and to the public. This was brought home to me with an editorial of a (then) recent issue of the US *Historical Archaeology* on the Overseas Chinese. The editors went into length about how little had been published on the topic, listing what it felt were the major HA journals which had been reviewed. Curiously, while the *NZ Journal of Archaeology* was on the list, *AHA* was not, despite the fact of our long existence and that we have published several dozen articles on the topic of the Overseas Chinese including a dedicated issue only several years earlier in 2003. When I wrote to the editors to point this out they were naturally apologetic (and hopefully a little embarrassed), but in effect the *AHA* journal and ASHA as a society were almost invisible to them. We had little or no web presence, papers which had been published in our journal, special publications and newsletters did not appear on Google searches or even in academic database, and when they did they were almost impossible to obtain. The number of commercially published and available longer works on Australasian HA – either monographs or volumes for the public - could be numbered on two hands. The majority of what our members produce is simply locked up in theses, consultancy reports, or unpublished research documents. While recognising that ASHA has to improve its game with public outreach, beyond the worthy exercise of National Archaeology Week, the cupboard seemed a bit bare when it came to offering something, or even pointing to our achievements.

Although there is clearly a burning need for ASHA and historical archaeology in general to better and more enduringly engage with the public, the decision was made that during my term we would push for several developments which would provide the basis for later efforts. Some of these extended from discussions begun in the committee during Susan’s Presidency and thanks to a larger than usual grant 2008-2010 grant from the Grants to Voluntary Environment and Heritage Organisations (GVEHO) program of the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts became possible for the first time:
1. Construction of a new website which provides a greater range of content, as well as online systems of membership renewals consistent with current expectations.

2. Scanning of the back-catalogue of the AHA journal, ASHA newsletters and other publications, with the decision to forgo the diminishing revenue from selling hard copy back issues in favour of greater promotion by making all but the last 5 years freely available for download. As a consequence, ASHA publications also became ‘visible’ to web searching.

3. Providing new forums for publication, especially the founding of the Studies in Australasian Historical Archaeology monograph series to release longer, data rich documents based on PhD theses and major consultancy projects. However, by engaging in print on demand agreements with commercial publishers (in this case University of Sydney Press), much of the cost of paying for, printing, or even engaging in longer-term sales and storage which has bedevilled previous publication ventures is avoided. A revised ASHA Occasional Papers series is intended to follow, although the possibility of direct to electronic publication is being considered.

4. Signing agreements with major academic databases such as Ingenta and Jstor who electronically archive the ASHA publication list and make it available to a wider international audience via large corporate (library) subscriptions, with a commission to ASHA every time an article is accessed via their systems. This last step was made after careful research which showed that there would be little or no impact on membership.

5. Shifting the newsletter to electronic only, saving the society many hundreds of dollars each issue and the need for significant volunteer effort in envelope stuffing and addressing.

Some of these processes are complete while others are ongoing, but we are confident that ASHA is significantly more visible to a wider electronic world and our research is being recognised internationally.

We have also been encouraging members to develop complementary facilities to improve accessibility to a wider body of HA research. One such example (to indulge in shameless self-promotion) is the NSW Archaeology On-line project which I have been running with my University of Sydney colleague and ASHA member Sarah Colley as part of the Archaeology of Sydney Research Group. The project is designed to preserve the pre-1995 grey literature of Sydney historical archaeology.

This project, funded by a NSW Heritage Council grant and the University of Sydney Library, is attempting to scan the increasingly rare body of pre-1995 (i.e. pre-electronic) HA project reports (and eventually images, databases and other materials), store them in a permanent electronic archive and make them publicly available via the web. Not only does this release a major corpus of exciting material to researchers, it also promotes the breath of what we do and increases our visibility, helps us avoid duplication, encourages comparative archaeological research and syntheses, and preserves something of our own disciplinary heritage. We are currently working with several senior members of the society who have offered to loan materials and will be formally announcing the project very soon. As part of the project, ASHA is also working with Judy Birmingham to scan, document and preserve her valuable 1960s-1980s collection of images of industrial and other sites, many of which are no longer extant. Several other organisations have
also begun scanning programs, often for their own internal purposes, although hopefully future ASHA committees will encourage these archives to be opened for public access as well.

Our peer-reviewed journal *Australasian Historical Archaeology* remains the flagship of the society, first published in 1983 and still going strong (now on volume 28) as the major publication forum for Australasian historical archaeological research. I would like to thank Dr Mary Casey for her hard work as editor and welcome her continuation as General Editor overseeing ASHA's publications, with my thanks to Dr Tracy Ireland for taking on the journal editing role.

Despite its continuing high standards, this year has seen one major disappointment for AHA. The completely opaque processes of the new Federal *Excellence in Research for Australia* (ERA) Initiative which rates the quality of journals saw AHA ranked as an ‘A’ in the preliminary tables thanks to active lobbying on our part, but then equally mysteriously and very disappointingly downgraded to a ‘B’ in the final release, with no opportunity for appeal (although one was lodged by us anyway). As several other major international journals including *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* suffered the same fate we are in good company, although I have to express my disappointment that one of our closest affiliated societies chose not to support our bid for reclassification, despite ASHA extending its support to their own efforts. Although we expect the ERA to go the way of most initiatives of this kind, there is a potential impact for some academic contributors who are encouraged or even obliged to publish only in journals of certain ranks as part of their annual performance measures. This highlights our need to make sure that AHA continues to receive good quality submissions that match our rigorous editorial processes, in readiness for the next round of classification. It also suggests that the oft-discussed and more formal linkages between the societies may need to be advanced, since disciplinary one-upmanship would not seem to be particularly helpful.

For many members the *ASHA Newsletter* is a vital forum for news and current events, keeping them in touch with research, projects, new publications, or emerging issues. For those who are away from the major centres (and even for many who are in major centres) the newsletter remains an effective way of keeping us connected to the doings of the wider historical archaeology community, enhanced by the ASHA email discussion list. Dr Rick McGovern Wilson has continued his outstanding job as ASHA Newsletter editor and chief wrangler.

In its advocacy role, the Society continues to fight for the creation or improvement of legislation and guidelines to protect historical archaeological sites and ensure their proper recording. In a pro-development environment this is sometimes a difficult task and as a result we quite frequently mount campaigns to fight for the preservation of particular sites at risk or provide advice to ensure better outcomes, such that quite a lot of the Committee's time is spent preparing submissions of one sort or another, often in collaboration with our partner societies. In this regard our diverse membership within all levels of government, as well as in companies, private archaeological consultancies and universities, as well as concerned non-professional members continues to provide an effective alerting system as well as a network of advisers. Although in the past year we have made several submissions (for instance on revisions to heritage legislation and guidelines in Tasmania and on proposed development within a heritage conservation area within South Australia), quite a lot of what the society does is not visible to the wider membership, often because negotiation requires a degree of discretion with a quiet phone call or contact via personal connections proving more effective than a public protest. My thanks to the various people who have been on the receiving end of a Presidential phone call, especially those
members who have had to juggle their own professional obligations and confidences with the desire to achieve a good outcome for historical archaeology.

As I noted, for the last several years much of the committee’s energies have been spent in setting up new systems. However, the challenge for the next committees will be to not only continue these processes. One such area is the role of the Regional Reps, originally intended to collect information from regional members in the pre-email era, but now a potential resource for collecting information about HA in each area for both our members and the public - such as accessible sites and displays, open days at excavations, publications on the HA of each region, resources for teachers and students, and other opportunities to learn or participate. ASHA is fortunate that many of our founder members are still with us and often actively participating in the conferences, publication and research, as well as providing advice and perspective to those who have followed. However, as the profession grows and diversifies we need to ensure that new archaeology graduates and interested members of the public are brought into the fold. For all of our government, commercial and public aspect, we must remember that historical archaeology is a research endeavour and that to participate is to engage in a collaborative intellectual endeavour of sharing information and understanding. Financially we are in a good situation, although the costs of publication continue to rise and it is only through attention to maintaining and expanding membership levels that we can continue to offer these services.

In closing, in addition to those persons who I have already mentioned above, I would like to thank everyone who has been on the committee or otherwise helped during my term. In particular Kat Stankowski who took on the sometimes thankless role of Secretary and has been the person who makes sure everything gets done, while Cynthia Paterson has endured as our Administrative Assistant during the exciting transition to the new systems (although she is stepping down as of the 2010 AGM). My VPs - Penny Crook, Mac North, and later Brad Duncan and Jody Steele have been instrumental in achieving the annual goals we set ourselves, as have the treasurers Sue Singleton and Kylie Seretis who made sure we didn’t bankrupt the society in the process. Thanks to the general committee members and State Reps who provided information and support, as well as to the various members who have contributed to the journal and newsletter, participated, or advised during the last three years.

**VICE-PRESIDENT’S REPORT 2009-2010 [BRAD DUNCAN]**

**Website Upgrade: The New Site**

I took over management of the web site from Penny Crook in September 2009 and after some teething problems and a steep learning curve have finally grasped most of the principles of adding and editing content on the site.

This year has seen new additions of the sections on ‘Historical Archaeology’ with information for the general public. In particular pages outlining historical archaeology for individual states have been, with more currently being sought from various state representatives or are being currently written by the web moderator. We are also potentially looking at adding more *.pdf copies of out of print ASHA publications and other pertinent historical archaeological reports to the list of those that are currently available to members.

I’d like to thank the membership for their patience whilst I was indoctrinatted into the intricacies of web site moderation, and also to those who have supplied content for the State web pages. Particular thanks go to Penny Crook for her patience and tuition in moderating the web site (and
holding the fort whilst I learnt the process) and to Martin Gibbs for providing advice on the machinations of ASHA.

In addition to the new web site format, there is much new content planned for the new year:

- Vols. 21-28 (available to member only)
- A special section for book reviews from AHA
- Links to historical archaeological theses/reports
- Complete archive of newsletters
- PDFs of out-print publications from the occasional papers and other series
- A news module for current new items
- Updated page content for most pages
- More information about past committees

New features include:

- Online payments for membership subscriptions and books
- ‘My Membership’ section for member to check and update their contact details
- Secure pages for members to access protected content

On the administrative side, the benefits include:

- Much more efficient email broadcasting
- Centralised management of members list with ‘live’ information for the secretary, treasurer and admin officer
- A user-friendly web management system that you don’t need to be a web designer to use.

Problems

Some problems were experienced with the Pay Pal, system this year, whereby the system would not accept online payments. In the interim, payments could only be accepted via downloading the membership form and posting payment through the mail. It is unclear as yet whether this has affected new subscriptions and/or existing membership renewals for the year. This problem has since been remedied after discussions with Pay Pal by the Treasurer.

Unsurprisingly, the process of adapting our customised membership database into The Web Showroom’s general web-based content management system required some compromises. While they were able to adapt their systems to meet our special needs for most issues, some were not possible. The issue of greatest concern is the management of Household memberships. In our own database, we were able to record the individual names and email addresses of both household members. In the new system, this is problematical and only one email address can be stored for both members. This problem is currently being examined to try to find a way forward.

Earlier this year, a breach of privacy occurred where the contact details of former ASHA committee members were published on the web. This issue was dealt with swiftly and the
offending pages were removed from the web. The Web editor is currently reviewing old and new pages to ensure that the situation does not occur again.

**Future opportunities**

The site requires further modification and upgrading for the forthcoming year. Further content is being sought for each “Historical Archaeology in Your State” pages. More on-line additions of the Journal will be added to the appropriate pages. As with all ‘live’ content, the website is still a work-in-progress. There are more publications to scan and new content to upload. In addition, The Web Showroom package has other features which will improve other areas of society business, including:

**Newsletter**

- Online submission of articles and images
- Preparation online (to streamline formatting)
- Delivery of the newsletter in html

**Email discussion list**

- Integration of the email discussion list into the new site to streamline the management of new email addresses
- Alternatively, the email discussion list could be managed as an online blog, accessible to members only

**SECRETARY’S REPORT 2009-2010 [KATRINA STANKOWSKI]**

**Society Administration**

*Admin Officer*

Cynthia Paterson continued on in the position of Admin Officer for 2009-2010 but will be retiring as of September 2010. A decision to appoint a new Administration Officer has not been made at this point and will be the consideration of the new ASHA Committee based on a budgetary review.

Cynthia’s’ tasks included processing all ASHA mailbox and website correspondence, all banking of membership and book order payments undertaken via the website and processing of all ASHA mail outs. Cynthia has been undertaking this role from her base in Adelaide with Martin Gibbs providing additional support in clearing the mailbox and forwarding all correspondence to her on a weekly basis.

Cynthia has handled most of the tasks traditionally undertaken by the Secretary and to a smaller extent by the Treasurer, and as a consequence has made the lives of myself and Kylie Seretis much easier. I want to thank Cynthia for her brilliant work for the society over the past four years and say that I couldn’t have undertaken this role without her help and advice.

*Correspondence*

The majority of correspondence with the Society occurred via email in 2009-2010 and related to membership renewals and publication orders. ASHA continues to receive information from various other societies reporting on their news and upcoming events, as well as requests for
ASHA to contribute opinions on various legislative reviews via the post box, as well as requests for reviews of various publications which are handled through our Reviews Editor.

The mail box is cleared every Monday by Martin Gibbs.

Recording Keeping

The online ASHA database and email accounts are backed up to independent and secure servers associated with SmarterMail (email providers) and The Web Showroom (website and membership database providers).

Membership

Membership renewals were sent out electronically this year for the first time, with approximately 50 hard copy renewal forms sent out to those who do not have email addresses. As of August 26th there are 112 renewals for the 2010-2011 Membership year.

2009–10 Membership Renewals

At the end of the 09-10 membership year (1 July 09 to 30 Jun 10), ASHA had 278 members (including 24 life or non-financial members). This includes 41 new members and 1 new Life Membership. This number is significantly down on previous years and this is attributed to the switch to the new website renewal system and electronic email notification for the annual subscription renewals.

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<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Number</th>
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</thead>
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<td><strong>Total Members</strong></td>
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Annual Trends

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<th>Total Financial</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>255</td>
<td>278</td>
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Committee Meetings

Two teleconferences have been held over the past year.

8 November 2009, 10am–11.00am.

10 June 2010, 10am–11.00am.

Publication Sales & Inventory

A stock-take was conducted by the Publications Distributions Officer, Peter Davies, in August (see details below). The table below details all publications sales throughout the year.

**PUBLICATION SALES (As at 23 August 2010)**

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<td>----------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>1901: Australian Life at Federation</td>
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</table>
Member Suggestions and Queries

- Direct Debit facility to pay membership renewals via the website (numerous members).
- Get rid of PayPal (even more members).

TREASURER’S REPORT 2009-2010 [KYLIE SERETIS]

This report was not presented to the AGM and is still not available at the time of going to print. I expect to have it for the membership in the March 2011 issue – Ed.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2010 – DRAFT MINUTES

Friday 1 October 2010, Mercure Hotel, North Quay, Brisbane

1. President’s Welcome

The meeting began at 4.10pm.

2. Apologies and Quorum (5) Confirmation

Attendance – 41.

Committee Members in attendance: Martin Gibbs, Penny Crook, Rick McGovern-Wilson, Kate Quirk, Ross Gam, Peter Davies, Paul Rheinburger.

General Members in attendance: Sarah Kelloway, Neville Ritchie, Angela Middleton, Mat Campbell, Linda Terry, Amy Wood, Iain Stuart, Debra Robertson, Helen Cooke, Catherine Tucker, Ilka Schacht, Adam Paterson, Annita Waghorn, Amanda Reynolds, Graham Connah, Mary Casey, Geraldine Mate, Cameron Harvey, Sean Ulm, Mary-Jean Sutton, Jonathan Prangnell, Karen Murphy.

Non Members in attendance: Tim Owen, Natalie Blake, Gordon Grimwade, Deborah Brian, Gaye Nayton, Aleisha Buckler, Bernice Ngo, Andrea Murphy, Jane Ainsworth, Denise Gaughwin, Tracey Ireland, Jodie Mitchell.

Apologies: Tony Lowe, Jill Reid, Brad Duncan.

3. Minutes of the 2009 AGM

Motion to accept the minutes of the 2009 AGM. Moved Rick McGovern-Wilson, seconded Jon Prangnell, motion carried.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

No matters arising

5. Annual Reports

a) President’s report

The President’s report was tabled with discussion of the following issues.

The New Website: Martin Gibbs thanked Penny Crook and all the contributors for the new website design. Martin Gibbs noted that although there were some issues with PayPal implementation, these appeared to have been resolved although monitoring would continue.
b) Vice Presidents Report

The VPs report was tabled with no discussion.

c) Treasurer’s report

Treasurer’s report was unavailable at the meeting so the President presented a verbal report on behalf of the Treasurer.

Martin Gibbs reported that the Society is financial and is currently doing well with a relatively healthy bank balance. The grant for $7,000 from the Commonwealth Government finishes this year. There has been a slight decline in membership, owing in part to the emphasis on setting up on-line registration rather than on membership renewals. This was also influenced by the changeover of renewals from calendar year to financial year. The auditor’s report has been received and no issues were identified. All previous issues have been addressed. There was no further discussion on the treasurer’s report.

d) Secretary’s report

The Secretary’s report was tabled with no discussion.

e) Journal Editor’s report

No Journal Editor’s report was tabled.

f) Newsletter Editor’s report

No Newsletter Editor’s report was tabled.

6. Election of Incoming Committee

No Returning Officer was appointed as there were no contested committee positions. Accordingly, all who nominated for the ASHA Executive & General Committee were voted in.

7. Declaration of the 2010–2011 ASHA Committee

The President, Martin Gibbs declared the following to be members of the 2010–2011 ASHA Committee:

President Jon Prangnell
Vice Presidents Brad Duncan & Linda Terry
Treasurer Karen Murphy
Secretary Geraldine Mate
Committee Rick McGovern-Wilson, Paul Rheinburger, Susan Piddock, Shane Burke, Kate Quirk, Ross Gam, Iain Stuart & Peter Davies.

8. Appointment of Public Officer

Geraldine Mate was proposed as the Public Officer for ASHA.

9. Appointment of Auditor

An Auditor was not appointed at the AGM.
10. **Set Membership Fees**

There were no proposed changes to the membership fees for 2010-2011. They will remain at the rates set for 2009-2010:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<td>Student OS*</td>
<td>$60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Overseas includes anywhere other than Australia or NZ*

11. **2011 Conference**

The venue for the 2011 conference was confirmed as Dunedin, under an organising committee led by Rick McGovern-Wilson. The specific date is yet to be announced and will be dependant on dates for the Rugby World Cup.

A suggestion of WA for the 2012 conference was discussed. It was agreed that this would depend on whether 2012 would also be the next joint conference between ASHA, AAA and AIMA and venue would be dependent on outcomes of discussions regarding a joint conference.

12. **2009–2010 ASHA Committee retired**

Martin Gibbs thanked the 2009–2010 Committee for their service, particularly Penny Crook, Mac North, Jodie Steele, Brad Duncan, Katrina Stankowski, Sue Singleton and Kylie Seretis. He then welcomed the new committee.

Incoming President Jon Prangnell also thanked the retiring committee, including Martin for their work over the preceding years and moved a motion of thanks, seconded by Neville Ritchie. Jon emphasised that the incoming committee would be focusing on two main issues – an emphasis on membership numbers and a focus on lifting the profile of the Society and the profession as a whole.

13. **State representatives**

State representatives were nominated with the following members returning or nominating:

- **New Zealand**    Rick McGovern Wilson
- **Northern Territory** Ilka Schacht
Queensland  Cameron Harvey
South Australia  Adam Paterson
Western Australia  Shane Burke (Gaye Nayton as standby)
Victoria  Darren Griffin (Andrea Murphy as standby)
Tasmania  Greg Jackman (Annita Waghorn as standby)
ACT  Richard Morrison (Helen Cooke as standby)

14. Business from the Floor

a) Annita Waghorn read a brief statement about the long term commitment and support that Angela McGowan, who recently retired, has provided to ASHA and the field of Cultural Heritage Management over the last 30 years as follows:

Angie is well known for her contributions to archaeology and heritage management, particularly in Tasmania. She conducted some of the first historical archaeological investigations in Tasmania, including at Port Arthur Historic Site and Sarah Island, as well as Risdon Cove, site of the state's first official European settlement. Angie has been one of Tasmania's most prominent heritage practitioners, having worked for the Tasmanian Parks and Wildlife Service, Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, and Heritage Tasmania, as well as in private practice.

Angie has advocated throughout her career for the conservation and appreciation of Tasmania's heritage sites. She served on the Tasmanian Heritage Council, and is a long-standing member of ASHA, AACA, and the National Trust (TAS). She is currently the Tasmanian representative on the Australia ICOMOS Executive Committee.

With Angela's retirement it was felt appropriate that this effort was acknowledged. Annita Waghorn therefore moved that this matter be recorded and that a letter of thanks from the president be sent to Angela McGowan. Seconded by Penny Crook, carried unanimously.

b) Discussion then turned to raising the profile of Historical archaeology and ASHA in Australasia.

Mary Casey highlighted that the PHANZA conference would be a good opportunity to present a session as an organisation, reiterating the importance of cross-professional exposure. President will pursue.

Graham Connah suggested consideration of a high profile key note speaker to discuss major issue in Australasian Historical Archaeology and forthcoming conference. Denise Gaughwin raised the issue of suitable candidates and the possibility that ASHA /AIMA conferences may have funding for a maritime speaker.

Gaye Nayton initiated discussion about co-ordinating a public face of archaeology. Rick McGovern-Wilson pointed out that all members of the Society should be taking action rather than sitting back and assuming “the committee” should do something.

Penny Crook has suggested a blog be initiated to allow discussion amongst members.
Sean Ulm highlighted an opportunity to have in-service training on a media strategy. National Geographic has offered AAA this service and he felt this might be something that all three organisations could take up.

Tim Owen suggested enhanced electronic publication but Martin Gibbs cautioned about undercutting both the journal and the current monograph publications.

Discussions ended with agreement from the members that an advocacy subcommittee be established to look at strategies for raising the profile of Historical Archaeology in Australia and NZ. This was to include:

- How to improve ASHA’s public face,
- How ASHA as an organisation can be promoted, so that membership increases – want to ensure percentage of practising historical archaeologists that are members of ASHA increases (including recent graduates, younger archaeologists etc);
- Potential professional development workshops for members with respect to engaging with the media, writing press releases and professional approach to advocacy – need to coordinate with AAA;
- Co-ordinating public archaeology activities;
- A review of what we are doing presently and whether it’s effective in terms of legislative advocacy and advocacy for protecting cultural heritage, for communicating issues, engaging the public and raising the profile of historical archaeology;
- How we can present a co-ordinated voice rather than a fragmented communication about historical archaeology issues etc.

The subcommittee was given the task of preparing a discussion paper outlining strategies and issues and setting priorities going forward to present to the membership in July 2012 for discussion at the 2012 conference. The subcommittee was composed of Jane Ainsworth (chair), Jon Prangnell, Adam Paterson, Gaye Nayton, Iain Stuart and Tim Owen and where necessary would seek professional advice.

15. Close of the AGM

The meeting closed at 4.55 pm.

ASHA AWARD WINNERS 2010

R. Ian Jack Award for Best Honours Thesis

Natalie Blake, University of Sydney: Town and Country: Diet in 19th Century Urban and Rural NSW

Four faunal assemblages from mid-19th century contexts in colonial NSW were analysed to document between urban and rural contexts with an intention of introducing themes relevant to Australian historical archaeology.
Maureen Byrne Award for Best Post-Graduate Thesis

Alister Bowen, La Trobe University: ‘A Power of Money’: The Chinese Involvement in Victoria’s Early Fishing Industry

Thousands of Chinese gold miners entering Victoria during the 1850s increased demand for fish, a Chinese dietary staple. This PhD thesis uses historical documentation – predominately primary – and material evidence from the excavation of an 1860s Chinese fish curing site in Victoria to explain the Chinese involvement in Victoria’s colonial fishing industry. The conceptual and theoretical base revolves around social organisation and interaction themes, with emphasis placed on the micro-societies at Chinese fish curing establishments. Long-standing perceptions of the Chinese experience in colonial Australia are challenged and the Chinese shown to have played an active and important role in colonial Australia.

Judy Birmingham Award for Best Historical Archaeology Heritage Report

Godden Mackay Logan, Hinman, and Wright and Manser: Hadley’s Hotel, Hobart

The site houses the former Cascade Brewery office. Both the hotel and the brewery office are listed on the Tasmanian State Heritage Register. The investigation involved excavation, monitoring, test excavation and recording and revealed remains from Aboriginal occupation, the mid-late 19th century, and the 20th century. Analysis provided significant insight into the site’s former environment and living conditions.

Martin Davies Award for Best Public Archaeology Initiative

Godden Mackay Logan, the Sydney Youth Hostel Association, and the Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority: The Big Dig Archaeology Education Centre

The Sydney YHA Big Dig Education Centre allows guests, school groups and the general public access to a unique and direct experience in understanding Sydney’s past. It includes interpretive panels and facades to contextualise the array of artefacts and features discovered during archaeological excavation in 1994 and 2006-2008.

ASHA 2010 CONFERENCE REPORT (KAREN MURPHY)

The annual ASHA conference was held in late September at the Mercure Hotel, in downtown Brisbane. The mid-afternoon brewing storm clouds headed north away from the opening reception held on the decks of the World War II veteran ship the Diamantina, overlooking the Brisbane River and the CBD. The conference itself was opened with an address from one of ASHA’s longest standing members Professor Graham Connah who reflected on the past 40 years of the society. This was followed by a forum chaired by President Martin Gibbs and reflecting on the past, present and future of ASHA and the discipline of historical archaeology. Enthusiastic and fruitful discussions from the floor highlighted the importance of our engaging better with the public and raising the profile of historical archaeology as a discipline.

This theme was later picked up in a session on Advocating Archaeology chaired by Jane Ainsworth, and saw the establishment of a committee at the AGM in order to address the issue of what ASHA as a society can, and should do, in relation to public archaeology.
Other sessions at the conference demonstrated the broad diversity of research, issues and concerns with which our members are involved. Given the relatively small size of our discipline it was heartening to see this diversity.

The conference dinner was held in the Rendezvous Hotel in the Brisbane CBD following the final paper presentations. The conference and society awards were presented at the dinner with a clean sweep being made of the best paper awards by our New Zealand colleagues. It was an enjoyable way to end a successful conference, with attendees across the chronological spectrum hitting the dancefloor and pleading for just one more encore.

A choice of fieldtrips were held on the Sunday following the conference dinner - a walking tour of the Toowong Cemetery, and a day-long fieldtrip exploring Queensland's railway heritage. A small crew enjoyed a relaxing start to the morning with a leisurely-paced steam-train trip through the inner Brisbane suburbs. It was then off out to Ipswich to the Workshops Rail Museum. Senior Curator Geraldine Mate gave us a brief orientation tour, highlighting the history and heritage of the buildings on site. Time to explore on our own was followed by a hearty roast lunch in the former Workshop’s canteen. Then it was into the behind-the-scenes of the Workshops themselves with guided tours of the blacksmith shop and the steam shop. One final stop was made before the return to Brisbane with a visit to the nearby heritage-listed Klondyke Coke Ovens and Mi-Hi railway and mining landscape. Within sight of the Workshops the remains of Queensland’s first railway line and the later associated coking facilities demonstrated the broader landscape both physical and historical in which the history of coal mining and railway transport in Queensland sit.

I would like to thank my fellow conference organisers for their hard work in bringing together the first individual ASHA conference to be held in Queensland. Also, thank you to all who attended and participated in the conference. We hope you had a productive and enjoyable visit.
CONFERENCE AWARD WINNERS

Best Paper
Ian Smith, University of Otago

*Encounter and Entanglement: The Archaeology of Codfish Island/Whenua Hou, New Zealand*

Best Student Paper
Janice Adamson, University of Auckland

“Improving our Condition”: The Archaeology of Settler Farmsteads in Taranaki, New Zealand, 1841-1860

Best Poster
Jane Austen, Gold Coast City Council

*Developing the List: Portrait of a Local Government Archaeologist*

Presentation of ASHA Awards by incoming President, Jon Prangnell, at the annual conference dinner, Rendezvous Hotel, Brisbane
THANKYOU TO RETIRING PRESIDENT MARTIN GIBBS

Martin Gibbs has stepped down as ASHA president this year after 3 years of hard work in the top job. Martin’s major contribution over his term has been in working towards raising the profile of the society, in particular, and the discipline overall. He has overseen the transformation of the ASHA website raising our online profile and improving functions and facilities for members. The overhaul of the website was a major undertaking which has successfully updated the society’s online presence and provided online membership facilities for the convenience of our members. The mammoth task of scanning and placing online back issues of the ASHA Journal and other publications will also improve our online presence and provide much needed access to our research in Australia and New Zealand. Also on the publication front Martin brought to fruition the delivery of the new Studies in Australasian Historical Archaeology monograph series with the publication of Jim Allen’s Port Essington work.

Martin’s passion about the relevance and contribution of the society to the discipline was demonstrated through a number of ASHA contributions to major heritage system reviews in New South Wales, Tasmania and at the federal level during his term. This theme of advocacy along with public engagement is something which the new executive wish to follow, continuing on from Martin’s excellent foundation work.

On behalf of the committee and members of ASHA we would like to thank Martin for his tireless efforts and wish him some relaxation time with his new family.

ASHA Executive

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

ASHA CONFERENCE 2011

The annual ASHA Conference for 2011 is currently being planned to be held in Dunedin, New Zealand, from Thursday 17 November to Saturday 19 November. This is somewhat later that recent years, but due to the Rugby World Cup being held in New Zealand during September and October we have to go a bit later (or your accommodation will cost $1000+ per night).

Further details will be provided as arrangements are made, but there will be both pre- and post-conference fieldtrips, likely to revolve around both wine and gold-mining which Central Otago is famous for, as well as the 19th C landscape of the Otago Peninsula..

Ideas for sessions and papers can be forwarded to the Organising Committee but two primary themes will be: Gold-mining (2011 is the sesqui-centenary of the Otago Goldrush), and Historical Archaeology in the Pacific.

The Conference Organising Committee can be contacted as follows:

Rick McGovern-Wilson                          Ian Smith
rmcgovernwilson@historic.org.nz                ian.smith@otago.ac.nz

Angela Middleton

a.middleton@orcon.net.nz
ASHA AWARDS PROGRAMME 2011

Rules and Guidelines

ASHA members are invited to nominate recent work for consideration in the ASHA Awards program. The ASHA Awards program aims to promote excellence in historical archaeology in Australasia by recognising best practice in the heritage management of historical archaeology; promoting the communication of archaeological results to the public; and rewarding outstanding research by students. The winners will be announced at the annual conference dinner. All award winners will be published in the Newsletter and on the ASHA web site.

The awards will be judged by a three-person panel chaired by the Past-President of ASHA. The panel will consist of representatives from the consulting profession, government heritage agencies, and academia. All judges must be financial members of ASHA. Those on the judging panel cannot be nominees for awards while serving as judges.

ASHA reserves the right not to make an award if nominations are too few in number or judged of insufficient quality. The judgement of the panel is final. No correspondence will be entered into regarding decisions. Entries will not be returned. Winning entries will be lodged in the ASHA archives and may be used by ASHA for training and promotional purposes, with credits to the individuals and agencies involved.

Nominations are sought for work in the following categories:

R. Ian Jack Award for Best Honours or MA Coursework Thesis (for theses completed in 2010)

This award will be made to the best thesis completed by an Honours student, MA Preliminary student, or Graduate Diploma student in a university in Australia or New Zealand. To be eligible for this award the thesis must have been completed in 2010, and must be research related to historical archaeology. The thesis must be nominated by the supervisor.

The award will consist of a cash prize of $200, a certificate, and assistance with preparing an article based on the research for publication in Australasian Historical Archaeology.

Nominations will be judged on the basis of timeliness and significance of the research aims, appropriateness and effectiveness of methodology, accuracy of information, presentation, and general contribution to the field of historical archaeology.

Nominations must include one hard copy of the thesis, two electronic copies of the thesis as PDFs on clearly labelled CD-ROMs, and the cover sheet.

Judy Birmingham Award for Best Historical Archaeology Heritage Report (sponsored by Comber Consultants) (for reports completed in 2010)

This award will be made for the best report on a historical archaeology project carried out as a consultancy in Australia or New Zealand. To be eligible for this award the report must have been submitted in 2010. The nomination can be prepared by either the client or the consultant, but must have the support of the client. At least one member of the consultancy team (who may be the nominator) must be a financial member of ASHA. The nominee is the team or individual who carried out the work, while the nominator is the individual...
preparing the submission and acting as contact person. The same individual may be nominator and nominee.

The award will consist of a certificate and publicity on the ASHA web site and in the ASHA newsletter.

Nominations will be judged on the basis of the significance of the research design and methodology, innovation, presentation, and the degree to which the client’s requirements were met.

Nominations must include one hard copy of the report and project brief, two electronic copies of the report and project brief as PDFs on clearly labelled CD-ROMs, and the cover sheet.

**Martin Davies Award for Best Public Archaeology Initiative (for projects carried out in 2010)**

This award will be made for the best project presenting historical archaeology to the general public in Australia or New Zealand. To be eligible for this award the project must have been completed in 2010. If it is an on-going project it must have either commenced or taken place during 2010. Public archaeology initiatives may include (but are not limited to) tours of excavations, post-excavation interpretation on-site, lecture series, television or radio programs, web sites, museum displays, education programs, and plain language publications intended for a non-academic audience. The nomination can be prepared by either the client (if done as a consultancy) or the individual or agency responsible, but must have the support of the client where appropriate. At least one member of the project team (who may be the nominator) must be a financial member of ASHA. The nominee is the team or individual who carried out the work, while the nominator is the individual preparing the submission and acting as contact person. The same individual may be nominator and nominee.

The award will consist of a certificate and publicity on the ASHA web site and in the ASHA newsletter.

Nominations will be judged on the basis of interest to the audience, clarity of presentation, innovation, and public response.

Nominations must include a one-page description of the project, and relevant supporting material which may include photos, videos, posters, brochures, media coverage, reviews, evidence of feedback, etc. The nomination should include one hard copy and two electronic copies of all material included as PDFs on clearly labelled CD-ROMS, and the cover sheet.

**Maureen Byrne Award for Best Post-Graduate Thesis (biannual award, not offered in 2011)**

Nominations for Awards

Nominations are due by 31 March 2011. The awards will be announced at the ASHA conference in Dunedin.

Full details and a Nomination Cover Sheet are available on the ASHA web site, [http://www.asha.org.au/](http://www.asha.org.au/). For more information please contact awards@asha.org.au or Susan Lawrence, s.lawrence@latrobe.edu.au, 03 9479 1790.
HOLLOW BRICKS

Peter Bell of Adelaide has a query about hollow bricks. Large numbers of bricks used in a major Adelaide public building about 1870 have a cavity running the length of each brick. The bricks are otherwise conventional, about 233 x 111 x 64mm in dimensions and orange-red in colour. The bricks are mechanically wire-cut and clearly show longitudinal extrusion marks and transverse cut marks. The principal motive that comes to mind for the use of hollow bricks is to reduce their weight and therefore the cost of transport. The cavity is about 23 x 72mm in section, and would reduce the weight of the brick by about 23%. There are occasional references to hollow bricks in the historical literature, but their use seems to have been very restricted. Is there anyone else who has come across hollow bricks used for building, or can shed any other light on the practice?

Please contact Peter at <pbell.2@bigpond.com> or (08) 8373 1900.
NEW BOOK IN AUSTRALIAN HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY NOW AVAILABLE

An Archaeology of Australia Since 1788

Susan Lawrence and Peter Davies


This volume provides an important new synthesis of archaeological work carried out in Australia on the post-contact period. It draws on dozens of case studies from a wide geographical and temporal span to explore the daily life of Australians in settings such as convict stations, goldfields, whalers’ camps, farms, pastoral estates and urban neighbourhoods. The different conditions experienced by various groups of people are described in detail, including rich and poor, convicts and their superiors, Aboriginal people, women, children, and migrant groups. The social themes of gender, class, ethnicity, status and identity inform every chapter, demonstrating that these are vital parts of human experience, and cannot be separated from archaeologies of industry, urbanization and culture contact.

The book engages with a wide range of contemporary discussions and debates within Australian history and the international discipline of historical archaeology. The colonization of Australia was part of the international expansion of European hegemony in the eighteenth and nineteenth century. The material discussed here is thus fundamentally part of the global processes of colonization and the creation of settler societies, the industrial revolution, the development of mass consumer culture, and the emergence of national identities. Drawing out these themes and integrating them with the analysis of archaeological materials highlights the vital relevance of archaeology in modern society.

Sample chapter available for free download from:

http://www.springer.com/social+sciences/archaeology
TUTU TE PUEHU: NEW ZEALAND’S WARS OF THE 19TH CENTURY
11 – 13 February 2011, Massey University, Wellington

This conference focuses on the wars between Maori and Pakeha in the North Island during the mid to late 19th century. They impacted on virtually every aspect of life. They are pivotal in New Zealand history and their legacy continues to influence Maori-Pakeha relations today. Speakers at the conference include a range of experts on the subject of war in a colonial setting from New Zealand, Australia and further afield, and including leading Maori historians.

More information is provided on the following insert, and from the website: www.newzealandwars.co.nz
Registration
I want to register:

1. My name is

2. My address is

3. My email is

Conference Fee
Conference fee $160 per person, which includes the Friday function and all lunches and teas to Sunday. Discount fee of $140 if received before 1 December 2010. No GST.

No. of attendees _____ x $_____ = $______

I am interested in the conference dinner, Saturday night, 12 February? Cost and details to be confirmed. Yes _____

Send this form and your payment (cheques made out to the ‘Tutū te Puehu Conference Organising Committee’) to:

Tutū te Puehu Conference
PO Box 9724, Marion Square
Wellington 6141, New Zealand

Direct payments (by EFT) can be arranged.

Previous Conferences
1995 - Kia Kaha - the Second World War
Proceedings edited by John Crawford published by Oxford University Press, 2000

1999 - South African War
Proceedings edited by John Crawford and Ian McGibbon published as One Flag One Queen One Tongue by Auckland University Press, 2003

2003 - Zealandia’s Great War (WWI)
Proceedings edited by John Crawford and Ian McGibbon published as New Zealand’s Great War by Exisle, 2007

2007 - Seeing Red: New Zealand’s Cold War

For further information: contact the Tutū te Puehu Committee, Box 9724, Wellington 6141, New Zealand. ian.mcgibbon@mch.govt.nz or j.crawford@nzdf.mil.nz ©2010
Tutū te Puehu -
‘kicking up the dust’

Fierce conflicts raged across much of the North Island during the middle decades of the nineteenth century. These pitted Maori against Maori and Pakeha against Maori, and impacted on virtually every aspect of life. They are pivotal in New Zealand history and their legacy continues to influence Maori-Pakeha relations today.

New Zealand’s wars of the nineteenth century started in the first decade as tribal fights, unmodified by modern weapons or concepts. Over 6000 pa or fortifications were built, reflecting its positional nature. The warfare changed as new weapons, technologies and doctrines were introduced. The musket first influenced combat when imported just over 200 years ago.

Tutū te Puehu, New Zealand’s Wars of the Nineteenth Century will be the first national conference to examine these wars. Leading Maori and Pakeha experts will speak on many aspects of the wars. Wide ranging military, political, social and religious issues will be examined. Other speakers will cover particular aspects of the New Zealand Wars, such as developments in technology and tactics; the operations of the Arawa flying columns; Maori who fought Maori; how the New Zealand Wars were reported in the colonial press; the treatment of Maori prisoners of war; the founding and development of New Zealand military and naval forces; conscription and the militia; how peace was negotiated; medical and missionary aspects of the conflicts; and how historians have seen the New Zealand Wars.

As well as a clash of peoples, was there also a meeting of military sciences? Did Maori invent trench warfare? Did European armies learn guerilla tactics from them? Was there a global pattern of conflict between peoples in the wake of European expansionism. And did NZ’s wars of the nineteenth century fit into this pattern?

Distinguished overseas speakers from Australia, South Africa and the United Kingdom will place the New Zealand experience in a wider context.

Speakers include:
Professor Ian Beckett, a leading authority on the British Army and colonial experiences (University of Kent)
Professor James Belich, author of The New Zealand Wars and the Victorian Interpretation of Racial Conflict and major histories of the expansion of English-speaking people across the world during the nineteenth century (Victoria University of Wellington)
Dr John Connor (Australian Defence Force Academy, Canberra)
Dr Danny Keenan, NZ historian (Ngati Te Whiti/Te Atiawa)
Dr Monty Soutar, NZ historian (Ngati Porou/Ngati Awa)
Dr Peter Stanley (Head of the Centre for Historical Research at the National Museum of Australia, Canberra)
Associate Professor Ian van der Waag (Stellenbosch University, South Africa)

Acknowledgements
The Tutū te Puehu Organising Committee thanks the following for their assistance: Ministry of Defence, NZ Defence Force, Royal NZ Returned & Services Assn, Ministry for Culture & Heritage, Phanza, Te Puni Kokiri and NZ Film Archive.
Society Contacts

2010–2011 COMMITTEE

President  Jon Prangnell  President@asha.org.au
Vice Presidents  Linda Terry  jody@asha.org.au  Brad Duncan  Brad@asha.org.au
Treasurer  Karen Murphy  Treasurer@asha.org.au
Secretary  Geraldine Mate  Secretary@asha.org.au
Committee  Shane Burke  Peter Davies  Ross Gam  Rick McGovern-Wilson  Susan Piddock  Kate Quirk  Paul Rheinburger  Iain Stuart

Publications

AHA Editor  Mary Casey  editor@asha.org.au
AHA Reviews Editor  Kate Quirk  reviews@asha.org.au
Newsletter Editor  Rick McGovern-Wilson  newsletter@asha.org.au
Webmaster  Brad Duncan  webmanager@asha.org.au
Publications Officer  Peter Davies  publications@asha.org.au

STATE REPRESENTATIVES

ACT
Richard Morrison  PO Box 6060  O’Connor ACT 2602  act@asha.org.au

NSW
Tim Owen  Cultural Heritage Services  2009 Locked Bag 24  Broadway NSW 2007  nsw@asha.org.au

NT
Ilka Schacht  Museum and Art Gallery of the Northern Territory  GPO Box 4646  Darwin NT 0801  nt@asha.org.au

SA
Adam Patterson  Flinders University  GPO Box 2100  Adelaide SA 5001  sa@asha.org.au

QC
Cameron Harvey  Heritage Branch  Department of Environment and Resource Management  GPO Box 2454  Brisbane, QLD 4001  qld@asha.org.au

TAS
Greg Jackman  Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority  Port Arthur TAS 7182  tas@asha.org.au

WA
Shane Burke  Department of Archaeology  University of Western Australia  Nedlands WA 6907  wa@asha.org.au

NZ
Rick McGovern-Wilson  New Zealand Historic Places Trust  PO Box 2629  Wellington NZ 6140  nz@asha.org.au

VIC
Darren Griffin  Senior Archaeologist / Heritage Advisor  ACHM (Vic) Pty Ltd  GPO Box 5112  Melbourne VIC 3000  vic@asha.org.au
FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS

The ASHA Newsletter is produced quarterly with the assistance of State Reps. In order to facilitate a more efficient newsletter production, all contributions should be forwarded to the e-mail address of your state rep (see ASHA contacts on the previous page for address details) by the following dates:

<table>
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<td>March issue</td>
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<td>September issue</td>
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<td>June issue</td>
<td>15 May</td>
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<td>December issue</td>
<td>15 November</td>
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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.

Rick McGovern-Wilson  
General Editor  
ASHA Newsletter

Email: newsletter@asha.org.au  
Post: New Zealand Historic Places Trust  
P O Box 2629  
Wellington 6140  
NEW ZEALAND  
Phone: +64 4 470 8055