

# NEWSLETTER

of the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology Inc.

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# STATE OF THE ART

## ACT NEWS

*Compiled by Richard Morrison*

### **WILDLIFE, HERITAGE AND MARINE DIVISION – DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENT, WATER, POPULATION AND COMMUNITIES (DSEWPAC)**

**Council of Australian Governments (COAG)** – As mentioned in the August 2012 newsletter, COAG met in early April 2012 and decided to progress major reforms in various areas, such as in the reduction of environment regulation and the fast-tracking of the movement of assessments and approval processes to the states, whilst still maintaining high environmental standards.

In December 2012 COAG re-affirmed its commitment to broad environmental regulation reform that enhances efficiency and increases certainty for business, while maintaining high environmental standards. It also welcomed the release of the Commonwealth's Statement of Environmental and Assurance Outcomes, and draft Framework of Standards for Accreditation. These two documents articulate the standards that the Commonwealth has proposed that State and Territory processes would need to meet to ensure community confidence in accredited arrangements, and represent an important milestone in COAG's reform agenda. They can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/epbc/publications/accreditation-standards-framework.html>

COAG committed to continue to work to streamline environmental regulation that delivers strong environmental outcomes and better conditions for business, with a report on the outcomes of their further work to be considered at the next COAG meeting. As a further step to improving processes relating to environmental regulation, COAG agreed that all jurisdictions will direct their regulatory and referral agencies to eliminate duplication and to avoid sequential assessments and delayed approval processes and also to utilise common information requirements for both assessments and approvals. However, the move to conclude bilateral agreements with each jurisdiction has slowed substantially.

**Australian Heritage Week Saturday 13 April to Sunday 21 April 2013** – This is an initiative of the Commonwealth, and provides a banner and national media focus for heritage events and festivals run by heritage place managers, heritage community groups, organisations and governments at all levels and across all three heritage environments. The activities and events organised by the participants aim to increase public awareness and appreciation for heritage. It also assists in building community spirit and affinity in the broader Australian community to support the conservation and protection of heritage places.

Heritage events held over this period can be registered for free promotion on the website which is managed by the Division. Once registered, event holders have access to the Australian Heritage Week logo for use in promoting events. Last year over 365 events were registered, and so far already 83 events have been registered for 2013, so it is shaping up to be another great week of heritage events across the country. For more information please see the FAQs on the website <http://heritage-week.govspace.gov.au>

## **INSTITUTE FOR PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE IN HERITAGE AND THE ARTS, RESEARCH SCHOOL OF HUMANITIES & THE ARTS, ANU**

**Bill Gammage's *The Biggest Estate on Earth: How Aborigines Made Australia* One Day Seminar, Theatrette, Sir Roland Wilson Building 120, ANU, 18 March 2013 –** A professional update on this multi award-winning book providing critical perspectives on the issues raised and examining the implications for how our continent is understood and might be managed in the future. The seminar, with a range of speakers from different perspectives, will explore the many issues and challenges raised by historian, Bill Gammage, in his recently-released book, which has won several prizes for history and literature. Speakers include Bill Gammage, John Mulvaney, Mike Pearson, Joe Morrison, Rod Fensham, Marcia Langton (TBC), Philip Gibbons, Tony English, David Bowman, and Mark McKenna. The event cost is \$110/person or \$88/student (GST incl.).

Details of how to enrol and pay can be found with a detailed programme on the IPPHA website event calendar at <http://ippha.anu.edu.au/events>. Enquiries: Dr Sandy Blair email [sandy.blair@anu.edu.au](mailto:sandy.blair@anu.edu.au) ph 02 6125 5887.

**The Physical Conservation of Buildings and Structures, Professional Development Short Course, Kakadu National Park & Pine Creek, Northern Territory, 14-20 April 2013 –** This course will provide 'hands on' experience of physical conservation relating to historic buildings and structures, and will provide an opportunity for participants to explore the multiple values associated with such places. Participants will have unique access to an intriguing range of historic buildings and structures, including a former Top End Safari Camp and early timber mill at Anlarr, the old Jim Jim Store, a buffalo industry-era homestead and the historic mining town of Pine Creek. Topics include the management and maintenance of historic buildings and structures; identification of traditional building materials and practices; conserving interiors and finishes; understanding the processes leading to deterioration; physical conservation after bushfires and other natural processes; how to scope and instruct on basic physical conservation works; using the physical elements to tell a diversity of stories; and applying Burra Charter principles and processes to the physical conservation of heritage places. Participants will also have opportunities to interact with Indigenous rangers and community members to better understand the stories and connections of these historic places for Indigenous people. The course will be presented by experienced heritage practitioner Philip Giovanelli and staff of Kakadu National Park and the Australian National University. The course cost is \$2,500 (incl. GST) for 6 days including accommodation, most food and transport on arrival.

Details of how to enrol and pay can be found on the IPPHA website event calendar. There is strong interest in the course and registration and payment of a deposit of \$500 will secure your place. The remainder of the fee is due by 2 April 2013. Enquiries: Dr Sandy Blair email [sandy.blair@anu.edu.au](mailto:sandy.blair@anu.edu.au) ph 02 6125 5887.

## **NSW NEWS**

***Compiled by Lydia Sivaraman***

### **TAHMOOR HOUSE, NSW**

Niche Environment and Heritage was commissioned to provide a report documenting the significance of Tahmoor House located at 27 Remembrance Driveway, Tahmoor, NSW. The

house is listed as an item of local heritage significance in Schedule 5 of the Wollondilly Local Environmental Plan (LEP). A more recent heritage assessment of the house, however, found it to be state significant for its historical heritage values, associations, research potential and rarity.

Below is the history of Tahmoor House which, along with its archaeological potential, has led to it being assessed as state significant.

### History of Tahmoor House

Edward Doyle received a Crown Grant of 50 acres of land on 1 November 1822 (LTO Vol. 14 page 114). Doyle was an ex-convict who upon receiving the land grant lived at the property with his wife Mary and their four children (Fairfax n.d 'Historic Buildings'). A dwelling was built on the property for Doyle and his family to live in, and he ran an Accommodation House from his premises ('Tahmoor House', NSW Environment and Heritage). The idea of running an Inn on the land also occurred to him as he applied for a liquor licence in 1823 but was unable to afford it (Fairfax n.d 'Historic Buildings'). Early in 1824 he sold the property.

The property was sold to William Klensendorlffe of Liverpool, a settler. Klensendorlffe paid one hundred and fifty pounds for the property on 27 March 1824 (LTO Book K No. 694). Klensendorlffe, was a German who served in the British Army, and came to the colony as a free settler in 1819 (Fairfax n.d 'Historic Buildings'), where he married Elizabeth "*the daughter of a wealthy and respectable non-commissioned officer of the Old New South Wales corps*" (*The Monitor* Friday 6 April 1827: 8).

Klensendorlffe continued to run an 'Accommodation House' from the premises and in October 1824 the distinguished guest William Hovell stayed there overnight and breakfasted there the following morning, whilst on his expedition to Port Phillip (Jervis 1937: 283; 'Tahmoor House', NSW Environment and Heritage). Klensendorlffe had established the premises as an Inn by 15 September 1825 when he was reported in the *Sydney Gazette and New South Wales Advertiser* as being fined 12 pounds 10 for selling liquor to 'Government Servants' on the Sabbath (SG & NSW Advertiser 8 February 1826: 3). These 'Government Servants' would have been associated with the Ironed gangs associated with the construction of the Great Southern Road, most likely one of the gangs stationed near the Inn.

Whether Klensendorlffe added to the original building built by Doyle or if he started afresh is uncertain. In 1827 a letter to the editor of *The Monitor* described the Inn as "*The Traveller Inn, with nine good rooms and large out-buildings, kept by Mr. Klensendorlffe*" (*The Monitor* Friday 6 April 1827: 8). In 1829 Klensendorlffe stated he had built a weatherboard cottage in a letter to the Colonial Secretary (Fairfax n.d 'Historic Buildings').

The article above is one of the earliest references to the name of the Inn being 'Traveller Inn'. Prior to that, references are to 'Klensendorlffe's Inn' or 'Myrtle Creek Inn'.

While Klensendorlffe remained the owner of the Inn, in 1830 Ralph Hush took over the licence (Fairfax n.d 'Historic Buildings'). Ralph Hush was actually a convict sent to the new colony for life in 1820. His wife and children came as free settlers in 1824 and Mrs Hush requested that he be appointed to her. Fortunately this came about and together they ran the Inn for Klensendorlffe (Villy 2011:83). The *Sydney Gazette* mentioned the inn when Hush was the publican in April 1832:

*"...Myrtle Creek, a picturesque spot embellished by a good inn, the sign of "The Traveller"; built by Mr. W. Klensendorlffe, and now kept by Ralph Hush, where you will greatly rejoice in a hospitable reception, excellent fare and moderate charges" (SG 26 April 1832: 3).*

In 1835 James Crispe took over the licence of the Inn. All this while, Klensendorlffe had unsuccessfully been trying to sell the Inn and property. Advertisements for its sale appear in the papers from 18 January 1831. The advertisements give a very good description of the Inn and associated structures as well as other land uses within estate. The description is as follows:

*"The House comprises ten good rooms, with an entrance hall. The out buildings comprise a servant's room, a kitchen and store-room, a five-stalled stable, a substantial barn, built of stone 60 feet long and 20 wide. There is also another servant's room detached, stock-yard and other farm- yard conveniences, suitable for a farming establishment. The lands attached to the Inn and Premises comprise 240 acres of fine sound wheat land, the earth a chocolate and deep red, betokening the presence of whin-stone, so suitable, by its sound healthy nature, for the production of wheat, and more particularly the vine; on the Eastern side of the hills. One hundred acres out of the 240 are substantially fenced in, and of the hundred so fenced eighty are cleared and (save a few acres)/ in cultivation; the fields furnish plenty of water. The Inn and Farm are at present let to a good tenant, on a lease of three years, at the rate of £114 per annum, one year of which is unexpired ; but-many arrangements will be made, if required, to give the purchaser immediate possession. There is on the farm fronting the Inn a good orchard of two acres, well stocked with tree's, which have been planted five or six years."* (SG & NSW Advertiser 18 January 1831: 3; Tuesday 15 February 1831:1).

James Crispe brought the property on 31<sup>st</sup> May 1836 and is noted in the Indenture of Lease and Release as being from Myrtle Creek. This is because he had already been working at the Inn two years prior to purchasing it (LTO Book K No. 682). Crispe purchased the consolidated land of 240 acres which included a 60 acre portion, an 80 acre portion, two 50 acre portions (one of which was the 50 acre grant to Edward Doyle), and the building "*known by the name or sign of the Traveller's Inn together with all houses buildings & way*". In total Crispe paid one thousand pounds (LTO Book K No. 682).

The Sydney Gazette informed its readers that "*Mr. James Crispe of Brickfield-hill has become the purchaser of the "Traveller's Inn" at Myrtle Creek, with 240 acres of land, late the property of Mr. William Klensendorlffe, for the sum of £1,000*" (SG Tuesday 21 April 1835: 2). James Crispe also advertised the sale in a notice to the public that:

*"...he has taken that old established House known as the Travellers' Inn, Myrtle Creek, where he has provided the best of accommodation-namely, good Wines, Porter, Spirits, etc., and where he will be happy to entertain any of his old or new friends. Good Stabling"* (SMH Thursday 27 August 1835 p1).

Mrs Mann the daughter of James Crispe reminisced of her life spent at Tahmoor to F. Walker in 1922. She recalled detailed accounts of the main house and structures on the property:

*"The house is a substantial building of ironbark timber, on stone foundations. It is roofed with the old style of "ridged" squares of iron, which has been placed over the original shingles. The building contains about twelve rooms, some of them being of generous proportions, but when originally built, the present large rooms were subdivided into smaller apartments....Originally, the building contained one or more attic-room, but these have been removed. The stairs leading to these communicated with the hall. The front verandah, a cool and shady retreat on the hottest day, is stone flagged, a portion being laid in a diagonal pattern, and the remainder in squares. A fine iron balustrade, recessed into top and bottom railings, and fitted with two gates, borders the verandah. The latter portion*

*marks the public entrance and square holes in the flagging show where the partition dividing the public from the private entrance was placed.*

*In the backyard is a huge well, fourteen feet square, with a raised stone parapet all round, about three feet high, and capped with flat stones, with projecting edges. This was constructed by convict labour, but the building itself, apart from the stone work was erected by free men.... The old stables, formerly in use when the building was a celebrated coaching establishment, are now represented by one or two solitary up-right timbers, standing upon a stone pavement, now overgrown by grass and weeds. The ground slopes considerably from the road elevation, so that the back portion, which is constructed of stone, allows for roomy cellars beneath the house. A flight of much-worn stone steps leads down into the yard. Close alongside the well is a huge stone trough, about six feet long by two feet wide, and four deep, which, originally a solid block of stone, must have cost some considerable labour to make.*

*In the early days the hill opposite, now cleared and cut up into building allotments, forming the Tahmoor Park Estate, was a flourishing orchard, and provided abundance of fruit for the establishment and surrounding district" (Walker 1922: 387-388).*

The Sydney Morning Herald described Crispe as having reigned supreme at Myrtle Creek having a "courtly bow and polite but somewhat grandiose style of welcome" (SMH 2 June 1865:5).

The article described a garden on the opposite side of the road to the Inn which Crispe took great care of. On that same side of the road Crispe had a Summer House. By the time of the article in 1865, the garden had disappeared with the exception of "...a few spectral fruit-trees; a giant aloe whose tall flower-stem hung toppling over as if no longer able to bear the sight of the desolation around; and the ruins of a summer house" (SMH 2 June 1865:5).



Figure 1: Close up Photograph of Tahmoor Park House taken Prior to 1920  
(ML Tahmoor Subdivision Plans 1920: Held at the Mitchell Library (TP T1/20))



Figure 2: ca1914 - ca1941. A view of Tahmoor Park House built in 1824 as Myrtle Creek Hotel on the main Southern Road near Bargo, N.S.W. <http://trove.nla.gov.au/picture?q=ID:H23655>



Figure 3: ca1914 - ca1941. The back steps in Tahmoor Park House, built in 1824, as the Myrtle Creek Hotel ... near Bargo, N.S.W. <http://trove.nla.gov.au/picture?q=ID:H23658>



Figure 4:ca1914 - ca1941. An old stone bath cut from solid block by convict labour and now used as a trough at the old Tahmoor Park House <http://trove.nla.gov.au/picture?q=ID:a09715>



Figure 5: ca1914 - ca1941. A huge stone well, 15 feet square, & built by convict labour, it is at the back of Tahmoor Park House from <http://trove.nla.gov.au/picture?q=ID:a09716>

Despite all the effort and care Crispe put into the Inn and property he struggled to make his mortgage repayments. On 17 July 1844 the Mortgagee, Peter William Plomer, took possession of Crispes' land including the "Traveller's Inn" (LTO Book 7. No. 115). Crispe moved on to be a host at the George Inn at Picton (*SMH Saturday 22 January 1848: 2*).

James Blake became the licensee of the Inn until John Gray took over in 1847, at which point the name of the Inn changed to the "Pastoral Inn" (Fairfax n.d 'Historic Buildings) or "Pastoral Hotel" (*SMH Wednesday 3 March 1852: 4*). A notice in the *Sydney Morning Herald* listed the

certificates for publicans' licenses granted on 14 May 1851 within the County of Camden. Among them Mr Gray was listed at Myrtle Creek (SMH Friday 16 May 1851:2).

Gray purchased the property on 1 April 1853 (LTO Book 25 No. 991). After five years of owning the property, the "Pastoral Hotel" and acreage were put up for sale due to "poor health". The property was described then as follows:

*"The house (which has recently undergone a thorough repair) consists of bar, taproom, five parlours, nine' bed- rooms, and spacious verandahs back and front, together with large stone cellar, store-room, pastry, scullery, and detached kitchen, &c. The outbuildings consist of servants' houses, laundry, stabling for twenty horses large stone barn, coach-house, fowl-houses, piggeries, stock and milking yards, and a slaughter-house, &c. The proprietor has just had completed, at a considerable expense, a large stone tank, supplied from the roof of the house (which is of galvanized iron), capable of containing, four months' supply of water. Adjoining the house is the garden, containing two acres, fully stocked with fruit trees of the best description, many of which are in full bearing." (SMH Saturday 11 December 1858:3).*

Another advertisement 8 months later for the sale of "Gray's Pastoral Hotel" described the hotel as follows:

*"HARDWOOD WEATHER BOARD BUILDING, on stone foundation, having a frontage of 79 feet, and containing back verandahs to the front and back, and sixteen large rooms, viz.-bar, tap-room, two parlours, and three bed- rooms at the public end, and three parlours and six good bedrooms at the other end. The whole is faithfully built, painted, and in good condition, the principal rooms being wall papered. The out-buildings include .kitchen and servants' room and .huts, oven, large stone barn, and stone water tank, 13feet x 12 feet, fitted with pump; stabling for fourteen horses, and enclosed coach-house; strong stock-yards,.." (SMH Saturday 20 August 1859: 7).*

Grey was having financial difficulties and unable to sell the property. The mortgagee, John Fletcher, took control of it on 2 November 1859 (LTO Book. 64 No. 115). It seems Grey remained as the publican.

The mortgage was transferred to John Morrice and McDonald Smith and Co. (LTO Book 85 No. 915). Grey continued to struggle with financing the property (LTO Book 109 No.405). With the railway line bypassing the Inn and the decreased number of travellers using the Great South Road, his financial woes became worse. Grey was soon listed as insolvent. A detailed survey of the property was drawn up in 1862 (Figure 6). The causes of insolvency were reported as loss of cattle and failure in business as well as pressure from creditors (*Empire* Friday 22 October 1869: 2; *The Maitland Mercury & Hunter River General Advertiser* Saturday 23 October 1869: 3). Grey went bankrupt and the property was sold to James Watson, a butcher from Sydney on 31 January 1870 (LTO Book 117 No. 842).

By this time, the location of the building meant that as an Inn the business was no longer profitable. Watson leased the premises out as a private residence and the house was referred to as "Myrtle House" (Fairfax n.d 'Historic Buildings'). The property was then sold to George Bradbury Esq on 3 November 1879 (LTO Book 196 No 348). Bradbury occupied the premises for 41 years during which time he named it '*Leigham Holme*' (Fairfax n.d 'Historic Buildings').

Bradbury involved himself with local affairs and was appointed a magistrate of the colony in 1882 (SMH Friday 6 October 1882:5). He was a secretary of the Camden and Picton A & H Society that ran an Annual Show (*Australian Town and Country Journal* Saturday 4 April 1885: 3). He

was involved with the local school and donated two acres of land for a new school to be built (Dobbie 1905. 2547-3000).

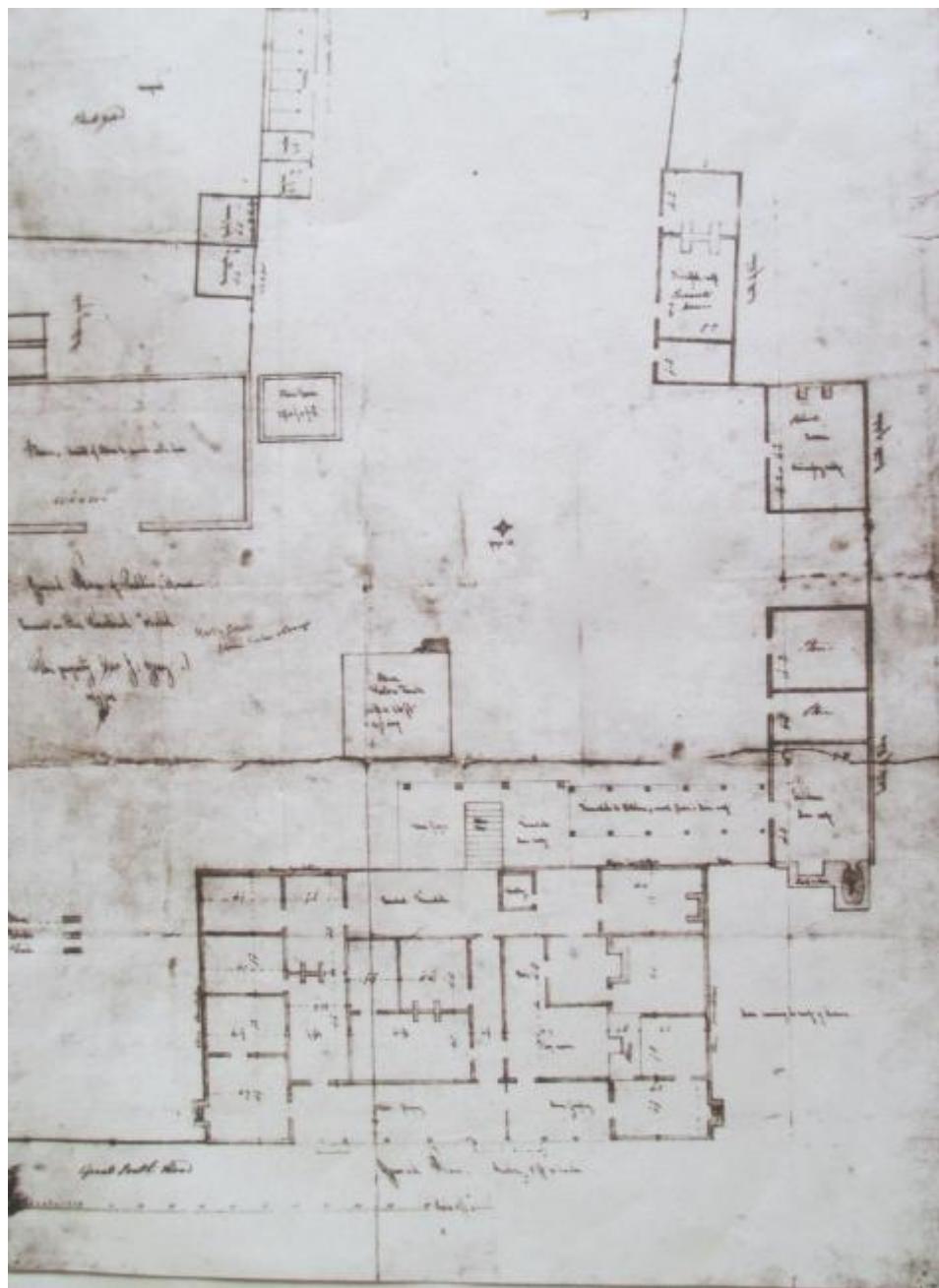


Figure 6: Ground Plan of the Pastoral Hotel, 1862, when Mr Gray was the owner and publican of the property (Held at the Mitchell Library (Plan XV\*/Arch/7))

On 25 February 1921 Bradbury sold to the property developers Robert William Hardie, David Storey, and Edwin Samuel Phippard (LTO Book 1178 No. 787; Vol.3178 Fol. 56; Vol.3228 Fol. 145). The acreage was subdivided into blocks and the development was called Tahmoor Park Estate. The house was located in Lot 12 and was known as 'Tahmoor Park House' (Figure 7) and soon after was just called 'Tahmoor House' (Figure 8). The property was sold to John Sanderson on 23 January 1922. Sanderson ran a boarding house from the property. It is likely that he ran the boarding house prior to the actual purchase date. The advertisement for the subdivision of the estate has "Tahmoor Park Estate Boarding House" clearly marked on the

allotments. The auction was scheduled for 4 October 1920 (Figure 8). Another advertisement for auctions scheduled for 4 October 1920 reads:

*"In the midst of the estate and facing the Main Southern Road is the well-known Tahmoor Park House (the original Homestead of Mr Bradbury,) a Boarding House kept by Mrs Sanderson. This is a thoroughly comfortable House, and people wishing to inspect the land and district should stay there, either for lunch or for the week-end, or longer. Stabling and garage. Address: Mrs Sanderson 'Tahmoor Park House, Post Office Tahmoor.*

*Only 5 minutes' walk from the Station, buggy will meet you at the Station. Terms very moderate.*

*N.B Motorists can contain Lunch Afternoon Tea and Refreshments." (ML 1920 TP T1/16).*

The date of this advertisement is about one and a half years before Sanderson purchased the lot and is actually prior to the official sale of the property from Bradbury to the developers. So it seems the Sanderson's moved it and set up the Boarding House before the developers had legally bought the property from Bradbury.

If Sanderson had any financial difficulties in business, as did the houses predecessors Crispe and Grey, finances were to improve as he came fourth place in the lottery in 1937 (*Barrier Miner* Wednesday 17 February 1937:4). Sanderson's widow Alice sold the property to Harry Roysen on 2 May 1946 (LTO Vol. 3274 Fol.109), who then sold it to Leslie Howard Quinon on 22 July 1953 (LTO Vol. 3274 Fol.109). His widow Mildred Clare Quinon became the proprietor of the property on 20 September 1968 (LTO Vol. 3274 Fol.109) and then the property was transferred to June Callan on 15 May 1970 (LTO Vol. 3274 Fol.109).

George and Maree Rhodes purchased the property on 17 June 1972 (LTO Vol.3274 Fol.109) by which stage the house was in a poor state requiring refurbishment (Fairfax n.d 'Historic Buildings). The house was infested with rats and possums and the sunroom and kitchen were badly damaged through white ant activity. The gardens were overgrown and intruded into the living areas of the house (Figure 9).

The sunroom floorboards, ceiling and windows were removed. The ceiling and windows in the kitchen were also replaced, though the floorboards were retained. Some ceiling joists needed to be replaced. A small extension was added either side of the fireplace to accommodate cupboards in the kitchen. The Rhodes spent six years repairing and refurbishing the house (Anon n.d).

John and William Colless purchased the property on 19 May 1986 (LTO Vol. 3274 Fol.109; Vol 15455 Fol. 2) and they undertook further restorations and maintenance (Fairfax n.d 'Historic Buildings). The property was again sold at auction in 2002 and the property subdivided into residential blocks. Tahmoor House now occupies just over an acre of land with a further 500m<sup>2</sup> on the creek together with an access way (Anon. n.d).



Figure 7: 1920. Subdivision Plans of Tahmoor Park Estate showing 'Tahmoor Park House' as a Boarding House (Held at the Mitchell Library (TP T1/3))

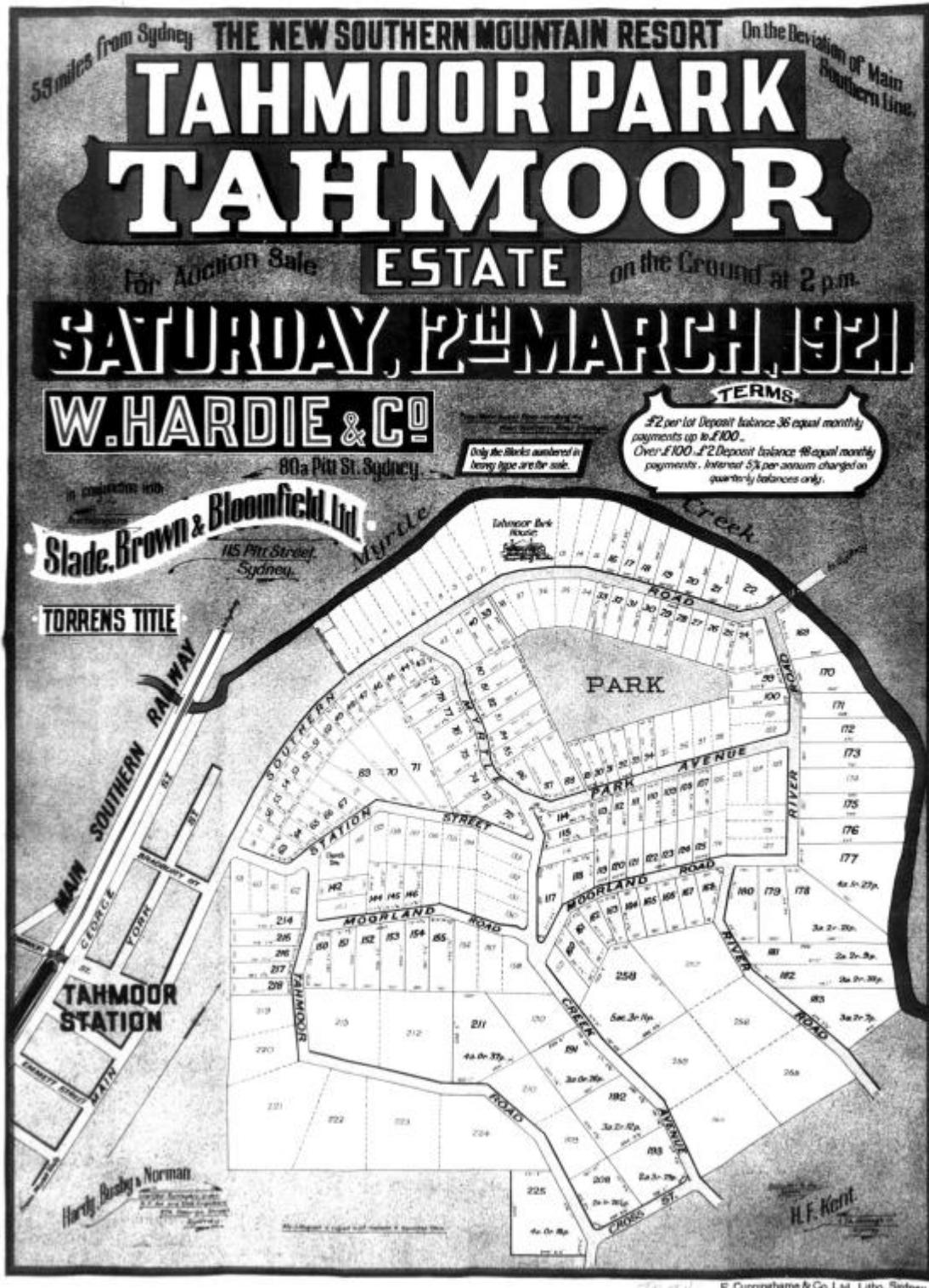


Figure 8: 1921. Subdivision Plans of Tahmoor Park Estate showing 'Tahmoor House' (Held at the Mitchell Library (TP T1/8))



Figure 9: The northwest corner with the sunroom and kitchen, showing the condition of Tahmoor House at the beginning of restoration work in 1972 (Anon. n.d)

In August 2009 the house was purchased by Terry and Sheila Ings. Additional restoration work was conducted in 2010, including deconstruction and reconstruction of a sandstone brick feature wall, which exposed the original foundations, conversion of the pool into a pond and garden area, and repairs to the tennis court wall and pavilion (Anon. n.d).

Other undated, though post-1976 National Trust of Australia (NSW) listing, alterations to the house have included the replacement of the original Moorwood & Rogers galvanised iron roof tiles and stop chamfered verandah posts. Infilling has also occurred at the south end of verandah (NSW Environment and Heritage 'Tahmoor House' 2012).

### **Statement of Significance**

Tahmoor House is one of the earliest surviving houses in the Tahmoor area and is an important example of an early Colonial Georgian Inn. Built c1822 by Edward Doyle, Tahmoor House was designed as an accommodation house, and later Inn, for travellers on the Great Southern Road. The Inn was one of a few that serviced the main roads of the colony. Such establishments were crucial to its expansion and the growth of settlements along early routes. The house is associated with a number of figures important to the cultural history of Tahmoor including: Edward Boyle, William Klensendorlffe, James Crispe and George Bradbury. Despite significant modification to its fabric, the house features notable elements that possess representative and aesthetic value, including: the rear staircase, the front (west) door and the sandstone flagging on the front verandah. The rear of the property also has considerable research potential, with remnants of former outbuildings, wells and cesspits likely to be present in less disturbed areas. Tahmoor House is currently listed as a locally significant heritage item; however further assessment indicates that it has values that would meet the threshold for state heritage significance.

***Lydia Sivaraman***

## **NOTICE OF NSW EVENT**

### **Bungonia Open Village Day.**

In conjunction with Goulburn150 celebrations

**Saturday March 23rd 2013 open 9AM - 3PM**

**START POINT: Welcome & Register at Village Hall;**

[Entry + Timetable, Tours, & Exploration pack ]

\$10 per person : school children- free.

- Village Hall Venue  
**Exhibition** Local Bungonia & District History  
**Family History** research opportunities [copying available]
- **Choral Music** in heritage venues.  
Dividing Range- Goulburn El Coro- Sydney
- **Open to public** -Major Historic buildings\*\*  
**today** : - show registration to enter

St Michael's Catholic Church 1847

'Christchurch' Anglican 1893

Three Inns [MIZPAH ruins]c1830/40

Bungonia Hall 1907

#### **Plus**

Historic Bungonia Cemetery 1824

Bungonia War Memorial

Bungonia Park Creek walk- -Church to Church

Bungonia Gorge reserved since 1872

**\*\*Note:** all other Historic buildings are private residences & CLOSED to the public.

**Refreshments** for purchase Disabled accessible Hall and toilets.

[www.Bungonia.com.au](http://www.Bungonia.com.au)

[www.facebook.com/Bungonia](http://www.facebook.com/Bungonia)

Contact Anne Wiggan (02) 48 444 228

Community fundraiser for Bungonia and District Historical Society Inc.

& Bungonia Progress Association Inc.

Enjoy Bungonia ; Come again!

## **MARITIME UNIT, NSW HERITAGE BRANCH (OFFICE OF ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE)**

### **Berrima Fieldwork Dec 2012**

The Heritage Branch undertook fieldwork in the Wingecarribee River in December 2012 again searching for the remains of canoes associated with the former WWI internee camp at Berrima. The fieldwork was run by Brad Duncan, with assistance from University of Sydney volunteers Pam Forbes, Greg Jackson, Jane Rookes, and Heritage Branch Assessment Officer Kate Freedman. Canoes were used to mount a side scan imager (on a special bracket built by Greg Jackson), which allowed a survey to be conducted close to each side of the river bank and to inspect former maritime infrastructure sites which were recorded for the first time. Diving operations were then conducted by Brad and Heritage Branch Deputy Director Tim Smith, with the assistance of Manly Hydraulics staff (Colin Browne and Phil Clarke). Although several potential canoe sites identified from the remote sensing survey were inspected, no canoes were located, and it is probable that the canoes known to have been sunk in the area have been washed downstream by floods. However, over a dozen jetty, pier and riverbank retaining wall sites were inspected and their locations recorded. One site was particularly intact, and extended several metres from and along the riverbank, and up to 4m underwater. Further fieldwork is planned for 2013 to fully document all the jetty and pier sites discovered during this fieldwork.



Figure 1: Pam Forbes and Jane Rookes recording infrastructure sites in the Wingecarribee River (Photo: Brad Duncan, Heritage Branch)



Figure 2: Side scan sonar survey in canoe. Kate Freedman, Brad Duncan and Greg Jackson (Photo: Pam Forbes)



Figure 3: Phil Clarke and Colin Browne supervising diving operations (Photo: Tim Smith, Heritage Branch)



Figure 4: Tim Smith recording the submerged remains of a pier landing (Photo: Brad Duncan, Heritage Branch)



Figure 5: Landing structure, Berrima Internee Camp, Wingecarribee River during WWI (Photo: Australian War Memorial)

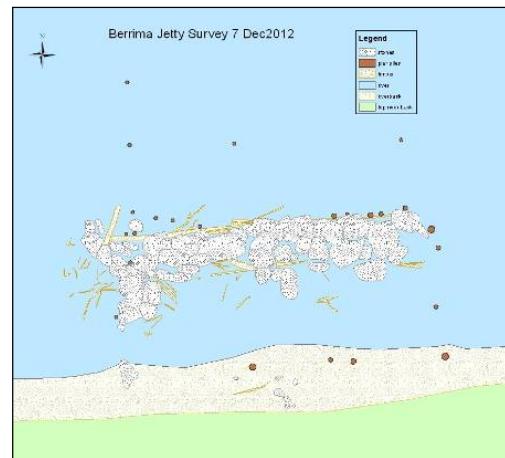


Figure 6: Site survey of a submerged landing structure (Image: Brad Duncan)

### **Limerick (1943) Shipwreck Remote Sensing Survey**

A report of the possible discovery of the wreck of the coastal freighter *MV Limerick* was received from fisherman Forfar and Sally Petrie and Neville Poynting in September 2012, off Ballina on the far north coast. The Heritage Branch attempted an initial side scan sonar survey of the 105m deep target site on 13 September 2012 aboard the Police launch *MV Fearless*. Unfortunately sea conditions had deteriorated and a comprehensive image of the target could not be obtained.

The RAN was requested to task a mine hunter HMAS *Huon* en-route from Brisbane to Sydney to obtain its length via sonar, but was unable to undertake the survey. The Heritage Branch have contacted family descendants of the crew, some of whom have amassed a body of excellent research into the vessel and its wartime sinking.

Tim Smith subsequently organised for a remote sensing survey of the site to be undertaken by the *Southern Surveyor* in late January/ February 2013. The vessel is owned by the Australian National Research Facility and is operated by CSIRO. University of Sydney researcher Dr Tom Hubble kindly allocated time from his allocated research time to allow the vessel to be diverted to the site. An image of the site was received when the vessel returned to port on 4 February 2013 confirmed that the wreck is the *Limerick*, based on the observed dimensions of the site. Heritage Branch would like to express its gratitude to the crew of the *RV Southern Surveyor*, the Australian National Research Facility, CSIRO, and Dr Hubble for their assistance in undertaking the survey at short notice.



Figure 7: *MV Limerick* (Photo: State Library of Victoria Collection)



Figure 8: Ballina Water police prepare to launch their side scan sonar from the *MV Fearless* from Coffs Harbour (Photo: Tim Smith, Heritage Branch)



Figure 9: *MV Southern Surveyor* (Photo: courtesy CSIRO)



Figure 10: Multi-beam sonar image of the *MV Limerick* (Image: *Southern Surveyor*, CSIRO)

#### **PS Herald (1884)**

A new shipwreck was reported in early January 2013 off Quarantine Head (North Head) Sydney Harbour. The wreck is most likely the early harbour ferry paddle steamer (PS) *Herald*, which foundered after its boiler blew up in 1884. The *Herald* was amongst the earliest steamer ferries in Sydney Harbour, and its position was reported by a local shipwreck researcher Scott Willan, who used historic magnetometer data to pinpoint the location of the site. A dive of the site was undertaken on 11 January with the assistance of the Australian National Maritime Museum. The site lies in State waters, just inside Sydney Heads and is protected by the *Heritage Act 1977* (NSW). The 17m long site consists of two boilers, a paddle wheel shaft and remains of an engine. The stem and stern posts are both visible above the sand, suggesting that a large portion of the wreck is intact below the sand.



Figure 11: The *PS Herald* site. Note the two boilers in foreground and the paddle shaft near the divers (Photo: Chris Sammut Collection)



Figure 12: Paddle wheel hub on *Herald* wreck (Photo: Lee Graham, ANMM)

### **Clarence (1872)**

The remains of the shipwreck *PS Clarence* were reported in early January near Hatt Head (close to South West Rocks) by local diver Paul Wright, an active wreck researcher in this area. The *Clarence* was wrecked 5 miles north of Crescent Head on 2 June 1872 while on a voyage from Sydney to Grafton. The 378-ton iron paddle steamer was built at Chester Birkenhead, United Kingdom in 1851 and was owned by the Australasian Steam Navigation Company. Mr Wright had previously reported the site, but its exact location was not pinpointed as it quickly silted over. The wreck has now become exposed again for the first time in 10 years. The site, which is exposed close to shore, stands approximately 3m off the seabed and is visible through the water in the surf zone. The Heritage Branch is working with the finders to document its location and condition.



Figure 13: The *Clarence* shipwreck visible in the breakers from shore (Photo: Paul Wright Collection)

### **Unidentified Wreck Sunrise Beach, Byron Bay**

A new wreck was reported by local resident Greg Thompson in February 2013 at Sunrise Beach, near Byron Bay. The wreck had recently been exposed in the aftermath of cyclone activity to the north in Queensland, which has led to large storms and subsequent massive scouring of beaches along the north coast of NSW. The wreck was reported by local resident Greg Thompson and Cape Byron Marine Parks Manager Jackie Corlass.

The wreck is 98ft long (approx 30m) and has been exposed from under a 3m high sand dune above the high tide mark. Subsequent storms have further uncovered the wreck. The wreck is likely to be one of four timber vessels which were driven ashore in this area in the same storm in 1889, which include the Scottish vessel *Fawn*, and the Australian built vessels *Hastings*, *Spurwing*, and *Bannockburn*. Other likely ships known to have wrecked in the general region are: *Anne Theresa* 1891; *Inglis* 1879; *Tweed* 1893; or *William* 1876, which were also timber vessels. Fieldwork is planned to inspect the vessels in March.



Figure 14: Unidentified wreck being exposed from side of dune (Photo: Steve Chapman)



Figure 15: Frames and planking of unidentified wreck Sunrise Beach (Photo: Steve Chapman)

### **Unidentified Main Beach Forster shipwreck**

Another wreck has also recently been uncovered in the same storms mentioned above at Main Beach at Foster. The exposure of the wreck site was reported by Great Lakes Shire Council in late February, and an inspection of the wreck site is planned for March.



Figure 16: Unidentified wreckage at Main Beach Forster (Photo: Ken Oliver)

### **Pittwater Cannon Ball**

A cannon ball was reported to have been discovered in February 2013 in a small cave in Flint and Steel Bay, Pittwater, by a local fisherman, Chris Silver. The 32lb ball likely dates to around mid- to late-nineteenth century. The ball may have been deposited in the cave by either live firing exercises, or may be part of a cache of contraband, possibly obtained from smuggling or from local wrecks. A visit to the site is planned in the near future.



Figure 17: Cannon ball found at Pittwater (Photo: Chris Silver)

### **Cook Engraving, East Corrimal Beach, Bellambi**

A graffiti site was reported on a normally submerged rock platform on East Corrimal Beach, near Bellambi, by local resident Joel Thompson in January 2013. The words "Cook 17<sup>7</sup>" have been chiselled into the reef top below the mean low tide mark. Although Captain

James Cook was known to have landed several kms to the north of this site, it is considered that the site is more likely to be local mariner's graffiti than Cook's landing site.



Figure 18: "Cook" inscription on reef top near East Corrimal Beach (Photo: Joel Thompson)

#### **Winona Headland/ Bundagen Anchor Discovery**

A report was received on 21 January 2013 from Primary Industries staff that an anchor has been discovered offshore from Bundagen. The Heritage Branch is seeking further clarification of the discovery of the anchor's location, which also had chain attached when it was discovered.

#### **Maritime Heritage Online Database and Web Site Upgrade**

Work is progressing on the upgrade of the maritime heritage sites database and web page. Brad Duncan has been working closely with IT contractors to implement the new phase of upgrades, which include the ability to extract data for external users, and other improved web accessibility options.

#### **Maritime Precinct Nominations Approved**

Two nominations for maritime precincts were approved by the NSW Heritage Council.

**Bass Point Reserve** was considered to be of state heritage significance for both its Aboriginal and European values; its pre- and post-contact history; and its natural and maritime heritage. Archaeological evidence suggests that the Elouera people have inhabited the area for some 20,000 years prior to European occupation. The environment was also regarded as highly significant for its biodiversity and pristine condition. Today, Bass Point Reserve is a public recreational reserve, and is a popular place for bushwalking, swimming and diving. The nomination also included six recorded shipwrecks around Bass Point dating from the late nineteenth century, including the *Cities Service Boston* (1943), *Kiltobanks* (1924), *Alexandra Berry* (1901), *Our Own* (1880) and the *Bertha* (1879).

The **Green Cape Precinct** was announced by the Minister during the 'Light to Light' walk on 25 January 2013. Green Cape Precinct includes the lighthouse and station, along with the associated tramway and jetty, as well as the wreck of the *Ly-ee-moon* 1886.

**Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Branch**

## EXPLORING THE MARITIME LANDSCAPE OF JERVIS BAY

From 9 – 13 February 2013 students from Sydney University; Jane Rooke, Karen Dye, Ben Wharton, Karen Stokes, Lauren Churchill, Pam Forbes and Greg Jackson, with help from Brad Duncan, visited Jervis Bay to investigate possibilities for future university projects on the maritime archaeology of Jervis Bay.

Jervis Bay was sighted by James Cook in 1770, and named in 1791 by Lieutenant Bowen of the *Atlantic* in honour of Admiral Sir John Jervis. The first land grants were issued in 1827 and in the 1840s various settlements were proposed on the bay to cater for wool shipments and supply the whaling fleet. Settlement of the bay, however, was intermittent till the start of timber getting and boat building in the 1860s. There have been many shipwrecks around Jervis Bay over the years and lighthouses were built near Cape St George and later at Point Perpendicular. Of more recent historical interest is the WWII defences and the site of the proposed Jervis Bay Nuclear Power Plant.

Following a familiarisation with the history of the area at the excellent Lady Denman Maritime Museum at Huskisson, the first visit was to look for the remains of the township of New Bristol, one of the short-lived towns established around the bay in the 1840s hoping, in vain, to benefit from the wool trade.

On Sunday, a short walk from Point Perpendicular Lighthouse (1899) led to the shore based torpedo tubes, just inside the entrance of the bay. This unusual installation is one of two sets of tubes on the north side of Jervis Bay which, along with shore batteries on Bowen Island protected allied shipping during WWII. Figure 1 shows (from right) Brad Duncan, Karen Dye and Jane Rooke inspecting the remains of the torpedo tubes. Many of the marlin fishermen crowded onto this high and dangerous ledge are visible left of photo with a plastic wading pool holding bait.

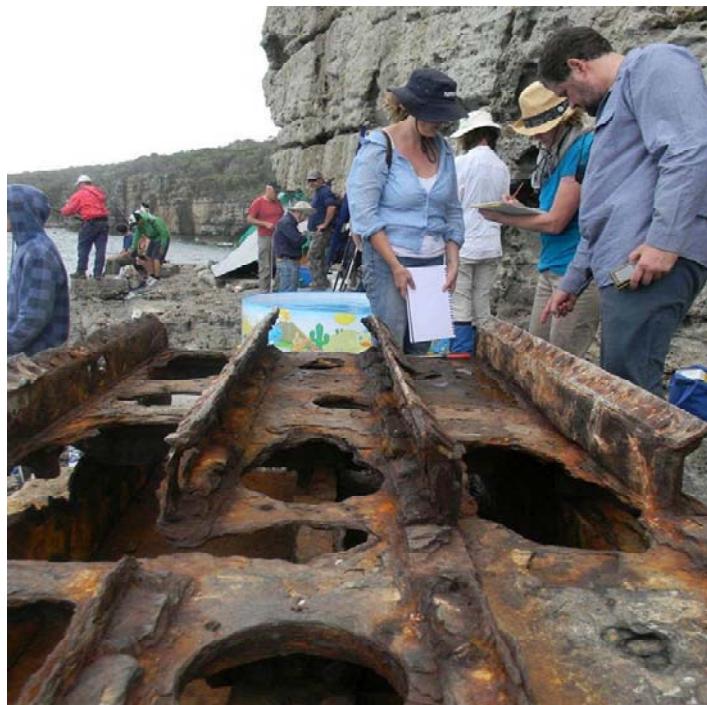


Figure 1: Outer Torpedo Tubes Jervis Bay (Photo: L Churchill)

The wreck of the *St Martin del Porres* on Long Nose Point was also inspected (Figure 2). This is a recent wreck of a steel pleasure boat which could make an interesting study of site formation processes.

On the south side of the bay, several kilometres to the north of Cape St George, are the remains of the incorrectly located Cape St George Lighthouse (1860). This lighthouse, controversial from its inception, was eventually replaced by the Point Perpendicular Lighthouse and subsequently destroyed by the navy in 1904. Figures 3 and 4 show the lighthouse complex in 1877 and now.



Figure 2: Wreck of the *St Martin Del Porros*, Long Nose Point (Photo: P. Forbes)



Figure 3: Cape St George Lighthouse complex 1877  
(Photo: Lady Denman Maritime Museum)

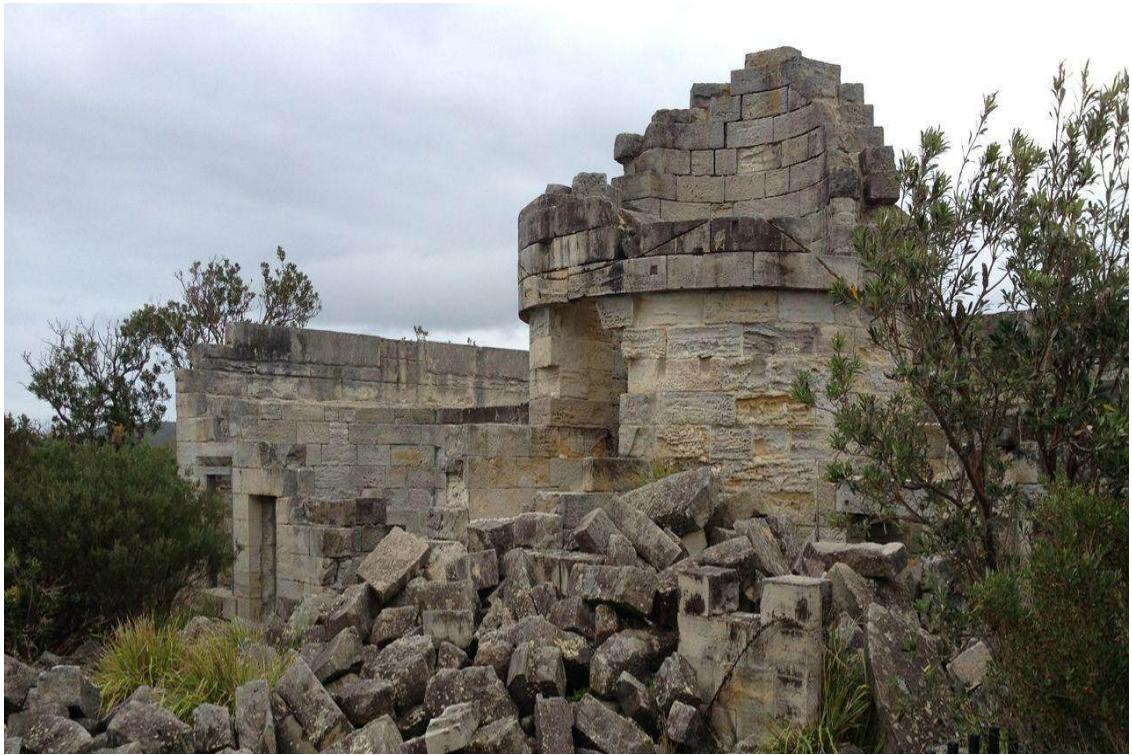


Figure 4: Cape St George Lighthouse, February 2013 (Photo: B Wharton)

The closing of Beecroft Peninsula due to naval exercises prevented any exploration of the 1840s whaling station so we visited Crookhaven Head's lighthouse. This brick lighthouse built in 1904 is one of the most endangered in NSW. An investigation of the area found footings likely to be the remains of the signal mast.



Figure 6: Inspecting the Crookhaven Head lighthouse (Photo J. Rooke)

Jervis Bay has a long and fascinating history with good archaeological potential. Our trip has only scratched the surface and we identified many interesting areas worthy of future research.



1957 photograph of Crookhaven lighthouse by Government Printing Office (State Library of NSW).

**Greg Jackson and Pam Forbes, University of Sydney**

### **SURVEY OF WW2 INSTALLATIONS IN PNG**

AHMS is currently finalising an initial survey report on 3 significant WW2 installations sited around Port Moresby, PNG, as part of a study for the PNG Department of Environment and Conservation.

Two of the three sites, Paga Hill and Bootless Bay, were artillery positions placed to defend the seaward approaches to Fairfax Harbour, Port Moresby.

Paga Hill overlooked the harbour itself on the eastern headland at its entrance. Constructed in 1939 and housing two 6 inch guns in concrete bunkers, the complex also contained searchlight stations, ammunition bunkers, crew quarters and observation posts. The remains are in very good condition and the bunkers and gun positions are currently occupied by a large and developing community.

At Bootless Bay, on a windswept hill crest to the east, a series of positions, constructed from September 1942 onwards, housed two 155mm guns in open emplacements along with trench systems, crew quarters and observations posts. In comparison to Paga Hill the features are relatively ephemeral but the general outline of the site is still quite readable in the steep landscape.

'Blamey's Garden', sited on Hombrom Bluff to the north-east of Port Moresby, is a more problematic site. Some have suggested it housed General Blamey's wartime headquarters while others have suggested it was designed as a retreat for Blamey and selected officers. The currently available evidence indicates that it was built at the behest of Blamey, partly as a place of rest and recuperation, but also with a commemorative function for those that had served along the Kokoda Track. The site is currently covered with thick jungle and is accessible only with agreement of the local landowner.

The three sites are being investigated for their heritage tourism potential and may ultimately become interpretation sites for the wartime history of the Post Moresby region.



Observation post at Paga Hill



Gun position at Bootless Bay

***Matt Kelly, Archaeological & Heritage Management Solutions Pty Ltd***

### **GEORGE STREET, SYDNEY, EXCAVATIONS**

In January and February this year AHMS Pty Ltd undertook archaeological excavations at the former Mick Simmons store in George Street, Sydney, for Amalgamated Holdings Limited.

Archaeological Assessment had indicated the potential for survival of archaeological remains from as early as 1815 on the site. Archaeological testing, in December 2012, revealed a deeply stratified sequence of deposits confirming the presence of substantial and significant archaeology.

The open area excavation in Jan/Feb 2013 revealed the remains of the early weatherboard and brick nogged cottage on the site. The cottage was possibly the "Golden Fleece", a public house from 1816/7, which took advantage of the developing activity at the Sydney Markets across the road. This cottage was succeeded by a stone and brick structure in the 1820s. This structure also operated as the Golden Fleece into the 1830s, then was transformed into commercial premises and functioned as a tea emporium, grocer and tailor/drapers until its demolition in about 1877. Evidence of a series of outbuildings, from this period, which operated as both residences and stores, was also investigated. A late Victorian shop was then erected which occupied the site into the mid-20<sup>th</sup> Century.

A very successful open day was held with over 150 people shown around the site in guided groups.



**Matt Kelly, Archaeological & Heritage Management Solutions Pty Ltd**

# NEW ZEALAND NEWS

*Compiled by Rick McGovern-Wilson*

## THAMES' BIG PUMP SITE – REVISITED IN 2012

Thames was the scene of NZ's first major hard-rock goldfield, which opened in August 1867. An early "bonanza" find in the Kuranui Stream a couple of months later, resulted in a major injection of money and optimism into the Auckland provincial economy, which had been rather flat, following the transfer of the capital to Wellington in 1865. The major archaeological event of 2012 was the collapse of an old mine working under the main road, north of the town in January – this turned out to be the site of the Big Pump, an important mining installation.

The first "Big Pump" on the Thames Goldfield was constructed in 1872, by a consortium of mine-owners known as the United Pumping Association. This organisation represented a grouping of four mines that operated on the flat at the northern end of town; often below sea level, and therefore required substantial pumping to keep the mines dry. The functions of the Big Pump were taken over by an even bigger pump – the Thames-Hauraki Pumping Association's plant at Bella St - around 1895, and the original Big Pump was closed. However, during January 2012, it was to make itself known once more to Thames residents and visitors, as the old shaft subsided, under SH25 at the northern end of town. This was quickly filled in and normal traffic flows resumed on SH25. But wait, there's more ...The Big Pump shaft reopened again during April 2012, and then things really started to get interesting!

### History

The mines on the Thames flat were seldom more than a few metres above sea level and it became necessary to drain them almost from the outset. At first, each mine had its own small pumping plant, which was expensive, inefficient, and incapable of draining water from more than about 200 feet below sea level. As a result, in 1871, four of the large mines combined their efforts and formed a United Pumping Association. These included the famous Caledonian mine, the richest producer on the Thames field.

The *Daily Southern Cross* of 30 October 1871 called the machinery "The Biggest Pump in Australia". It noted that it was manufactured by the Union Foundry of Ballarat, and was shipped to Auckland via the port of Williamtown, Melbourne. The cost of the contract (apparently pumping machinery only) was £26,000. The overall capital cost of the project was estimated at £50,000.

The *Daily Southern Cross* of 16 November 1871 reported: "The foundation stone for the Pumping Association's machinery was laid today. There was a slight demonstration." (Presumably not by anti-mining groups.) The exact date of opening of the Big Pump was not ascertained, but appears to have been sometime in early 1872. A *Daily Southern Cross* article of 6 September 1872 notes that the water levels in mines served by the Big Pump were subsiding.

The majority of the pumping machinery was built at the Union Foundry of Ballarat, Victoria (the steam cylinder was manufactured by Lee and Patricroft near Manchester, UK), to a design known as the Bull direct-action steam pump. This was different from the traditional design of James Watt, in that the steam cylinder was mounted directly above the mine

shaft, and the pump piston and plunger were driven directly downwards, without the rocking beam arrangement used in Watt's design.

"Bull's designs, overshadowed by his more famous contemporary Watt, were perfected in Cornwall in the late 18th century. The competition between the two brilliant engineers reached the courts, and some believe contributed to Bull's early death.

The two types of engine look very different. The Bull is far more compact - and its admirers argue, more efficient - than the spectacular Watt with its enormous overhead beams. The courts upheld Watt's claim of breach of patent, and in 1795 an injunction was served prohibiting building any more Bull engines. Bull died four years later, aged 39, just before the final judgment that would have imposed punishing fines."

(<http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2008/may/12/heritage.conervation> )

Bull engines were only built again when Watt's patent ran out. One of these has been restored, and photos and a brief video clip can be seen at the Kew Bridge Steam Museum web site at <http://www.kbsm.org/engine/bull-engine>. The Kew engine - three stories high and weighing over 100 tonnes - was built in Cornwall in 1856 for the Grand Junction Waterworks Company at a cost of £3,000.

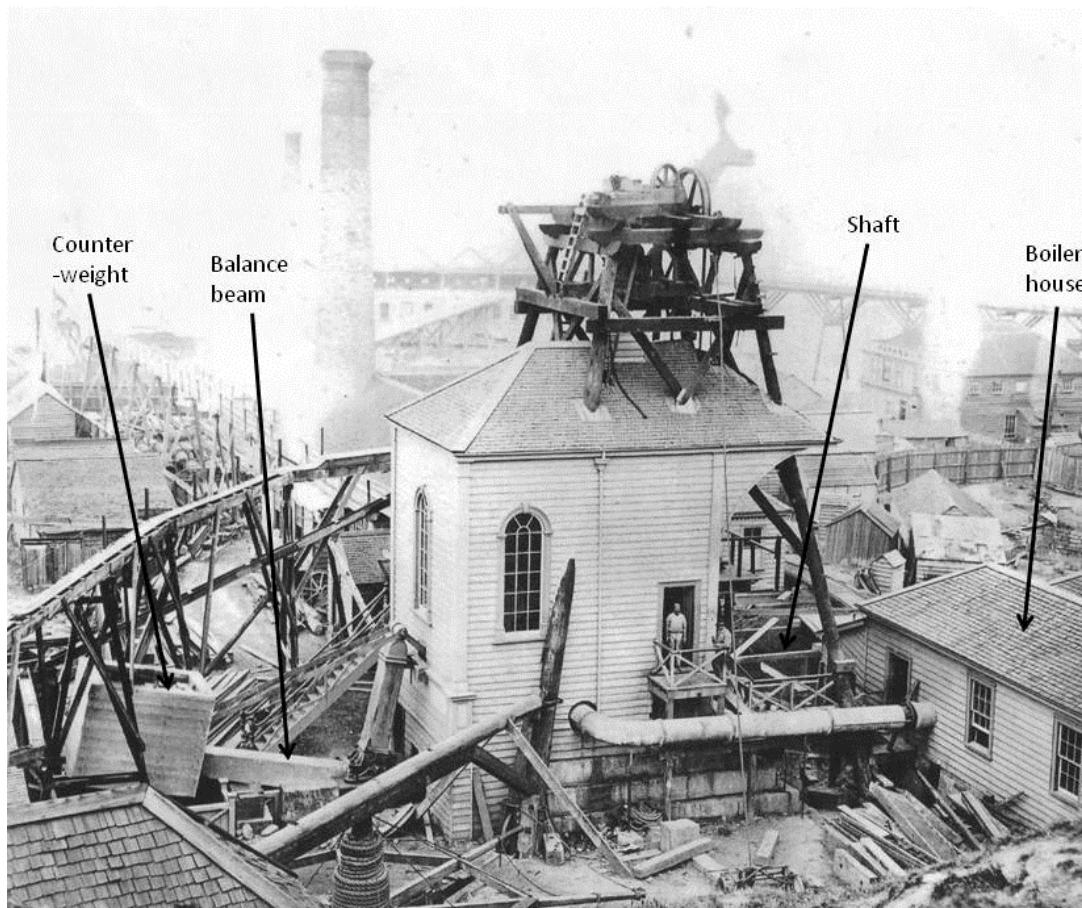


Figure 1: The Big Pump looking roughly north-west, towards the sea, c.1880s  
(ATL collection)

### **The Big Pump “Re-opens” (January 2012)**

In January 2012, a pot-hole developed on State Highway 25, at the northern end of Thames, north the junction of SH25 with Moanataiari Rd. This was quickly identified as a deep hole, and the local Council (TCDC) initiated repair work. Investigations were also commenced by local historians. The first issue was determining which of several possible shafts in the area had collapsed. This was confirmed as the Big Pump (formerly Imperial Crown) shaft, by superimposing an old mining survey map over a modern topographic map in ArcGIS.

The “hole” was widened and deepened, revealing extensive stonework around the shaft, and was then refilled and the road surface reconstituted. At this stage, a minor update to the existing site record (T12/721) was made; mainly updating the location, which had been recorded about 50m further north in the original SRF in the 1980s, based mainly on anecdotal evidence.

### **The Big Pump “Reopens” Again (April 2012)**

Following the development of yet another large pothole on SH25 at the Big Pump site during April, the roads was again closed and traffic diverted. Roading authorities, well prompted by local historians, decided that a more thorough investigation was required this time, and expert resources were called for. This included Opus archaeological consultant Beatrice Hudson, and staff of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust (NZHPT). Local historians, including John Isdale, Russell Skeet, and Rob Martinson were also involved; mainly in a data-gathering role.

The area around the pothole was excavated to a much greater depth and width than during the January collapse, and this revealed many interesting archaeological features that weren't apparent earlier. These included the massive extent of the stonework foundations for the Big Pump machinery, which, according to historical resources, penetrated to a depth of 20 feet below ground level (i.e. until bedrock was reached). What are probably parts of the pump were also exposed, including one end of the balance beam and parts of the plunger shaft.

Many locals flocked to the scene, and there were many expressions of interest in keeping the shaft open; for tourism and historical purposes. However, after a period of a few weeks deciding whether or not this was possible, the decision was made to re-cover the shaft and reopen the existing road; all other options being too costly.

A decision was also made that the site would not be subjected to a formal archaeological investigation (i.e. a “dig”). This was again mainly due to cost, and the amount of time required to obtain necessary consents. However, the event revealed information of archaeological value: the exact location of the shaft, pin-pointed by GPS; and the existence and nature of the stone blocks surrounding the shaft. A more detailed update to the site record has been uploaded to ArchSite, and the consulting archaeologist's (Beatrice) report is awaited with interest.

The event also triggered a major local research effort. Numerous photos and a considerable amount of information were obtained, including the type of pump, and the nature of its operation. Also, the size and layout of the facility were interpolated from historical photos and engineering drawings of the pump. Finally, information about the construction engineer and initial manager, William Errington, was obtained (see below).



Figure 2: Probable remains of the balance beam,  
protruding from rubble at the edge of the hole



Figure 3: View of shaft, April 2012. The ladder-like structures are probably  
part of the pump rods



Figure 4: View of stone foundations and pump mountings, April 2012

#### **William Errington - Engineer**

William Errington (1832-1894) was born in South Shields, County Durham, England, and trained as an engineer and draughtsman in the large British engineering firm of Richardson & Co where he acquired the skills that were to make him eminently suited to the pumping projects he tackled in Australia and NZ. He emigrated to Australia in 1854 where he worked as a mining engineer in Ballarat, specialising in the design and construction of large scale steam pumping plants. He also became involved with a large Ballarat iron foundry (the Union Foundry). From there he came to New Zealand in 1871, to install the "Big Pump" on the Thames Goldfield and remained there for about three years.

In 1874, he was employed to design and install the Auckland water supply pumping system at Western Springs. He also designed a "graving dock" for the Auckland Harbour Board and later was responsible for the design and construction of Calliope Dock (Devonport), then the largest "dry dock" in the Southern Hemisphere and which is still in operation. He died Auckland on 16th December 1894, aged 62. Errington is included in F.W. Furkert's (1953) book *Early New Zealand Engineers* (pp. 162-3).

#### **Dave Wilton**

### **EXCAVATIONS AT HOHI MISSION, BAY OF ISLANDS**

In January-February 2013 Ian Smith lead a team from the University of Otago and Department of Conservation in a second season of excavations at the site of the Hohi (Oihī) mission station, Bay of Islands. This was New Zealand's first permanent European

settlement, occupied from December 1814 until 1832. The 2012 excavations had disclosed the first mission school, and a Maori whare built towards the end of the missionary occupation.

The focus of the second season was on the houses built and used by the missionaries. Two of these were located in Area 3, one of which has been indentified as the home of Thomas Kendall, and can be dated to 1816-24. This had a very large stone fireplace (Figure 1), and foundation trenches (Figure 2) and postholes indicating dimensions of ca. 9.2 x 5.5 m (30 x 18 ft). This house was demolished soon after Kendall's dismissal from the Church Missionary Society, and the archaeology shows clearly that the house was then deliberately buried with midden and clay fill and covered with pebble paving, effectively obliterating any sign of Kendall's former presence. The second house (Figure 3) was built immediately adjacent to the first, and soon after, as it is visible in an 1827 painting of the settlement. Foundations of this structure were less completely discernible, but sufficient to show that it was of similar size. Nails were relatively scarce in the vicinity of the second house, indicating that it is likely to have been dismantled and removed when the mission was abandoned in 1832.

Excavations in Area 4 disclosed an extensive area of pebble paving that is likely to have been the back yard of another missionary house (Figure 4). This contained remnants of several structures, the function of which is not entirely clear. There are also indications that the way in which this area was used changed during the course of occupation, with some structural remains buried by later paving.

Artefacts recovered from the excavations extend the material inventory from the 2012 excavations, with a greater range and quantity of domestic ceramics and glass ware. Special finds include a 1797 penny, an 1806 halfpenny, and a teardrop-shaped cut glass pendant. Faunal remains, almost entirely absent from previous excavations were dominated by shellfish and pig bones.



Figure 1: Fireplace of Kendall house, partially excavated



Figure 2: Foundation trench of Kendall house. Remnants of wood are visible  
in situ in front of the fireplace



Figure 3: Fireplace of second house



Figure 4: Area 4 showing pebble paving partially excavated to reveal earlier structures

**Dr Ian Smith, Archaeology Department, University of Otago**

## CHRISTCHURCH ARCHAEOLOGY

Charlotte Staniforth and Luke Tremlett (Underground Overground Archaeology Ltd) have just begun recording what appears to be a mid-late 1870s house near the Avon River in Christchurch. This house is interesting because, stylistically, it precedes the villa that came to dominate Christchurch's domestic architecture in the 1880s and 1890s. The original house had four rooms on the ground floor and three or four on the first floor, meaning that it was a reasonable size house for its time and place. There were four brick fireplaces (two sets of back-to-backs) on the ground floor and none on the first floor. The bricks were locally made, by Joseph Bailey, who operated from 1860-1870 (the brickworks were leased to Austin & Kirk from 1870, and this firm continued to sell Joseph Bailey's stockpile of bricks). The house had been extended twice, once in the late 19th century or early 20th century and again in the second half of the 20th century. The house retains a number of its original features, including particularly large sash windows, relatively ornate exterior decoration (including barge boards and finials on the gable ends and above the dormer windows) and a steep, narrow staircase.





*Kat Watson, Underground Overground Archaeology Ltd*

## NORTHERN TERRITORY NEWS

We are still looking for a State Rep for the Northern Territory – are there any volunteers out there in our membership? – Ed.

## SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWS

*Compiled by Adam Paterson*

### **BAKER'S FLAT – A NINETEENTH CENTURY IRISH SETTLEMENT IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

#### **Background**

Baker's Flat is the site of a nineteenth century Irish settlement near the town of Kapunda in the mid-north of South Australia. It is also the focus of a Masters in Archaeology research project by Susan Arthure, a student at Flinders University.

Kapunda, which is about 70km north of Adelaide, assumed significance in the mid-nineteenth century following the discovery of copper in 1842 (Charlton 1971:8). By 1854, many Irish migrants had begun to arrive in the area, possibly attracted by labouring work in the copper mine (Nicol 1983:13). The area immediately south of the mine was known as

Baker's Flat, and this was where the Irish migrants squatted rent-free, building rough shelters to begin with, and later on Irish-style stone cottages with thatched roofs (Nicol 1983:13-14). The site was occupied from the 1850s to at least the 1920s (Nicol 1983:13-14,16).



Figure 1: Irish-style cottage on Baker's Flat in the nineteenth century  
(Photographer unknown)

Throughout the life of the settlement there was a fractious relationship between the Irish squatters and the landholders (Charlton 1971:42-43,47,49,100; Nicol 1983:13,15-16), with old newspaper reports describing disputes between the Baker's Flat residents and the owners of the land (e.g. *The Advertiser* 1902a; *The Advertiser* 1902b).

### **The research**

This is the first archaeological investigation of the Baker's Flat site, and the research project aims to investigate how symbolic features were used to demonstrate ethnicity and 'Irishness' at Baker's Flat, and the association of those symbols with the power relationships between the Baker's Flat community and the broader community.

It begins with the proposition that the Baker's Flat settlement was an enclosed, self-contained and recognisably Irish community that guarded its boundaries using symbolism and political power (particularly female power). Within the settlement's reputation as a 'close, fiercely Irish community' (Nicol 1983:13), refusing to comply with wider power structures, the women have been described as the 'vanguard of the defending force' (Charlton 1971:43) who armed themselves against rent collectors and surveyors with brooms and boiling water (Nicol 1983:15-16).

This site offers a unique opportunity to answer questions about 'Irishness' in Australia.

### **Recent field work**

In February 2013, a Flinders University field school led by Dr Mick Morrison enabled some early field work to take place at Baker's Flat. The field school focused on archaeological field methods, specifically surveys and site recording.

With the site extending over about 170 acres (70 hectares), the focus at this stage was to use survey methods to identify the locations of any building remains, artefact scatters, a purported dance floor area and the original entranceway. Students and staff were assisted by a local independent researcher, who brought significant local knowledge to the task.

A GPS transect survey was carried out and recorded the remains of at least eight buildings, several artefact scatters, the dance floor, and the entranceway. The survey took place across 25 metre transects using 13 students, and covered about 20% of the site.



Figure 2: GPS transect survey at Baker's Flat (Photo: Susan Arthure)

The photographs below are a sample of what was recorded during the survey. These will be analysed along with the rest of the data as part of the Masters research.



Figure 3: Possible wall, recorded during GPS transect survey (Photo: Susan Arthure)



Figure 4: Ceramic shards located during the GPS transect survey (Photo: Susan Arthure)



Figure 5: Inkwell located during the GPS transect survey (Photo: Susan Arthure)



Figure 6: Ceramic leg from toy/figurine, with remnant green paint, located during GPS transect survey (Photo: Susan Arthure)

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- The Advertiser* 1902b Fencing Difficulty at Kapunda. Article, 5 July, p.9. Retrieved 6 November 2012 from <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/4859252>.

**Susan Arthure, Flinders University Masters Archaeology student**

## **VICTORIA NEWS**

**Compiled by Andrea Murphy**

### **ROYAL MAIL HOTEL SITE, BLACKWOOD, VICTORIA**

In December 2012 a team from La Trobe University spent two weeks excavating sub-floor deposits at the former Royal Mail Hotel site at Blackwood in Victoria. The project was designed to off-set the impact of proposed redevelopment of the site, to provide archaeology students with excavation experience, and to establish a PhD research topic. The work focused on four rooms within the building and resulted in the recovery of 6,469 artefact fragments. Susan Lawrence and Peter Davies managed the project, while Janine Major directed on-site works.

Blackwood is a small town 90 km west of Melbourne on the Great Dividing Range. Gold was discovered in the area in December 1851, creating an alluvial mining rush which lasted until the mid-1860s, with a phase of quartz reef mining to follow. The Royal Mail Hotel was operating by 1855 and continued to function as a pub under a succession of owners until 1913. Thereafter it became a guest house until the 1960s before its abandonment and partial demolition.

Excavation focused on sub-floor deposits in four of the building's ten rooms, with extant joists and bearers providing spatial control for the material recovered. A total area of 50 m<sup>2</sup> was exposed. The assemblage was dominated by 19th-century artefacts including architectural and structural elements, tools, mining equipment, food and drink storage and serving ware, footwear and recreational objects. Unusual items included a complete in situ rats' nest, an opium pipe bowl, and bottles and shoes that had been deliberately placed beneath the floor.

A report on the excavation has been lodged with Heritage Victoria.



**Peter Davies, La Trobe University**

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA NEWS

***Compiled by Gaye Nayton***

Gaye reports that nothing has been sent to her for inclusion – Ed.

## QUEENSLAND NEWS

***Compiled by Cameron Harvey***

Cam reports that he has received no news items for this quarter – Ed.

## TASMANIA NEWS

***Compiled by Annita Waghorn***

## OATLANDS ARCHAEOLOGY PROGRAM 2013

For three weeks in January and February, the Southern Midlands Council ran the third season of the Oatlands Archaeology Program. The program provides students with the opportunity to learn field and laboratory skills, as well the process of writing a research

design and becoming familiar with the management of heritage in Tasmania. This year, the program investigated four sites in Oatlands, including the site of the 1825 Barracks, the site of the 1827 Guard House, a pre-1846 mystery building with an unknown function, and what is believed to be the site of the original 1827 Gaol.

Two trenches were excavated at the 1825 Barracks site to determine the exact location of the building and to test the integrity and depth of archaeological remains to assist in future conservation/interpretation planning for the site. The excavation positively identified the location of the building, having revealed a part of the original 1827 soldier's mess fireplace and a corner of the building.

One trench was excavated at the site of the 1827 Guard House. This was placed east/west across the building, to determine what structural features remain. Foundations of the western wall, several large flagstones paving the interior of the guard house, and the internal wall that separated the main guard house from the two rear cells were identified. The external wall appeared to be constructed with a lime mortar, while the inner walls appeared to be constructed with loam mortar – which matches historical accounts of the area at the time which is largely devoid of limestone. A shallow deposit of topsoil lay above the foundations and flagstone flooring, containing a variety of modern and historic artefacts.



Excavating the remains of the 1827 Oatlands Guard House are Latrobe University students Fiona Shanahan and Chris Silvester, under the supervision of Archaeologist Sylvana Szydzik of Melbourne (centre).

The site of the pre-1846 mystery building is proposed for redevelopment as a car park for the new Oatlands swimming pool. Excavation aimed to determine if there were any archaeological remains of this building, and what they might indicate of the building's function. Calder's 1846 Survey of Oatlands was used to select the placement of a trench across the western half of the building, in order to identify the north and south walls. Excavation identified a layer of historic fill beneath the current gravel car park, which contained a small amount of historic artefacts. Below this, however, a large amount of sandstone and building rubble was identified, which contained few historic artefacts and cut

sandstone blocks. No remaining structural features were identified of the mystery building, indicating it may have been thoroughly salvaged during or after its demolition, prior to 1876.

Several trenches were excavated in the yard of the 1939 police house, in an attempt to locate the 1827 Gaol site. The placement of these trenches were based on substantial structural remains identified in previous a test trench in 2012. These trenches identified two stone lined square drains chipped into the sandstone bedrock, and the possible foundations of a building which was offset to, and partially extending into Barrack Street – accordingly pre-dating the gridding of the Oatlands streets (which the original gaol was known to have).



Excavating the remains of what is likely to have been the original 1827 Oatlands Gaol are Latrobe University students Chelsea Morgan, Adam Valka and Rhiannon Ashton, under the supervision of archaeologist Angie McGowan of South Hobart.

The program was led by Brad Williams, Heritage Manager of the Council and the Centre for Heritage at Oatlands (Heritage Education and Skills Centre), and involved student volunteers from La Trobe University, Flinders University and Australian National University. Many thanks to supervisors Angie McGowan, Jen Jones, Sylvana Szydzik and students Leah Ralph, Christian Fielder, Janine McEgan, Casey Preston, Chelsea Morgan, Adam Valka, Rhiannon Ashton, Elizabeth Smedley, Chris Silvester, Bronwyn Woff, Fiona Shanahan, and Nadia Bajzelj. Many thanks also to returning students, Samantha Fidge and Ilona Bartsch, who coordinated very successful media, education and open day programs.

For further details contact Brad Williams: [bwilliams@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au](mailto:bwilliams@southernmidlands.tas.gov.au)

**Sylvana Szydzik and Brad Williams**

## **EXCAVATIONS AT PORT ARTHUR'S PENITENTIARY**

A program of archaeological research excavations will be commencing shortly within the Penitentiary Precinct at the Port Arthur Historic Site in Tasmania.

Following an analysis of the structural integrity of the remnant walls of the penitentiary conducted in 2012, a new bracing system utilising vertical steel beams mounted on large subsurface concrete beam footings has been designed. This will replace the existing timber and steel walkway currently in place within the building. The new structures will require substantial excavation works within the penitentiary to be conducted where the concrete beams will be constructed. This has provided a rare opportunity to conduct a program of controlled archaeological excavations within the structure prior to disturbance occurring.

The penitentiary precinct is one of the longest continuously occupied areas within the Port Arthur Historic Site complex. The earliest recorded activities in the area were in 1831 when blacksmith and shoemaking workshops had been established on site. By 1835 these had been replaced with a row of timber buildings providing workshops for an iron store, blacksmiths, nailers, shoemakers, tailors, wood turners, coopers and carpenters. In 1842, construction of a large brick flour mill and granary was commenced in the eastern part of the precinct and was completed by 1846. This structure was subsequently converted to the penitentiary between 1852 and 1855, and a bakehouse was added to its western end in 1858 replacing the remaining workshops in this area. The penitentiary ceased operation in 1877 and has since been subjected to several bushfires as well as continual exposure to the elements, both of which have contributed significantly to the current physical condition of the building.



The Port Arthur mill and granary, ca.1851 showing the waterwheel protruding through the building's northern elevation. The building was converted to a penitentiary c.1854

(Image courtesy of the Queen Victoria Museum and Art Gallery, Launceston)

Rather than conducting the archaeological works as a “traditional” monitoring project confined to the footprint of the construction works, the timeframe of the works has allowed for the excavations to be conducted as a research project which has the potential to provide information on the historical development of the penitentiary precinct. Specifically, the excavations will look to find evidence of the pre-penitentiary use of the building as a flour mill and granary, and also the earlier phases of workshops that had existed in the area prior to the construction of the granary/mill. Of particular interest is the potential for the identification of the mounting foundations and wheel well for the mill’s water wheel,

evidence of which is extremely limited within the documentary evidence and invisible in the extant physical remains of the building.

The excavations will run over March and April 2013, with a field team of ten volunteers coming from around the country to work on the site over the period, to be augmented by volunteers from the local community. The project will be managed by Dr David Roe (Archaeology Manager, PAHSMA), with the excavations to be directed by Ashley Matic (Conservation Project Officer, PAHSMA) and artefact management and curation undertaken by Annita Waghorn (Conservation Project Officer, PAHSMA). Regular excavation updates will be provided via the Port Arthur Historic Site website ([www.portarthur.org.au](http://www.portarthur.org.au)).

***Ashley Matic, Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority***

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

### ASHA CONFERENCE 2013

The 2013 ASHA conference is being held at the Former Kings School in Parramatta, NSW on **5 and 6 October 2013**.

Parramatta is Australia's second oldest city, part of the World Heritage Convict Sites Listing and home to a significant Aboriginal and historical archaeological resource which is increasingly threatened by fast paced urban development.

The conference theme is designed to highlight the archaeology of urban places and returns the conference to its roots with a focus on all aspects of archaeological practice. We particularly encourage Sessions and Papers that consider the results of archaeological investigations of urban sites and what these narratives can tell us about the development of the environments we live in, including people, places, and technology.

With that in mind, the ASHA 2013 Conference committee is calling for people who would like to organise Conference Sessions around the following areas, with an urban archaeological flavour:

- Artefacts
- Urban sites & landscapes
- Defence archaeology
- Maritime
- Industrial archaeology
- Contact archaeology
- Archaeological narratives

If you are interested in organising a session, please contact Brad Duncan at [Brad.Duncan@heritage.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Brad.Duncan@heritage.nsw.gov.au)

## **ASHA AWARDS 2013**

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 nominations for the **Judy Birmingham, Martin Davies, and Graham Connah 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.

The nominations for the **R. Ian Jack and Maureen Byrne Awards** will be judged by a panel consisting of three academic archaeologists from universities in Australia and New Zealand.

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.

### **R. Ian Jack Award for Best Honours or Coursework Masters Thesis**

This award will be made to the best thesis completed by an Honours student, MA Preliminary student, Graduate Diploma student, or Coursework Masters student in a university in Australia or New Zealand. To be eligible for this award the thesis must have been completed in 2012, 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)**

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 2012. 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**

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 2012. If it is an on-going project it must have either commenced or taken place during 2012. 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.

#### **Graham Connah Award for Best Publication**

This award will be made for the best book or e-book on historical archaeology in Australia or New Zealand. Nominations may be for authored monographs or edited collections on a single theme. The publication must have been published in the five calendar years preceding the presentation of the award (2008-2012). Works published by ASHA are not eligible. The publication can be nominated by any member of ASHA including the author(s), but at least one of the authors (or editors if a collection) must be a financial ASHA member.

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 timeliness and significance of the research, accuracy of information, clarity of expression, presentation, and general contribution to the field of historical archaeology.

Nominations must include three hard copies or CD-ROMs of the publication and the cover sheet.

#### **Instructions for entry**

Complete a Nomination Cover Sheet and send with the appropriate number of copies of the thesis, book or report (as specified under each category heading) to:

ASHA Awards  
c/- Dr Susan Lawrence  
Archaeology  
La Trobe University  
Melbourne VIC 3086  
Australia

For copies of the Nomination Cover Sheet email [awards@asha.org.au](mailto:awards@asha.org.au) or download from [www.asha.org.au](http://www.asha.org.au).

Nominations are due by: **31 March 2013.**

For more information contact [awards@asha.org.au](mailto:awards@asha.org.au) or call Susan Lawrence on 03 9479 1790.

## *AMERICAN DIGGERS ON AUSTRALIAN TV*

The Spike TV show *American Diggers* has reached Australian shores with the first series having been shown on the TEN owned Channel 1. Although the first series has finished there is a second on the way to be called *Savage Family Diggers*. The change in name is possibly a result of a law suit by the magazine *American Digger* who claims the show is bad for the image of metal detecting hobbyists and is bringing their magazine into disrepute by using their name (<http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/thr-esq/viacom-sued-spikes-american-384840> 1:43 PM PDT 10/31/2012 by Eriq Gardner).

The series follows former professional wrestler turned modern day relic hunter Ric Savage, as he and his team from *American Savage* target areas such as battlefields and historic sites in the hopes of striking it rich and capitalising on unearthing and selling bits of American history. The series is over the top with cries of "Boom Baby" greeting every find and they claim to sell the artefacts they find for a substantial profit. They also loot sites with no regard for context or structure. Having watched via HISTARCH and the Society for Historical Archaeology website the protests of our American colleagues, I turned the show on for a short while when it reached Australia to see for myself what the fuss was about. After five minutes watching, during which they used a bulldozer to knock over a log cabin so they could get at "the honey" underneath, I turned it off in horror.

The show has raised a storm of protest in America and on the internet. Which is not surprising as its central tenant is to tell its audience they can make a lot of money by looting historic sites. This central message is the worst possible message for heritage conservation

and preservation but as Professor Charles Ewen points out on SHA Blog “more than a million watched the last episode of Spike’s travesty, *American Diggers*. ‘Boom baby’, indeed!” <http://www.sha.org/blog/index.php/2013/02/>

Even other metal detector hobbyists do not like the methods shown on the show and posts from metal detectors on the People against Spike TV’s American Digger Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/People-against-Spike-TVs-American-Digger/193110227460512>) show a suspicion regarding both the amount of artefacts found on episodes with names like “Moonshine Money” and “The Fountain of Cash” and the cash values claimed for them. According to Huffingtonpost when the magazine American Digger dropped their association with Savage, who used to write a column for them, they received a lot of support:

The bevy of supportive comments from digging enthusiasts that follow Holcombe's announcement demonstrate a dissatisfaction with how Savage and the show are portraying the digging community. Commenters' criticisms include Savage's bombastic style, his "Boom, Baby!" catchphrase and the show's emphasis on selling historical artifacts for profit.

“Putting a price on everything you find is something I taught my son long ago not to do ... The show is an insult to diggers who truly enjoy making finds just for the pleasure of the history involved,” wrote *Treasure Spot* commenter Shenandoah Digger.

“I have watched both episodes and was deeply disappointed in the showboating and chest thumping that was going on by Mr. Savage, and only Mr. Savage. That crap belongs in the wrestling ring and not the field and that's where he should have left it ... This is the second ‘reality’ metal detecting show that has embarrassed this hobby,” a commenter posting under the handle sqzdog chimed in. ([http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/03/30/ric-savage-american-digger\\_n\\_1392285.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2012/03/30/ric-savage-american-digger_n_1392285.html))

The Society for Historical Archaeology has written protest letters, letters to editors and blogs in protest against both *American Diggers* and the National Geographic counterpart *Diggers*. They had some success with *Diggers* with National Geographic sitting down at a table with them and taking on board their concerns. National Geographic have also paid more than lip service to their concerns and have reformatted the show. For an archaeologists response to the changes see the SHA blog on the subject at <http://www.sha.org/blog/index.php/2013/02/>.

In Australia archaeologists and heritage practitioners alike have been strangely silent. Is this because it is a show about looting American heritage sites with the view it won’t harm Australian sites, or do none of us watch Channel 1? If the former, I think this view is wrong. Although the sites shown being dug up and bulldozed are American the core of the show is telling its million-odd viewers that anyone can make a lot of money doing this – and that message is transferable to Australia. The show does not cover such niceties such as heritage laws preventing such actions; they skirt such laws in America by sticking to private land. Viewers trying the same thing in Australia could find themselves in deep trouble but the damage would have already been done.

Regardless of whether Australian sites are damaged by misinformed viewers of this show the Australian heritage industry should stand up and protest the airing of a show so against

the principals of the Burra Charter and so against the interests of heritage. Our various heritage, historical and archaeological associations should be joining the Society for Historical Archaeology in writing protest letters to the show's producers and to the channel airing it in Australia. As individuals we can do the same thing and join protest groups such as the Facebook page at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/People-against-Spike-TVs-American-Digger/193110227460512>

**This opinion piece supplied by Gaye Dayton**

## **41ST COMPUTER APPLICATIONS AND QUANTITATIVE METHODS IN ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE**

**CAA 2013 Perth Across Space and Time**

**25-28 Perth, March 2013**

The Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (CAA) Annual Conference is the major international event in the calendar for scholars, specialists and experts in the field of informatic applications to archaeological, historical and cultural heritage scholarship.

The 41st Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology ACROSS SPACE AND TIME Conference (CAA 2013 Perth), for the first time in Australia, will explore a multitude of topics to showcase ground-breaking technologies and best practice from various archaeological, historical, cultural heritage and informatics disciplines, with a variety of case studies from all over the world. Some of these topics are specific to the Australasian region and include the application of computer science to cultural heritage management, historical archaeology, landscape archaeology, maritime archaeology, and rock art.

The conference will be held at the University Club of Western Australia, Perth (Western Australia), from 25th to 28th March 2013.

Registration to the CAA 2013 Conference is open.

For more information about the conference please visit the web site: [www.caa2013.org](http://www.caa2013.org)

For general information please email the conference Chair, Dr Arianna Traviglia: [chair@caa2013.org](mailto:chair@caa2013.org)

### **The CAA Organisation**

The Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology (CAA) is an international organisation that brings together a range of scholars and specialists in the fields of archaeology, ancient history, cultural heritage, mathematics and computer science aiming to provide interdisciplinary communication and stimulate discussion.

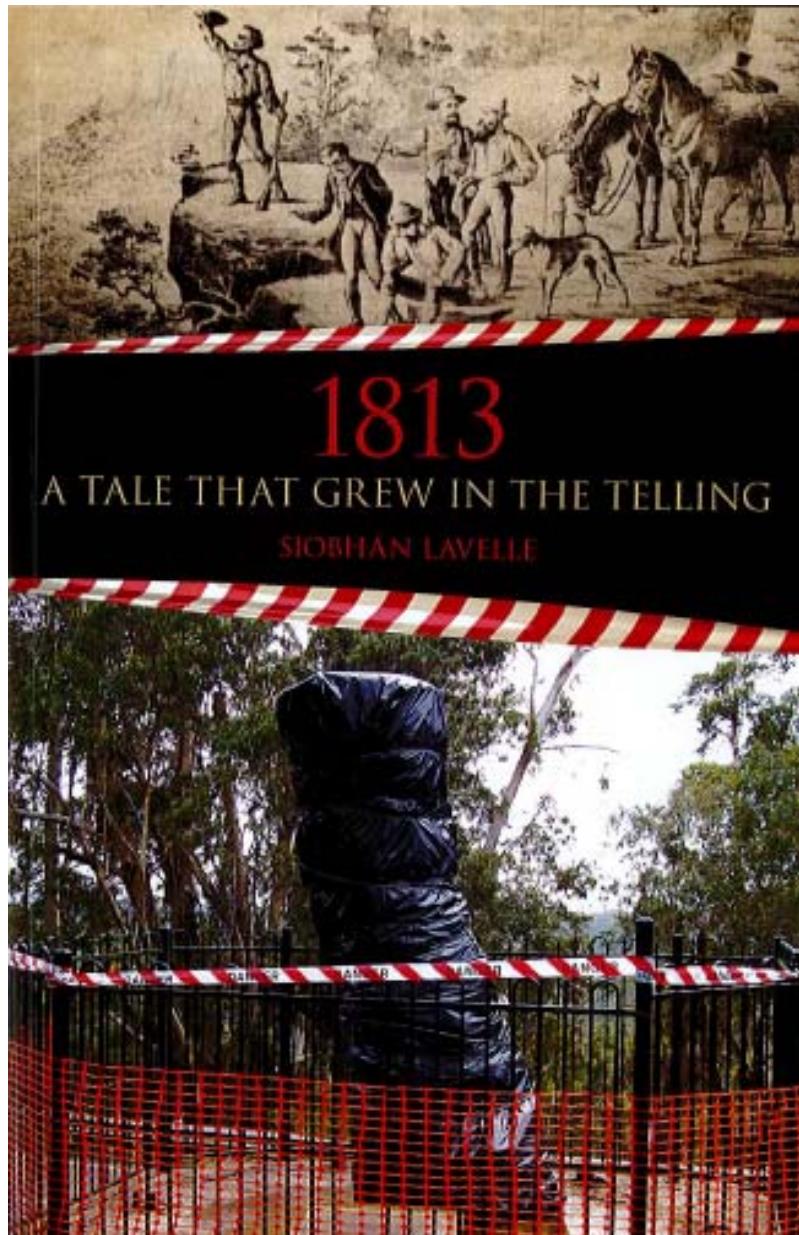
With an international presence of over forty years the CAA's annual conferences have continuously provided for the facilitation of interdisciplinary communication and discussion, as well as the building of lasting professional relationships. The Organisation therefore has a long-standing record of projecting new and innovative developments in the realm of archaeology, cultural heritage, history, arts and related disciplines.

For more information about Computer Applications and Quantitative Methods in Archaeology organisation please visit the CAA International Home Page:  
<https://caaconference.org/>



### New Book

Dr Siobhan Lavelle OAM (Senior Archaeologist, NSW Heritage Branch) has written a book which is a reduced and updated version of her 2004 PhD. *1813: A Tale That Grew in the Telling* examines the commemoration of the First Crossing of the Blue Mountains (near Sydney) through poetry, literature and visual images as well as ceremonies and public monuments. The legend of the Three Explorers (Gregory Blaxland, William Charles Wentworth and William Lawson) was a key early adventure story of Australian history. The tale grew in the telling, as key protagonists amplified their recollections; the new disciplines of history searched for the truth; memorials solidified a particular version of history into permanent place markers, and the legend gained a greater geographical spread. Hearts, minds, place and space were subject to a kind of domestic and 'internal colonisation' as they became captivated by a ripping adventure story about triumphant heroic explorers.



# SOCIETY CONTACTS

## 2012–2013 COMMITTEE

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## Publications

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## 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:

March issue: *15 February*      September issue: *15 August*

June issue: *15 May*      December issue: *15 November*

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**

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