

THE AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY

NEWSLETTER

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THE STATE OF THE ART

New South Wales

National Parks and Wildlife Service of N.S.W.

The Service has been busy on a number of fronts recently in heritage conservation. Architect Geoff Ashley is close to finishing a comprehensive study of huts on Service estate with assistance from architect Rachel Lonie. The huts, over 500 in all, cover a range of building styles and historical themes and uses. The study is intended to provide the Service with a better understanding of the significance of huts and hut groups.

Details of the huts will be recorded on the Service's new improved Historic Places Register. The HPR is being transferred from Minark to Advanced Revelation (A-REV), with a complete review and expansion of information held. Mary Casey and Brett Noble have been employed to undertake the data review and entry.

Denis Gojak, Historical Archaeologist, is working on the proposals for the acquisition of lighthouses, continuing work on Cadmans Cottages and will shortly start a comprehensive survey of World War II fortifications.

Historian, Barbara Le Maistre, has been active in researching land use history throughout the state. This includes detailed investigations of a number of Service properties, including Bendethra (Deua National Park), Hope Farm Mill (Cattai State Recreation Area) and school sites near Coonabarabran.

Outside Head Office the main activities undertaken are conservation plans, usually with detailed archaeological, architectural and historical background studies. Those currently in progress or recently completed include the revision of the North Head Quarantine Station (Sydney Harbour National Park) conservation plan, Athol Hall conservation plan (also SHNP), La Perouse Headland, including Bare Island Fort, Kunderang Station (Oxley Wild Rivers NP) and the Old Great

North Road (Dharug NP). In the Western Region architect John Pastorelli has been engaged to prepare conservation briefs and maintenance specifications for some of the large number of homesteads and other buildings on Service property.

Excavation of John Dickson's Mill Site, Sydney

A team of nine archaeologists (and up to 20 volunteers every day) have spent six weeks excavating the site of John Dickson's Steam Mill at Darling Harbour in Sydney.

The dig was undertaken for the New South Wales Darling Harbour Authority by Godden Mackay Pty. Ltd. The primary reason for the excavation was to establish the nature and extent of surviving mill elements (if there were any), and their conservation requirements. The Darling Harbour Authority is hopeful that the remains may be conserved in situ and presented to visitors as an historical display, either within or associated with a proposed commercial and retail development at the site.

Dickson's Mill was built between 1813 and 1815 at the south eastern edge of Cockle Bay (now Darling Harbour). The mill housed the first steam engine brought to Australia. Some would argue that the arrival of the engine in 1813 heralded the beginning of the Industrial Revolution in Australia. Dickson used the engine, believed to be a Boulton and Watt Beam Engine, for power to grind grain. Later the engine was used in conjunction with a brewery and for soap and candle manufacture.

The Dickson Mill site underwent a series of major expansions during the 19th century, and at the commencement of the excavations it was unclear which elements of the site might remain. During the late 1850s Simon Zollner established Australia's first galvanising plant on the site. Remains of galvanising activities have been uncovered during the excavation. The complex was used for a range of different industrial

purposes prior to its eventual demolition in 1932.

The excavation has uncovered substantial sandstone walls, (thought to date from the first occupation phase in 1815) chimney flues, and what appear to be the original boiler foundations and ash pit for a wagon boiler. One end of a wagon boiler, found in nearby Day Street in the 1870s, which may be part of the original boiler from Dickson's Mill, is currently on display in the Powerhouse Museum.

The archaeological investigation has also uncovered ancillary structures and activities, including yard spaces, adjacent laneways and a row of shops built across part of the site in the 1880s. The latter areas have revealed interesting features including remains of copper and bronze founding, as well as an extensive range of artefacts, including some surprisingly well preserved paper objects.

The post-excavation phase of the investigations is scheduled to continue for approximately four months. The results will be used by the Darling Harbour Authority in planning the conservation of in situ remains and a possible archaeological display, in conjunction with site redevelopment.

South Australia

Universities

Academic offerings in archaeology in Adelaide have been considerably extended in the past few years, including the recent appointment of a lecturer in Historical Archaeology at Flinders University. Two lectureships in archaeology have been created, and the Discipline of Visual Arts at that institution, until recently under the leadership of Asst. Professor Vincent Megaw, has become the Discipline of Visual arts and Archaeology.

Susan Lawrence Cheney began lecturing in Historical Archaeology in February and Dr Donald Pate has been lecturing in prehistory and modern material culture for the last 18 months. The Discipline now provides a wide range of topics in Archaeology beginning with a combined Prehistoric and Historical Archaeology topic at the first year level and continuing through to thesis work at the fourth year level. Second and third year options include Historical Archaeology, Modern Material Culture, Museum Studies, and Archaeological Field Methods in addition to Prehistory. All focus on theoretical and practical approaches, incorporating extensive field and laboratory work.

In addition to the undergraduate programs, a Graduate Diploma program in archaeology is now in its second year of operation. This is a full year program being jointly offered with the Department of Classics, Adelaide University, and emphasises archaeological theory and practice. Dr Margaret O'Hay has recently been appointed to the position of lecturer in Classical Archaeology at Adelaide. In addition to her Classical experience, she brings with her considerable experience in historical archaeology from Sydney. Together with Susan Lawrence Cheney, she is teaching a field methods course in Historical Archaeology that will focus on sites in the Adelaide region.

As part of the Graduate Diploma in Archaeology program, excavation will be taking place at the site of Turner's Paddock in May and June. Once the site of a municipal rubbish tip, the site is expected to yield a rich collection of artefacts indicative of consumer behaviour and rubbish disposal throughout the city of Adelaide, while at the same time providing valuable field experience to students.

Maritime Archaeology

Sarah Kenderdine re-joined the State Heritage Branch late in 1991, and is carrying out an archaeological survey of wrecks and other sites associated with shipping in the River Murray. The project is funded by the Murray Darling Basin Commission. Robert McKinnon's survey of shipwrecks around the coast of Kangaroo Island is nearly complete, and the survey will move on to the adjacent mainland coast in July.

East End Dig

A second dig was conducted in January-March within the now-derelict Adelaide Fruit and Produce Exchange on the site of the Rookery, a row of attached cottages dating from 1840 and occupied until about 1900. The Project was chiefly funded by the Adelaide City Council, with the assistance of the National Trust and a large and enthusiastic band of volunteers, directed by Justin McCarthy, Diana Coulas and Michael Jones. The dig exposed the brick foundations of seven amazingly tiny cottages, a cobbled roadway, several cesspits and a complex underground drainage system. A large collection of domestic and occupational artefacts is undergoing conservation and analysis.

Archaeological Permits

South Australia is nearing the end of a two year review of the Heritage Act, and a draft Bill is about to be released for public comment. The principal implication for archaeologists is a new requirement that a permit be obtained from the Heritage Authority before excavation is undertaken within a place on the Register. Previously archaeological excavation was treated as a form of development under the planning system. The new measure is designed to control amateur digs, and the permits will require supervision of the project by a professionally qualified person.

Tasmania

Under the sea

Mike Nash, the DPWH maritime archaeologist, completed a second season of excavation on the historic shipwreck *Sydney Cove* (1797) during March of this year. Work was carried out from the midships area, which was excavated in 1991, through to the bow of the wreck. A number of interesting structural details were found including the bow timbers which delineate the length and depth of the keel assembly. As this area of the site is shallow and considerably broken up only a small volume of artefact material was found and raised. This included glass and ceramic sherds, rope and ship fittings, leather, and a number of large concretions that will be investigated in the coming year. Two iron cannon were also located and were left *in situ* and may be raised at a later date. Mike intends to continue this project in 1993, when similar excavation work will be carried out concentrating on the stern areas where more intact structure and a larger volume of artefact material is expected to be found.

In the Mountains

The DPWH has embarked on a major project to inventory and assess historic structures on Tasmania's Central Plateau. David Collett has been employed for a year to undertake the research project and to prepare conservation plans for two historic hut sites. So far David has concentrated on surveying the northern and western side of the Plateau, locating over 50 European sites. These are mostly huts, hut ruins, and fences related to grazing, trapping and recreation activities. In addition to their role in the local economy, these sites also had an important social functions as

"male-bonding sites" in the early 20th century. Judging by the desire shown over the past two years by some (mostly male) local community groups in rebuilding on some of these sites, they may require this function.

DPWH has now completed conservation work on Du Cane Hut, a trapper's hut built in 1910 (about 4 hours walk north of Lake St Clair). Hand split King Billy pine shingles were used wherever it was necessary to replace timber components. The hut has now been stabilised and the roof and chimney substantially repaired. Du Cane Hut is quite small and open fires would pose an unacceptable fire risk. Therefore its primary use will be as emergency shelter for bushwalkers and an interesting spot to have lunch and learn something of the history of the high country.

Everywhere else

The Department of Roads and Transport has for the first time employed a staff archaeologist part of whose responsibilities is management of historic sites affected by roadworks. David Parham has been appointed, initially until August this year.

Peter MacFie has just finished writing a history of the Mt Field National Park from 1830 to 1960.

In the Woods

Paris Kostoglou is working on the Timber Industry Project for the Tasmanian Forestry Commission, funded by the Tasmania Forest Research Council, researching the archaeology of the timber industry in Tasmania's forests. Paris is currently working in the Southern Forests area.

Cosmos Coroneos has just started work on a national estate funded heritage study of the Lisle-Denison Goldfields in NE Tasmania, for the Forestry Commission and the Queen Victoria Museum.

Cathy Snelgrove has just completed a study of the history and archaeology of the Teepookana townsite for the Forestry Commission. Teepookana was a small town of the century town on the King River in western Tasmania, which was the first railhead for the Mt Lyell Company mine.

A number of reports on recent Forestry Commission projects have recently been completed. Further details are available by contacting Anne McConnell, Forestry

Commission, Royden House, Patrick Street, Hobart, Tasmania.

Recent papers, publications and reports relating to Historical Archaeology - Forestry Commission, Tasmania

KOSTOGLOU, P. 1991 *Wielangta State Forest: An Archaeological Survey of the Historic Timber Industry*. Archaeology of the Tasmanian Timber Industry Report No. 1, Supplementary Papers, Forestry Commission, Tasmania.

KOSTOGLOU, P. 1991 *Wielangta State Forest: Oral Histories Related to the Historic Timber Industry*. Archaeology of the Tasmanian Timber Industry Report No. 1, Supplementary Papers, Forestry Commission, Tasmania.

KOSTOGLOU, P. 1992 *An Archaeological survey of the Winterbrook (Black Bluff) Sawmill and Timber Tramway*. Unpublished report, Forest Practices Unit, Forestry Commission, Tasmania.

KOSTOGLOU, P. (in prep) *Mt Horror State Forest: An Archaeological Survey of the Historic Timber Industry*. Archaeology of the Tasmanian Timber Industry Report No. 2 Draft, Forestry Commission, Tasmania.

KOSTOGLOU, P. (in prep) *Sideling Range State Forest: an Archaeological Survey of the Historic Timber Industry*. Archaeology of the Tasmanian Timber Industry Report No. 3, Forestry Commission, Tasmania.

MCCONNELL, A. 1991 *Towards the Management of a Sustainable Forest Environment: The Place of Cultural Heritage Management*. Paper to the 1991 Australian and New Zealand Institutes of Foresters Conference, Christchurch, Sept 1991.

SNELGROVE, C. 1992 *Results of an Archaeological Survey and Management Plan for Teepookana on the King River*. Report and draft Conservation Plan prepared for the West Coast District, Forestry Commission, Tasmania.

Victoria

For those who came in late...

The last thrilling episode of the VAS saga, left Megan Goulding and the State Public Service Association fighting the Department of Conservation and its Minister Steve Crabb. They achieved the almost impossible task of getting rid of the restructure, the Permanent Head and the Minister. VAS was then moved to the Ministry of Aboriginal Affairs. This made the sixth administrative move in the last 18 months with the effect of lowering staff morale and dislocating programs. VAS has been at Aboriginal Affairs since January.

On the positive side VAS has been able to fill many of the positions on various projects. Projects of interest to Historical archaeologists include;

Survey of the Aboriginal Protectorate Station at Franklinford (Archaeologist David Rhodes).

Survey of Aboriginal Historic Places (Archaeologist Megan Goulding).

Archaeological Survey of Melbourne's CAD (Archaeologists Ms's Lavelle and Mider).

Historical Research, Southern Murray Basin.

As a consequence of Megan Goulding undertaking the Aboriginal Historic Sites project her position in the HAU is vacant. Catherine Snelgrove will take up the position in June.

Other News.

Iain Stuart recently lead a small team of volunteers and archaeologists to survey mining sites in the Victorian goldfields. The team comprised Anna Halafoff, Abby Belfrage, Sandra Scarano, Rebekah Lawrence, Cos Coreonos and Shirley Strachan. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and a great deal of productive work was done. The highlight could have been the visit of the dingo but the swim at the Heathcote pool after a days work in the sun recording a tailings treatment plant seems more memorable.

Iain Stuart, Meg Goulding and Anna Halafoff also were involved in test excavations on the Moorabbin plateway. The plateway was put in to assist heavy wagons and drays to negotiate the poor roads in the Moorabbin area (S-E of the City). The plate that remains is under threat and VAS's role was to determine whether in the plate was "in situ" or not.

Centre Dandenong Road, where the plateway was located, was disrupted while we dug trenches

along and across the plate. The disruption to traffic was considerable with traffic banked up for several kilometres. However we were able to determine that the plateway had been moved to its present location and therefore was not "*in situ*".

Raids Recover Shipwreck Artefacts

On April 13, the Victoria Police along with VAS Officers undertook four early morning raids in Melbourne and the La Trobe Valley. The raids were the result of an 8 week investigation into the removal of material from a shipwreck off Cape Conran. Hundreds of artefacts, from shipwrecks around the coast of Victoria and interstate, were recovered. The Police investigation is continuing.

Your chance to find \$250 000!!

Do you fancy yourself as a bit of an archaeologist? Do you love hypothesis testing? Keen on remote sensing? Well look what Victoria offers you.

Yes, until March 1993, the hunt for the Mahogany Ship is on and \$250,000 has been offered as a reward for the lucky finders.

Elderly ASHA Newsletter readers will remember that the Mahogany Ship was found on the Victorian coast near Port Fairy around the time of contact (1820s). It was a popular spot to visit but later the wreck disappeared into the sand dunes. Although the term Mahogany was used to describe the color of the timber the legend grew that the Mahogany Ship was the remains of a Portuguese galleon that had discovered Victoria before Cook (actual Cook only charted a very small part of the Victorian coast). Thus the discovery of the Mahogany ship could prove that the Portuguese were the first discoverers of Australia (if you exclude the Aborigines).

The reward was offered by the Minister for Tourism, Steve Crabb, as part of a major tourism promotion for Victoria's West Coast. The conditions of the search are that remote sensing techniques only are to be used (get out those bent wires). VAS has the role of verifying the targets.

So if you want to try your luck contact VAS for further details (we also can let you have an authentic Portuguese map with the site location marked on it, for a suitable price).

Western Australia

Although historical archaeology in Western Australia has had a relatively brief existence, its

future in this state is looking increasingly bright. Although no undergraduate unit devoted to historical archaeology has yet been included in the structure of the University of Western Australia degree, several field study courses have concentrated on historic site recording and excavation. These projects have included a study of the site of a nineteenth century wayside inn and the site of the Marrinup WW2 prisoner of war camp.

Three postgraduates are expected to complete their theses in historical archaeology by the end of this year. Research by Martin Gibbs looks at the bay whaling industry through historical documentation and the excavation of Cheynes Bay whaling station. Gay Nayton's thesis examines the problems and advantages of applying frontier theory to the Western Australian historical archaeological record. The frontier port of Cossack provides the focus for her research and the site of the first town store has been excavated. Louise Bavin is researching changing attitudes to prisoner reform as demonstrated through the archaeology of Fremantle Prison.

The Centre For Prehistory, the consulting arm of the Archaeology Department, has increasingly become involved with historical archaeological survey work. Projects include surveys of Marrinup prisoner of war camp, Victoria dam, Fremantle prison, Arthur Head, Mt Barker police station, Old Onslow townsite and part of Cossack townsite.

Historical archaeology is also having an increasing impact on the local (normally architect-dominated) heritage field, particularly with the recent passing of the W.A. Heritage Act. While extremely problematical (and due for revision in the next two years), the Act requires a statewide listing of significant places and provides fully registered sites with various forms of protection from development. No professional staff have yet been appointed to this state body, but it is expected that at least one historical archaeologist will be employed in the near future.

The National Trust has of course always been involved in the protection of historic buildings. It also has co-ordinated community based projects involving local museums and members of the University of Western Australia Archaeology Department.

A preliminary sign that things may be heading in the right direction is that some external funding for archaeological projects has begun to filter

through, while several state government bodies have enquired about survey and conservation works.

EDITORIAL

As mentioned in the last issue, I have taken over the editorship of the ASHA Newsletter after Judy Birmingham's long reign.

Few people realise what a difficult task getting this Newsletter out is. Judy and her team of Andrew Wilson, Ilma Powell Barbara Fitzroy and Dana Mider have done a wonderfull job in producing the Newsletter in recent years.

One of my immediate tasks is to hunt for copy. The system of correspondents for ASHA in each State has fallen down of late. Rather than have only single corespondents from each State, I am looking to have regional corespondents from centers where historical archaeology is being practiced.

I am also happy to receive material on a number of topics such as Computers, Good Books, CRM Issues as well as the standard fare of State News, Conferences, and Notes.

This issue we publish a draft copy of the proposed ASHA Constitution for members discussion. Any comments should be made to the ASHA Secretary.

With the Newsletter Editor job goes the editorship of the ASHA Reseach Bulletins. The aim of the Research Bulletins is to quickly publish a range of material of interest to Historical Archaeology in a simple and inexpensive format. In the past the Newsletter and the Bulletins have published a good deal of important material on things as diverse as fences, linoleum and zoning plans.

If you feel you have something to contribute to the Newsletter or the Research Bulletin series please send it in (preferably unformatted on a MS DOS compatiable disc which I will return) or give me a call at VAS (03) 6905322.

My thanks for help in producing this issue to: Peter Bell, Judy Birimingham, Kristal Buckley, , Susan Lawrence Cheney, Barbara Fitzroy, Gordon Grimwade, Denis Gojak, Martin Gibbs, Meg Goulding, Martin Hallett, Angie McGowan, Richard McKay, Gaye Nayton.

Roger Cummins

1966-1992

ASHA members will be shocked to learn of the tragic death of Roger Cummins, in an accident at the Scienceworks Museum at Spotswood in Melbourne.

Roger was born in Melbourne, and educated at Carey Grammar School. During part of his education he spent some years in the USA. At University Roger studied archaeology completing his undergraduate degree at La Trobe University.

For his honours year, in 1987, he undertook a project on the early wool industry on the Barwon River in Geelong. He completed his thesis and the resultant article, "Scouring the Clip" was published in the last Australian Journal of Historical Archaeology.

His interest in the wool industry developed as he worked for some time in the National Wool Museum in Geelong. Roger worked at the "Little Lon" and "City Link" excavations where he impressed everyone with his cheerful enthusiasm and technical proficiency.

He joined the staff of the Museum of Victoria working under Martin Hallett in the Rural Sciences section. Roger was appointed Curator of Rural Science in 1990.

For the last two years Roger was heavily involved in the development of the Scienceworks Museum at the old Sewerage Pumping Station at Spottswood. Roger had responsibility for developing the public programs for the pumping Station itself. This involved research into the site's history, preparing interpretation of the features and machinery on the site and organising guided tours.

Roger was also the project manager for the installation of "heritage" artefacts into the new museum building on the site. The artefacts involved ranged from a Cobb and Co coach to a pair of swaggies boots. Roger was a good manager of his team, which included conservation and registration staff, and the project was concluded with a minimum of fuss.

It is quite clear that Roger was at the beginning of a very productive part of his life, when,

during the opening of Scienceworks, he died in a tragic accident. It is frequently said that someone is a great loss and mourned throughout the community. In this case it is true - the heritage community in Victoria was shocked by his death

During his retirement he worked as a consultant on matters of glass manufacture and properties, and on solid waste disposal, acting as an expert witness in legal disputes.

In 1982-1983 he was made Associate Professor of Ceramics at the Universiti Sains Malaysian in Penang.

Dr. Jim Boow's many publications included articles, reviews and papers on many aspects relating to ceramics and glass. His major contribution to Australian Historical Archaeology was *Early Australian Commercial Glass: Manufacturing Processes*, prepared by him and recently published by The Heritage Council of N.S.W. This publication is now available from The Department of Environment

Dr. James Boow.

B.Sc. Tech., Ph.D., F.A.I.E., F.I.
Cer., F.S.G.T.

1916 - 1992

James Boow was born in the Lake District of U.K. and obtained his degree and doctorate ('The Viscosity of Glass') and lectured, at the Sheffield University. During World War II he was involved in research in the development of nylon fibre.

In 1946 Dr. Boow went to South Africa as the works chemist, with a glass manufacturing company, and whilst there became involved in the formation of the North Natal Technical College, both as a co-founder and part time principal.

On returning to the U.K. he became technical manager of another glass manufacturing company. Later he was engaged as editor and technical secretary of The Society of Glass Technology U.K., being responsible for the editing and publication of the Society's journals.

In 1956 he returned to South Africa as the senior technologist with Consolidated Glass, South Africa, responsible for both technical services and research facilities.

Dr. Jim Boow came to Australia in 1962, working with C.S.I.R.O. on coal ash slags, boiler deposits and utilisation of coal ash waste. He became a member of the Australasian Ceramic Society (now the Australasian Ceramic Society) and became secretary of its Federal Liaison Council, and later of the Federal Council.

During 1970 - 1973 he was technical adviser to Glass Containers Ltd., and other companies. During 1973, having become a staff member of the N.S.W. Institute of Technology (now The University of Technology Sydney), he set up a ceramics degree course and lectured until his retirement in 1981.

The Editor would like to apologise for the late delay in publishing the Autumn Edition of the ASHA Newsletter. Unfortunately the printed labels to go on the ASHA Envelopes were not sent to VAS, hence the delay.

Hopefully the next issue will be out in two months time (ie August).

Any copy for the next ASHA Newsletter is due by the 31st July 1992.

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR
ASHA SUBSCRIPTION?

Conferences, Seminars et al.

Muddy Waters: The Archaeology of Submerged Cultural Heritage Sites on the River Murray.

Echuca September 21-23 1992

The purpose of this conference is to coordinate the programs undertaken by three States responsible for cultural heritage protection and management of shipwreck (fluvial archaeology?) and riparian sites on the River Murray and its tributaries.

While the emphasis will be on the archaeology of shipwreck sites, the discussion of Aboriginal and post-contact archaeological sites is welcomed.

Researchers and practitioners interested in sites on the Murray are invited to contribute short informal papers to the conference. Themes to be addressed during the three days are:

The River Murray environment.

Heritage access and interpretation.

Historical development of the river trade.

Legislation.

Field techniques.

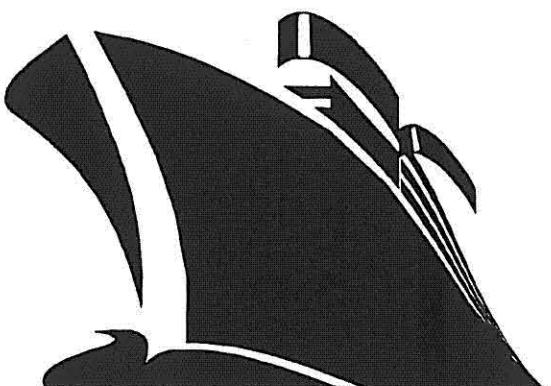
Conservation assessment and monitoring of wreck sites.

There will a "hands on" demonstration of remote sensing techniques.

The conference is open to all members of the public and relevant authorities. For further details about participating contact

Sarah Kenderdine,
State Heritage Branch
GPO Box 667
Adelaide 5001

ph 08 207 2378



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Questions of Context: Documentary sources and the Archaeology of Historic Australia.

Twelfth Annual ASHA Conference, 9-11 November 1992

The National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour

The major theme of the conference is the relationship between documentary sources and the physical archaeological data. This covers all phases of a project, whether text-prompted or field-prompted, whether textually rich or textually starved, whether documents are publicly or individually generated. We suggest that members should look back over older projects as well as at current ones, in order to review the roles of different data classes.

Enquiries and offers of papers to:

ASHA Conference Conveners,
Box 220 Holme Building,
University of Sydney,
NSW 2006.

Abstracts should be in by 1 September 1992

Shipwrecks and Community - Accessing underwater Cultural Heritage

Eleventh Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology Annual Conference, 13-18 November 1992

The National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour

The conference will bring together speakers from Australia and overseas particularly the Asia-Pacific region. The topics will focus on methods of making underwater heritage accessible to the general public through publicity, publications, education programs and museum displays.

Two world renowned maritime archaeologists Professor George Bass, from the USA and Larsake Karning, Director of the Vasa Museum in Sweden will be keynote speakers.

People interested in participating or offering a short report or paper should contact:

Mark Staniforth
Curator of Maritime Archaeology,
Australian National Maritime Museum,
GPO BOX 5131,
Sydney NSW 2001

Ph 02 5527715, Fax 02 660 0729

CULTURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Proposed Conservation Guidelines for Grave Railings in Pioneer Cemeteries

The following guidelines for conservation of grave railings in McLeod Street Pioneer Cemetery were prepared recently by Gordon Grimwade for Cairns City Council. Gordon is interested in receiving comments on the proposals with a view of refining them for wider distribution. Please send your comments to Gordon at Resource Consulting Services, P O Box 6638, Cairns 4870, or by fax to (070) 516740.

This document proposes a policy for restoration and conservation of grave railings for pioneer cemeteries. It is based on conservation work undertaken at the McLeod Street Pioneer Cemetery, Cairns Queensland during the period 1988-91.

Various designs of grave railings were used in many early cemeteries. Over the years vandalism, natural weathering and destruction by intrusive trees have resulted in many railings being destroyed or partially or fully lost. Consistent with cemetery conservation plans elsewhere it is proposed:

- (1) Extant intact railings should be retained unless they clearly represent a safety hazard. This may occur where railings have been buckled and points protrude outwards.

Consideration may be given to their being carefully sand blasted and a rust inhibitor applied. Care should be taken to ensure the rust inhibitor is clear or modestly coloured. Silver paint is not recommended.

- (2) Extant railings which are *in situ* but incomplete (1-3 panels remain) should be retained if they are secure and do not constitute a safety risk. If spare panels of identical design are available ('spare panels' are those which are lying in the cemetery and their *precise* source is unknown) these may be used to replace the missing sections.

Where there are two parallel sections

standing a suitable cross member should be fitted to secure the freestanding sections. In such cases the cross brace should be of similar design to the cross pieces in the original sections.

They should be secured in similar style to the originals. Conservation treatment is as outlined in (1) above.

- (3) Extant railings lying loosely on the ground need to be closely examined to identify precisely where they came from initially. Quite often this can be done by consideration of:

- (a) design similarities
- (b) jointing fractures
- (c) matching with relict posts or sections of posts

Provided positive identification is assured, the railing should be reassembled in its original location. Due regard should be given for other elements mentioned above.

In the event no positive identification of original source is established the panel may be used elsewhere (see below); documented and stored; or considered for disposal subject to professional assessment to show it holds no heritage value.

- (4) Railings which are identified as suitable for use to complete otherwise incomplete grave rails (ie. 1 or more panels missing) should be secured using aesthetically acceptable bolts or similar devices. Railings should only be used in this way if the patterns are identical. No railings of different styles should be fitted during restoration work.

- (5) Buckled railings should be removed and repaired if this can be done without major disturbance to the overall fabric. Concurrently it may be appropriate to sand blast the railings.

- (6) The addition of replicated railings is not recommended. However, it should be born in mind the descendants of those interred are entitled to, within certain parameters, modify memorials.

- (7) Individuals wishing to erect railings around unmarked graves, around graves previously not fitted with such decorations or

otherwise adapt existing memorials, should be counselled against such action. It affects the 'pioneer image' and historical context of the site. In all cases changes, additions and conservation should be fully documented.

In all cases where grave surrounds are adapted or added to the new sections should be engraved with a date of installation. The date should be inscribed thus '19/8/1991' not '19/8/91' as this can cause confusion between 1891 and 1991.

The need to conserve railings in the manner outlined is consistent with current conservation principles. The relevance of specific railing types has not, to our present knowledge, been researched thus far. To adapt, to mix or to add railing types and design could adversely affect our comprehension of cemetery architecture and its evolutionary processes. Most importantly adaptation of this type can seriously inhibit the potential accuracy of interpretation of grave markers, their relevance and their symbolism.

Sprawl decline, Good News for the Past?

Most readers will be familiar with the suburban wilderness called the outer suburbs or the suburban fringe. There the developers await young couples in search of the Australian dream, a house on a quarter acre block.

In recent years concern has arisen about the infrastructure cost of these suburbs. The cost of providing services such as sewerage is immense, (50 to 70,000 per block) and of course this impacts on housing costs. Hidden costs, which are now beginning to be recognised, are the social problems created by the design of the suburbs.

Archaeologists have from time to time had to assess the archaeological value of areas proposed for new suburbs. These are called "greenfields" developments, as the developer's bulldozers remove everything; trees, buildings, fences, wetlands and so on, leaving nothing but green fields to create the suburban dream on. The new suburbia are heritage deserts and archaeologists arguments for preservation of significant are rarely accepted.

In the last few years new approaches to suburb design have emerged to challenge the suburban sprawl model. The most interesting is the Traditional Neighbourhood Development (TND) developed in the USA. TND emphasises such

entities as a grid network of streets to improve safe traffic and pedestrian connections. The retention of the cultural and natural heritage to promote a sense of the new community having roots, and diversity and visual richness among the dwellings.

Such developments are welcome as they support the preservation of heritage. For example, the grid orientation of the new suburbs is in accord with the way much of the land was originally subdivided (typically on a north/south axis) and thus archaeological sites such as fence lines and roadways have a better chance of survival as they are likely to be recycled. The retention of archaeological sites such as farmhouses can be argued in terms of the need for such features to be used in community building. Excavation of sites can also be justified in terms of its usefulness in creating community identity.

To date, only Victoria in its "Victorian Code Residential for Residential Subdivision" has really acted to promote the new approach to suburbs. However the other States and the Commonwealth are acting to bring in their own codes. Of particular note is the specific provision in the Victorian Code for the retention of cultural and natural features.

These developments must improve the chances of the archaeological heritage surviving in the outer suburbs. Reflecting on suburbs such as Mill Park (Vic), Campbellfield (NSW) and almost all of Canberra, any change that preserves even the smallest amount of heritage must be for the good.

Further Information - Contact Iain Stuart.

THE GOOD WORD

Mutton and Oysters: Victorians and their food

by Sarah Freeman, 1989, Victor Gollancz, London.

Mutton and Oysters proved to be a wonderful find from the catalogue of Academic Remainders. The book deals with food in Great Britain during the Nineteenth Century.

Topics covered include: produce available and how it was purchased by the householder; drinks, both alcoholic and non-alcoholic; cooking and notable cooks; meals and entertaining; children; nutrition and the rise of vegetarianism.

The great strength of this book is its use of primary source material, especially for illustrations and that Freeman attempts to cover the working-class although her source material is very limited in this area. All material is fully referenced and there is a select bibliography.

The frontispiece, for example, is an excellent start to such a book, showing an oyster seller, shelling the oysters while one of her customers waits with a "Willow Pattern" plate in one hand! An illustration of interest to the archaeologist!

Clearly such a book is of great value to the archaeologist as so many artefacts related to food are recovered from archaeological sites. If these are to make sense and be used to explain the past, archaeologists need to understand the social and economic contexts of foodways. Freeman's book is a good foundation for such a task.

Other notes

The society is pleased to announce the receipt of the 14th royalty cheque for \$71.53 from the sales of "*Historical Archaeology: A Guide to Substantive and Theoretical Contributions*" published by Baywood Publishing Company Inc.

Susan Lawrence-Cheney has passed on an ad for the following books on Historical Archaeology in Sacramento, California (the descriptions have been summarised).

Junk! : Archaeology of the Pioneer Junk Store, 1877-1908.

\$US22.50

Commercial and domestic deposits associated with a secondhand store. Discussion of recycling and the culture of the owner a Prussian Jew.

For a Good Boy: Victorians on J Street.

\$US 15.50

Analysis of stratified deposits from four households demonstrating the increasing influence of Victorian era values in Sacramento.

Archaeology of the San Fong Laundry.

\$US 10.00

Analysis of artefacts representing the commercial and domestic uses of the site.

The Mary Collins Assemblage: Mass Marketing and the Archaeology of a Sacramento Family.

\$US 10.00

Analysis of deposits associated with Mary Collins and her family found in the cellar of her

demolished rental cottage.

Note there is a discount on the set ;
4 for \$US 50.00.

They recommend \$US 0.75 per volume for postage but allow a bit more to cover overseas mail

Cheques payable to Sonoma State University Academic Foundation Inc.

Mail to Mary Praetzellis
Anthropological Studies Center
Sonoma State University
Rohnert Park, CA 94928
United States of America

Fieldwork

Centre for Historical Archaeology

Central Australia Archaeology Project

11 June - 16 July 1992

This pilot project in the Alice Springs region, will be undertaken in association with Aboriginal site owners and custodians, and the N.T. Conservation Commission. Its objective is to investigate how the archaeological record reflects the Aboriginal-European interaction from the mid-nineteenth century onwards. It is directed by Judy Birmingham and Andrew Wilson.

Students and others (preferably energetic and healthy) are needed for this project, which should provide a wide range of archaeological experience in a remote outback context. All participants will have to provide personal equipment (camping equipment) and contribute to a food kitty (\$9.00 a day). You will have to get to Alice Springs by plane, train, bus or foot.

Further details can be had by contacting:
The Director,
Central Australian Archaeology Project,
Mungo MacCallum Building RM 537,
University of Sydney 2006
Fax 02 6924889

ASHA PUBLICATIONS

The Australian Journal of Historical Archaeology

	Members	Non-members
Volume 1 (1983)		<i>out of print</i>
Volume 2 (1984)	\$10.00	\$15.00
Volume 3 (1985)	\$10.00	\$15.00
Volume 4 (1986)	\$13.00	\$17.00
Volume 5 (1987)	\$14.00	\$18.00
Volume 6 (1988)	\$15.00	\$19.00

Major Publications

Birmingham, Bairstow & Wilson (eds)
Archaeology of Colonisation: Australia in the World Context
Papers from the Seventh Annual ASHA Conference 1987
\$26.00

Birmingham & Bairstow (eds)
Papers in Australian Historical Archaeology
Selected ASHA Newsletter Articles 1969-1982
\$20.00

Occasional Papers \$6.00 each

Maureen Byrne *Ross Bridge, Tasmania*
Eleanor Crosby *Survey and Excavations at Fort Dundas, Melville Island, NT*
Marjorie Graham *Printed Ceramics in Australia*
R.V.J. Varman *The Marseilles or French Pattern Tile in Australia*
Lithgow Regional Library (ed.) *Lithgow Pottery: A Source Book Part II*
Holmes, Kate *Windsor Barracks*

Postage & packing in Australia add \$2.50 per item
Postage & packing overseas add \$5.00 per item

ASHA CONTACTS

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South Australia	Peter Bell c/o DEP GPO Box 667 Adelaide 5001
Tasmania	Angela McGowan 7 Cosgrove Ave South Hobart 7000
Victoria	Iain Stuart VAS,P.O. Box 262, Albert Park 3206
Western Australia	Myra Stanbury WA Maritime Museum Cliff St Fremantle 6160

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NEWSLETTER

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STATE OF THE ART

New South Wales

Rookwood Necropolis

Archaeologists Siobhan Lavelle and Dana Mider, assisted by a team of dedicated volunteers from the "Helping Hands of Rookwood" group, recently completed a program of archaeological investigations within the Necropolis Circuit, Rookwood Cemetery, near Lidcombe, Sydney. The area within the Necropolis Circuit was developed and used from the earliest period of the operation of Rookwood Necropolis (in the 1860s). Partly visible or inferred features in the area (previously identified in the *Rookwood Necropolis Plan of Management, PWD, 1990*) included the footings of the former No. 1 Mortuary Station, a small early twentieth century brick tool shed, and remnants of previous landscape features such as brick kerbs and gutters for carriageways and paths.

As the area lies within the area of Rookwood covered by a Permanent Conservation Order, the completion of an historical archaeological survey and minimal physical investigation to define the precise extent of surviving features and assess their significance was considered desirable by the Joint Committee of Necropolis Trustees. This type of information is also necessary because of the ongoing use of part of the Necropolis Circuit area for the provision of burial sites, and the proposed future extension of some burial areas.

The investigations completed, a series of "controlled ground disturbances" and archaeological test trenches revealed the survival of an extensive sub-surface archaeological resource. This resource provides physical evidence dating from all phases in the history of site and provides some very substantial and detailed evidence of the earlier periods, especially concerning the initial construction (both techniques and details) of the No. 1 Mortuary Station itself and of its subsequent modification and extensions.

The remains of the No. 1 Mortuary Station and the surviving landscape pattern formed by the extant brick-kerbed pathways in the eastern half of the Necropolis Circuit area were assessed as being of considerable heritage significance. It has been recommended that these elements should be retained and conserved *in situ*, and also that if possible, the remains should be presented and interpreted in a way which makes them meaningful to visitors.

Further liaison and discussion concerning the future development of the Necropolis Circuit area and the conservation of its identified historical archaeological heritage items will occur between the cemetery management authorities and other agencies such as the Heritage Branch of the Department of Planning.

Darling House, Trinity avenue

During July 1992 Tony Lowe and Mary Casey excavated the backyard of Darling House, and the adjacent vacant allotment in Trinity Avenue, Millers Point for the NSW Department of Housing. The site and building are being converted into an Aged Care Hostel for local residents. Darling House, a large sandstone Georgian building, was built by 1844. The site, prior to the construction of the house, had been used for sandstone quarrying. This was a common occurrence in The Rocks and Millers Point.

A number of structures were excavated at the rear of the house. The original sandstone kitchen was demolished in the 1930s. The intact sandstone foundations and an underfloor deposit were excavated. Two small rooms were attached to the rear of the kitchen, one of the rooms originally butting onto the rockface. These two rooms were the original cesspits for the house. One was later re-used for storing coal. The second room contained two phases of sewerage pipes. Along the southern boundary a later brick laundry was constructed above a large sandstone structure, the latter being built by 1865.

The stratigraphy on the adjacent allotment was very different to the backyard area. This lot had been used for a number of temporary workshop structures, the last being a plasterer's workshop. In the 1920s it was an open air picture theatre. There was no evidence for substantial structures in this area.

Darling House was occupied by the owners for a short period only. It was generally leased out. This was common practice in Miller's Point which had a very high percentage of rental accommodation. During the twentieth century the house was used as a boarding house. During the 1930s Rosalind Norton, a famous Sydney eccentric witch and/or devil worshipper, lived in the house which at this stage was called the Bohemian House. While a lot of bones were found on the site none, as far as we know, were human sacrifices.

Paramatta River

In July the Australian National Maritime Museum's maritime archaeology program was contracted by the NSW Department of Transport to conduct excavation work at the site of Queens Wharf in Parramatta. This work is a follow on from some work done by Adam Wolf in 1991. The river is currently being dredged to establish the Rivercat Ferry service from Circular Quay to Parramatta.

The Queens Wharf site has been in use since the first wharf was built in 1790. Later it was the site of the Government store in Parramatta and the point at which boats could progress no further up the river.

The Museum sub-contracted archaeologists Rebecca Bower, Noeleen Steel and Matthew Kelly for the work which was supervised by Mark Staniforth. More than twenty museum staff spent a day out in the field and museum volunteers involved were Rudi Meinhardt, Mark Flemming, Alan Rocks and Marion Carter. Museum staff, contract archaeologists and volunteers spent twelve days on the excavation work which revealed an immense quantity of material including bone, leather shoes, ceramics, glass and brick.

Among the most significant artefacts were a number of buttons and badges from uniforms of the 28th and 50th regiments of the British Army which were stationed in NSW to guard the convicts during the 1830s and 1840s. There was also some very early convict pottery, bricks and

roofing tiles (which may have come from the original military barracks which was demolished in 1817) as well as a substantial number of intact pottery and glass bottles.

New Zealand

Fewer historical archaeology papers than usual were presented at the NZ Archaeological Association's 1992 Annual Conference held in May 1992 at Whitianga on the Coromandel Peninsula, North Island. The decline was attributable to the focus of the conference which was on the important pre-European Archaic sites in the area. Reports on two redoubt sites excavations were presented. Nigel Prickett excavated a corner bastion, sections of the defensive ditch, and some of the barracks buildings at the site of Queen's redoubt, Pokeno. This was the headquarters and the launching point for the 1863-64 Waikato campaign. Neville Ritchie reported on his excavations with Warren Gumbley on the 40th redoubt which was the frontier HQ during the Waikato Campaign. Ritchie and Gumbley (1992) have completed a 296-page report on the fieldwork.

During November-December 1991 Robert Brassey surveyed Twentieth century military installations and Nineteenth century farm sites on Motutapu Island in the Hauraki Gulf near Auckland.

Several projects have been undertaken within the present boundaries of Auckland City. John Mitchell carried out excavations on North Head, as part of his Ph D research into the fortifications constructed during the Russia scare; Sarah McCready monitored modifications to an historic swivel bridge, opened in 1866, on the Tamaki River; and magnetometer and resistivity surveys have been used successfully to delineate features of Fort Resolution.

Stuart Bedford, while attempting to locate the site of an 1830s mission station on the Puriri stream, Hauraki Plains, has uncovered extensive contact Maori settlement evidence. On the East Coast, Pam Bain has been working on the protection and conservation of two historic bridges. Tony Walton has been following up on his earlier survey of historic era military sites around Wellington harbour. Ray Hooker has been conducting field surveys in several historic coal mining areas in response to several major West Coast development projects. During January, Peter Bristow and Matthew Campbell recorded 70 goldminers hut

sites and associated workings in the Old Man Range in Central Otago.

A team of four including archaeologist Roger Fyfe continued ice removal and conservation work on Capt. Scott's Cape Evans hut in the Ross Dependency this past summer.

Matthew Campbell has finished his MA thesis entitled "*A Preliminary Investigation of the Archaeology of Whaling Stations on the Southern Coast*". The thesis is a substantive work including historical research on whaling in New Zealand, site survey, excavation and analysis. The excavation was on the Wellers rock Try-Works and yielded numerous bricks and structural remains of the try-works.

The analysis of the bricks attempted to test whether the two differently coloured bricks found on the site differed in attributes other than colour. The analysis showed that although the two classes of bricks were identical in dimension and density the orange coloured bricks were more porous than the red coloured bricks.

Hopefully Mathew will write up his results in the ASHA Journal.

Queensland

Atherton Chinatown Site

Archaeologists Barbara Scott and Barbara Cutler have commenced excavations at the former Chinese settlement at Atherton on the Tablelands west of Cairns. Work on the site is under the direction of Professor Barrie Reynolds, James Cook University, Townsville.

South Australia

Peter Bell reports that there is little work going on in historical archaeology in South Australia.

Tasmania

Culture shocks

The film "Black Mans Houses" was launched in Hobart, Melbourne and Flinders Island in July. The film is about the Aboriginal station set up by George Augustus Robinson in the 1830s at Wybalenna and current community reaction (both black and white) to recent investigations of and

care for the Aboriginal cemetery there. The cemetery was delineated by archaeologist Don Ranson, Caleb Pedder and members of the Aboriginal community, by means of a resistivity survey. The graves were then marked with wooden stakes. The archaeological techniques used were featured prominently in the film as well as the political and social issues. Its rumoured that the film has been purchased by the ABC. It's a great movie, look out for it and see it if you can. In a shameful sequel to the launching of the film, the wooden gravemarkers and a stone monument erected in the cemetery have been pulled up and broken by unknown persons. The warden of Flinders has suggested that it was probably done by badgers (Tasmanian for wombats).

[This film was also shown in Victoria resulting in an indignant letter to the *Age* by a descendant of G.A. Robinson. ASHA will be publishing Judy Birmingham's Wybalenna report. ed.]

Conservation

The government has been taking the conservation planning process more seriously this year. As a result there has been a flurry of conservation plans over recent months.

Twilight Hut: Cath Snelgrove (for DPWH) prepared a Plan for this 1920s hut in Mt Field National Park. Stabilisation and repairs were done in April 1992 under archaeological direction. The Plan provides policies for its long-term preservation, management and maintenance.

Highfield: Godden Mackay Heritage Consultants (for DPWH) have prepared a Precinct study of the Highfield site which was the headquarters of the Van Diemens Land Co. Conservation of this site is seen as a major benefit to the local and regional due to its tourist interest. The study reviewed the plethora of previous studies and prepared policies for the short and long term management and conservation of the site.

Steppes: Austral Archaeology (for DPWH) have prepared a Precinct study of the Steppes, an early pastoral site in the Central Highlands, as part of a conservation planning process for this State Reserve. As part of the conservation analysis Michael Jones undertook an archaeological survey of site features and Lindy Scripps investigated the history of the site, including a historical outline of the site, the historical extent of the area the pastoral property encompassed and an insight into

the conditions which prevailed in this isolated settlement. The study identifies the continued occupation of the remaining house as the best means to preserve, maintain and provide security for the site.

Port Arthur Dockyard: Peter Freeman, Collett and Partners (for Port Arthur Management Authority) are undertaking a conservation study of the precinct which operated as a dockyard in the 1830s and 1840s. Historical research and archaeological survey were undertaken as part of the project. The Study included an interpretive strategy for the remaining structures (including the 1834 bricknogged 'Sunnybanks') and the site as a whole.

Officer's Quarters, Eaglehawk Neck: Martin Davies and Cath Snelgrove (for DPWH) have prepared a structural analysis of this building which was part of the military station guarding Eaglehawk Neck, the strip of land joining the Tasman Peninsula and the rest of Tasmania. Investigations revealed remnants of the 1832 'hut' still *in situ* within the building. A survey of the grounds and the remainder of the station will also be undertaken as part of conservation planning for this site.

Cascades Female Factory, South Hobart: Hilary du Cros is preparing a Conservation Plan for DPWH.

Don Ranson reports the DPWH are implementing conservation works at several Historic Sites around the state. These include: Ross Female Factory, the Coal Mines on the Tasman Peninsula, where the Eastern Barracks are being stabilised; and Darlington on Maria Island, including the Oast House and the Bake House.

Parliamentary Precinct, Hobart: Austral Archaeology (for Department of Construction) have prepared a conservation study for this major government owned block in Hobart. The study identifies the constraints and opportunities for future development and the conservation requirements for the significant elements.

The Department of Construction area also preparing Conservation Plans for two other complexes in Hobart: the Executive Building, and the Blundstone Factory.

Conservation of the Kent Battery near Derby in north-east Tasmania recently became a hot community controversy. The issues are: should the Battery be conserved *in situ* or should all or part of it be removed to a museum?; should the

surviving elements of the Battery be conserved as is or should it be reconstructed to make a working model? The Forestry Commission are intending to prepare a Conservation Plan to resolve these issues. A similar story has also unfolded on the other side of Tasmania. Criticism of the removal of a Battery on the West Coast, has led the Mines Division of the Department of Resources and Energy to decide to prepare a Position Paper on moveable mining heritage objects.

Archaeological and historical investigations

DPWH is undertaking planning for Visitor Services Sites around the periphery of the World Heritage Area. Paris Kostoglou has been seconded from the Forestry Commission for a short while to report on the historic resources of the Cockle Creek area in the far south east of Tasmania. A Project Officer will be employed to investigate the remaining sites. Hopefully by the time you read this, the project officer will have been appointed.

Angie McGowan (DPWH) and Paris Kostoglou (F C) inspected the Risbys Basin karst near Maydena. This lump of limestone is the proposed alternative quarry site for Benders Quarry, which is currently impacting on Exit Cave in the World Heritage Area. Angie and Paris found and recorded remnant logging tramways, probably dating to the 1920s and 1930s.

Peter MacFie (DPWH) has recently completed two historical studies: the township of Corinna and the Pieman River in western Tasmania; and the Old Farm site at National Park (Mt Field).

Lindy Scripps has prepared a resource document for DPWH containing all known historical source materials and oral testimonies pertaining to the Eaglehawk Neck Guard Station.

Launceston Synagogue: Greg Jackman has been excavating, monitoring and recording the floor structure of this 1840s synagogue. These investigations were necessitated by remedial works to a damp problem in the structure, which are being undertaken by the National Trust (Tas).

Highfield: Martin Davies and Cath Snelgrove (DPWH) have excavated a section of the rear courtyard at Highfield which was in the vicinity of the 1826 residence. Their excavation uncovered more of the 1840s and late 1820s cobble pavings which were first recorded in 1988 by Richard Morrison.

Victoria

Vying for the Title: will the real Queen of Australia Please Stand Up.

Although scandal-torn Liz looks o.k. on the new plastic fiver, the graffiti on the new notes show that old Caroline has not been forgotten. To ensure that she's remembered, VICROADS and VAS are conducting an archaeological survey of a Chisholm shelter shed at The Gap near Sunbury, just outside Melbourne. Eleanor Casella and Anna Halafoff are conducting the survey and undertaking research into other Chisholm sites as well.

The shelter shed is one of ten which were built in Victoria in the 1850s to accommodate families on their way to the goldfields. None of the sheds are still standing and the one at The Gap appears to be one of only two or three with potential sub-surface deposits. Depending on the results of the survey and research work, an excavation of the site may take place before the Calder Highway is widened onto the site.

Another woman vying for a place on the five dollar note is Mrs Bladen-Neill, president of the Victorian Ladies Sericultural Association. The association was set up in the 1870s to promote silk-worm farming throughout the state and provide employment for women either on farms or as part of a cottage industry. The association was based at Mount Alexander in Victoria.

The site of the silk worm farm is set in a pine plantation and is reasonably well preserved with one standing structure, and remnants of at least two others. The site has been surveyed by Cath Snelgrove, Anna Halafoff, Eleanor Casella and Iain Stuart. Cath Snelgrove is running the project and hopes to have the history together soon.

Dana Mider, Siobhan Lavelle and Marie Fels might not all fit on the five dollar note but they're after a note each with their mammoth efforts on the Central Activities District Project. Marie has completed the historical research which includes an extensive collection of historic maps charting the development of the city of Melbourne.

Dana finished the field work some time ago and she and Siobhan have documented a vast number of sites. Approximately 75% of the CAD appears to have been too heavily developed for archaeological deposits to have survived although

there are a considerable number of remnant structures.

The results of the project will be an inventory of all sites and areas of potential in a standard format, and a management strategy will be formulated to protect the resource. The work should be completed by September this year.

Contact Archaeology

There are also two contact projects running in the Historical Archaeology Unit at the moment. Meg Goulding is doing the Aboriginal Places Project. This project aims to document places of importance to Aboriginal people which post-date 1834. Such places might include where people were born or where they worked, mission stations and other such sites.

Meg's project will provide an educational and historic resource for Aboriginal communities as well as for VAS. The project is being funded by a National Estate Grant and runs for 48 weeks.

David Rhodes has just completed his report on the Aboriginal Protectorate station at Franklinford. He has now begun work on the Ramahyuck station in Gippsland. The area of the mission was gazetted as the Lake Wellington Aboriginal Reserve in 1863 and the mission ran until 1908.

David will be producing an architectural and social history of the site as well as surveying the remains of the cemetery which contains the graves of both Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people. Although there are some remains of the mission station itself, VAS has not been able to get permission from the present landowners to work on their properties. It is hoped that multi-spectral scanning or infra-red photography may show up some of the remains in the areas where we have not been granted access.

The project will run for fourteen weeks and is funded by a National Estate Grant.

Maritime News

The Maritime Archaeology Unit has been busy moving the Time and Tide exhibition from the Melbourne Living Museum of the West to the Museum of Victoria where it will stay until November. The exhibition marks the 150th anniversary last year of the wrecking of the *William Salthouse*. Two galleries show why ships become wrecks and how they break up, as well as

illustrating the processes and value of maritime archaeological work. Booklets about the exhibition are available from VAS for a cost of \$5.00.

Also on the maritime scene, The Underwater Shipwreck Discovery Trail Kit was launched on the 11th of August. The kit contains 21 history sheets on individual wrecks around the state and 21 dive sheets which include details about how to get to the sites. It is designed to be used on board pleasure and charter boats and is available at a cost of \$45.00. It was compiled with funding from the Department of Arts, Sport, Environment and Territories and the project was supervised by Shirley Strachan.

Western Australia

Martin Gibbs and Dr Peter Veth led a group of 17 students on an excavation of Shenton's Mill. The 1835 windmill, which is still standing, was used until the 1860s after which it was used as a tea gardens. Although the excavations found foundations from some out-buildings, most of the archaeological remains relate to the Tea Gardens era (1880s). The archaeological project was conducted as part of an overall conservation plan for the Mills site.

Professor Sandra Bowdler has excavated a pearler's camp at Shark Bay. The camp dated from around 1860 to 1880 and relates to the earliest phase of the pearl industry in Western Australia.

THE GOOD WORD

Richardson, R. *Death, Dissection and the Destitute*, 1989, London, Penguin Books.

This book is of great interest to all archaeologists. Firstly, as the book deals with the notions and concepts of death in early nineteenth century England, it is of great interest to historical archaeologists (and historians) working on cemeteries and burials.

A second, broader interest, emerges when the continuing debate about the disposal of Aboriginal skeletal remains is considered. The arguments about the scientific importance of Aboriginal skeletal remains parallels that used by the Medical Profession for obtaining, against strong public

opinion, bodies for dissection. Underpinning the debate is a similar power relationship.

Richardson begins her study with three chapters discussing death and death ritual and beliefs, the need for corpses for dissection, and the transformation of the corpse into a commodity (for sale on the black market). Richardson notes that for most people (including anatomists) dissection represented a mutilation of the body in the present and eternity. Indeed dissection was a punishment for murder, murderers were sentenced to be hung then dissected.

But the supply of corpses from the gallows was much less than the demand and this led to body snatching and burking (murdering someone for sale to the anatomists). Anatomists vied for the corpses of unique specimens such as O'Brien the "Irish Giant" whose body was purchased for £500 despite O'Briens's wish to be buried at sea. Eventually public outrage at body snatching and anatomists dislike of being involved in the body trade lead to legislation.

However the form of legislative solution Richardson argues was more an attack against the working class that a resolution of the dispute. For the Anatomy Act, passed in 1832, allowed unclaimed bodies from the Hospitals and Workhouses to be sold for dissection (in part repayment of "charity"). The drafting and passage of the Anatomy Act and subsequent actions occupies the rest of the book.

In reading the book I kept thinking of the Tasmanian Aborigines and William Crowther. Clearly Crowther and the other "scientists" were not isolated cases but part of an on-going medical tradition that put "science" above human dignity.

At the end of my reading I felt I knew more about the history of human reactions to death and burial and the need to understand these and respect contemporary views on the issue.

Other Publications

Archaeological Investigations of the City Link Development Site, Footscray

Andrew Wilson with contributions by Dr Damaris Bairstow, Dana Mider and Barbara Fitzroy. A4 sized, soft cover, 110pp interleaved with copious illustrations, maps and plans.

Cost \$10 plus \$5 postage in Australia.

City Link was Melbourne's second large scale urban excavation. The work centered on three sites; the Bridge Hotel, the Prickett Cottage and the Stanley Arms Hotel. The latter site proved to contain the remains of Footscray's earliest building, the Victoria Hotel. The excavation of each site is discussed in detail in separate chapters and there is a brief outline of the nature of the project and the archaeological methods used.

The excavation yielded 201,767 artefacts which weighed 2,050,328.5 grams and were stored in 13,353 bags in 72 storage boxes. The database on which this report was produced contains 2.2 million pieces of information. The analysis alone required the manipulation, production and assessment of 101,043,220 separate pieces of information (information courtesy of Cecil B. de Wilson).

It is rare for reports from major excavations to be made available to the broader archaeological public. The detailed Appendices containing all the site data are available on special order from VAS for \$175 a set (approximately 1500 pages). Copies of the City Link report are available from,

Mary Cahir
City of Footscray
P.O. Box 58
Footscray 3011
Victoria.

Public History Review - a new journal

Public history is history which involves and affects many people from different backgrounds, not just historians. It is history subject to the demands of politics, budgets, and deadlines, and appears in a variety of forms for different audiences. *Public History Review* is the first Australian journal to focus exclusively on the role of history in Museums, Heritage planning, communities and the Media. Issue No 1 will be available in October 1992 and the articles to be featured include:

Richard Flanagan - Wilderness and history

Iain Stuart - Historical archaeology and history

Ian McShane - Order in Old Parliament House

Margaret Anderson - Gender and Heritage

Ken Taylor and Jon Winston-Gregson - Cultural Landscapes as a historical resource

Sue Rosen - Luna Park: fantasy, fear and public fiction

Reviews of books, exhibitions, films and heritage projects.

Public History Review is published annually by the Professional Historians Association of NSW. 1, 2 or 3 year subscriptions are available.

Subscriptions

1992 \$18
1993 \$32
1994 \$48

Make out your cheque to the Professional Historians Association of NSW and send it to *Public History Review*, c/o School of Humanities, University of Technology Sydney, P.O. Box 123, Broadway, NSW, 2007.

Poets Corner

It is not often you get the opportunity to publish really exceptional poetry. However this poem was given to me as an explanation for the vegetation at a grave site near Bendigo. I thought I had to share it with you.

From, "Dear Old Bendigo" by Thomas Bracken
1892

A GRAVE IN THE BUSH "LILLIAN"

In a forest far away
One small creeklet day by day
Murmurs only this sad lay-
"Peace be with thee, Lillian"

One old box-tree bends his head,
One broad wattle shades her bed,
One lone magpie mourns the dead
"Peace be with thee, Lillian"

Echoes come on every breeze,
Singing through the ancient trees,
Whispering in their melodies-
"Peace be with thee, Lillian"

Mystic midnight voices melt
Through each leafy bower and beth
Round the spot where friends have knelt
"Peace be with thee, Lillian"

When the summer moon mounts high
Queen of all the spickless sky,
Sheaves of silver softly lie
O'er the grave of Lillian

When the dying blossoms cling
To the skirts of parting
Spring Wattle corsos softly fling
Rich perfume o'er Lillian

Dear old forest, wild and free,
Home of Nature's euphony,
Pour thy requiem psalmody
O'er the grave of Lillian.

Guard that daisy girted sod,
Thou has there no common clod,
Keep her ashes safe, for God
Makes but few like Lillian

Sceptics ask me if that day
In the forest far away
Is part of her? I only say
Flowers breathe out Lillian

From her grave their sweets mount high
Love and beauty never die
Sun, moon and stars, earth sea and sky
All partake of Lillian

Editorial

My second issue seems a lot easier than the first, although I am not making as much trouble to touch base with everyone for news items this time due to time constraints. The most difficult thing after getting the labels and the mailing list together was the mail out. The Australia Post, Print Post rules are unbelievable! However with Dana's help things got sorted out.

One thing I did notice was that the mailing list was in a bit of a mess. If your name is misspelt, your postcode is wrong or you've moved house could

you let the ASHA Secretariat know so the records can be upgraded.

Victoria was briefly visited by Professor Lewis Binford who gave a public lecture on the History of Anthropology and then an informal discussion on archaeology, at Monash University. I found Binford's lecture (which was a cogent attack on some aspects of "post-modernism") very interesting and, given his written work, very lucid and accessible.

Binford of course has had a long history of involvement in historical archaeology which includes the now famous "Binford formula for dating clay pipes". He is still interested in historical archaeology and when questioned argued for archaeologists to do archaeology and address archaeological questions rather than trying to become historians. In all it was a very interesting day.

I would like to thank: Peter Bell, Kristal Buckley, Matthew Campbell, Mary Casey, Eleanor Cassella, Martin Gibbs, Denis Gojak, Siobhan Lavelle, Tony Lowe, Angie McGowan, Dana Mider, Neville Ritchie Cath Snelgrove, Mark Staniforth and of course Skerrick.

The Archaeology of Chinese Settlement in Australia and New Zealand:A Preliminary Biography

Peter Bell, along with Gordon Grimwade and Neville Ritchie, is compiling a bibliography of sources helpful to the archaeological study of Chinese settlement in Australia and New Zealand.

This is a modest part-time project which is aimed at creating an immediately useful research tool listing sources identified in the bibliographies of existing publications, theses and reports, library catalogues and databases.

It concentrates on sources helpful to the study of material culture and physical manifestations of settlement. However polemic articles and studies of a political nature are included where they provide a general background to Chinese settlement in a region.

General histories containing a brief or incidental mention of Chinese are not included. Local, thematic and regional histories are included where the Chinese played a substantial role in the industry or the settlement of the district.

Bulky sources such as newspapers or archival sources which contain scattered references to Chinese are not included. Individual sources of particular value will be included.

Background works on aspects of culture in China are not included. Works published in Australia on Chinese settlement in other countries have been included.

Peter is concerned to make available to researchers the body of archaeological reports, heritage surveys, conservation plans and environmental impact studies that are generally not widely available. Publication of the bibliography will occur in a widely circulated medium such as the *ASHA Research Bulletin*.

If you have anything to offer please contact

Dr Peter Bell
State Heritage Branch,
Department of Environment and Planning
P.O. Box 667
Adelaide 5001
S. A.

Phone (08) 207 2390
Fax (08) 207 2490

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS etc

Questions of Context: Documentary sources and the Archaeology of Historic Australia.

Twelfth Annual ASHA Conference, 9-11 November 1992

The National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour, Sydney.

The major theme of the conference is the relationship between documentary sources and the physical archaeological data. This covers all phases of a project, whether text-prompted or field-prompted, whether textually rich or textually starved, whether documents are publicly or individually generated.

Currently sessions on Aboriginal-European interaction, European pastoral landscapes, international perspectives, gender, industrial archaeology, ethnicity and urban archaeology are being offered. A large number of speakers from around Australia as well as three from the USA have confirmed their attendance.

Costs are; for the full session \$100 for members \$125 non-members and \$50 for students. Daily rates are \$35 members, \$50 non-members and \$20 students. The Annual Dinner which are usually memorable affairs is \$25.

The costs include morning and arvo tea but not lunch.

Enquiries and offers of papers to:

ASHA Conference Conveners,
Box 220 Holme Building,
University of Sydney,
NSW 2006.

Further details will be mailed out to ASHA Members.

Shipwrecks and Community - Accessing Underwater Cultural Heritage

Eleventh Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology Annual Conference, 13-18 November 1992

The National Maritime Museum, Darling Harbour, Sydney.

The conference will bring together speakers from Australia and overseas particularly the Asia-Pacific region. The topics will focus on methods of making underwater heritage accessible to the general public through publicity, publications, education programs and museum displays.

Several of the world's leading Maritime Archaeologists will be attending the conference including;

Dr Margaret Rule, Director of Research and Interpretation at the *Mary Rose* Museum at Portsmouth.

Professor George Bass, well known Maritime Archaeologist from the USA.

Larsake Karning, Director of the *Vasa* Museum in Sweden.

Adi Haji Taha, Director of Antiquities at the National Museum in Malaysia.

The conference promises to be the largest gathering of maritime archaeologists in Australia in more than a decade. As well as more than a dozen overseas speakers, the conference will bring together maritime archaeologists from the Asia-

Pacific Region and all Australian States.

In addition the National Maritime Museum intends to have a series of slide talks, films and workshops in the ANZ theatre on Saturday and Sunday 14/15 November. These will allow members of the public to see the results of some of the world's most exciting archaeological excavations and to meet some of the world-famous archaeologists involved.

For further details contact

Mark Staniforth
Curator of Maritime Archaeology,
Australian National Maritime Museum,
GPO BOX 5131,
Sydney NSW 2001

Ph 02 5527715, Fax 02 660 0729

Australian ICOMOS

Whose Cultural Values?

21 and 22 November 1992

Wharf 9 Pyrmont, Sydney

The conference, entitled *Whose Cultural Values?* will tackle the difficult issue of competing cultural values in the context of conservation planning, an issue which is becoming increasingly important in many conservation projects. The conference promises to be provocative and stimulating and will explore the nature of cultural significance to peoples of different cultural backgrounds. In particular it will draw in speakers from around Australia and the Asia-Pacific Region.

The four themes of the conference are:

- * Conserving Relics from Major Historic Events
- * Identifying and conserving World Heritage
- * Preserving Living Cultural Practices
- * Site Planning and Management

The ICOMOS Conference is timed to co-incide with the Sydney meetings of the governing body of international ICOMOS.

For further details contact:

Katrina Proust,
Conference Secretary,
Australia ICOMOS
P.O. Box 306,
Kings Cross, NSW 2011
ph. (02) 357 4811
fx. (02) 357 4603

ASHA Constitution

Revision of the constitution arose from difficulties experienced in the conduct of the 1990 elections and AGM. At that meeting the incoming committee was asked to review the Constitution.

The 1991 AGM saw a lively debate about the proposed new constitution. While strong support was expressed for the overall concept, concern was voiced about a range of specific issues. These matters have been addressed and a revised constitution was circulated to members in the last ASHA Newsletter (Autumn 1992).

The current draft constitution has been prepared by the Constitutional Sub-Committee and reflects the wishes of the membership as expressed. The membership is urged to vote in favour of its adoption at the 1992 ASHA AGM.

Clause 2(j) "The Society" change to read "the Society"

Clause 3 Line 3 'conductive' to read 'conducive'

Clause 24, clause 30 and Clause 57 "not later than" to read "no more than"

Clause 26 "Article 27" to read "Article 17"

Clause 40 to read "A meeting of members may by special resolution remove any elected officer or member of the National Committee from office before expiration of the Officer's term and by ordinary resolution appoint another member to hold office or to be a member of the National Committee until the expiration of the term of office of the Officer so removed".

Clause 60 to read "All other business transacted at an annual general meeting and all business transacted at other meetings of members, (other than business listed in clause 59), shall be deemed special business".

Clause 76(b) "many" to read "may"

Clause 77 "intermation" to read "information"

Clause 77(a) add "it" to the beginning of the clause.

Clause 77(b) "Corporate Affairs commission" to read "Department of consumer Affairs".

Clause 86 missnumbered as 96 in the draft.

Berkeley in the Bush

by Eleanor Casella

When I decided to join Sydney University's Central Australia Archaeology Extravaganza, I had no idea of the adventures in store for me. As an innocent abroad, a city-girl from UC Berkeley, a traveller from the land of "Drive on the Right," I experienced many new and wonderful things. Landing in the Alice Springs airport, I found Crocodile Dundee running the shuttle to "the city." All dressed-up for Yank tourists, he offered to pose for happy snaps (two dollars per picture). Along the way to the Maluka Lodge, where I was to meet Judy Birmingham, Croc gave a tour of "Historic Alice", which seemed to consist of his memories of parties at the numerous caravan parks. Eventually we arrived at the Maluka, where I negotiated with the barmaid for a "red tinnie" (West End I think), and wedged myself into the Sydney University Land Cruiser, which already contained six folks, their personal gear, tents, food, more personal gear, survey equipment, excavation equipment, and still more personal gear.

We had driven south-west from Alice for about an hour, when Andrew Wilson, captain of this motley landship, suddenly turned off the road into a ditch, and began chugging through the red sand. "The road to Boggy Hole," he explained as I wondered at this detour to nowhere. And after two more hours, with Michael-the-undergrad eagerly hopping out of the Landcruiser at every pause to ask if he could "let air out of the tires, oh please, oh please," we arrived at the site, or at least they told me we'd reached the site, because I was still

busy looking for the road.

Our location was spectacular. We camped next to Boggy Hole, site of a culturally and historically significant Police Shed, along the bank of the Finke River. Only in the Northern Territory would such a geomorphological feature be termed "a river," for other than Boggy Hole, not a drop of water was in sight. Nonetheless, swimming in Boggy Hole was quite an experience, once my body numbed from the shock of intensely cold muddy water. Schools of fish inhabited Boggy Hole; Judy called them "Star-Spangled Grunters," but I think it was a Yank-joke. The dingo sextet serenaded us every morning, between 3 and 4am, songs about their joy at finding new garbage to devour. And a triplet of black swans (Andrew called it an "Adelaide marriage") floated around Boggy Hole, providing us all with picture-perfect moments (no price attached).

We enjoyed three blissful weeks of isolation. On the afternoon of my last day in Central Australia, while Andrew and I drove along that which I could finally accept as a road, we happened upon a motley caravan of pilgrims seeking the "true Australian experience." A woman broke from the group and approached our vehicle. "Is that a dingo? Or is it your pet dog?" She asked me, displaying a distinctly Californian twang. "I'm a geologist at a little school near San Francisco called UC Berkeley, and I'm simply fascinated with your Australian wildlife."

And I looked at myself in the rear-view mirror, and realized that Berkeley had truly entered the Bush.

ASHA Conference 9 to 11 November 1992

Yes, I'm coming to AHSA. (I wouldn't miss it for quids).

Despite warnings, I am going to the Annual Dinner as well.

I would like to give a paper!

enclosed is a cheque for \$_____

Details of the various costs are on page 9.

Please make all cheques or money orders payable to ASHA

Australian Society for Historical Archaeology Inc.
Notice of 1992 Annual General Meeting

The 1992 Annual General Meeting of the Australian Society for Historical Archaeology Inc. will be held on the 10th November 1992 at 8.45 am (The second day of the ASHA Conference) at the Australian National Maritime Museum, Sydney.

The meeting will be held under the rules of the current ASHA Constitution. A major topic of discussion will be the adoption of a new constitution (which was circulated with the last Newsletter and some amendments are made in this issue).

Members are invited to place other matters on the agenda or special resolutions to be voted on at the AGM. Please forward these directly to the Secretary (Denis Gojak).

Nominations for the ASHA Committee are called for.

If you have any questions regarding the procedures outlined here please contact either the President Judy Birmingham (on (02) 3894413 H or (02) 692 2763 W) or the Secretary Denis Gojak (on (02) 517 2410 H or (02) 585 6469 W).

Nominations to the 1992-93 ASHA Committee

Candidates for nomination must complete the form below or provide the relevant details to the Returning Officer at the ASHA Postal Address by 5pm on Friday, 25th September 1992.

I.....
of State

wish to nominate for the following position(s):

- President
- Vice President (2)
- Treasurer
- Hon Secretary
- Ordinary Committee

Signed..... Date.....

Two supporting signatures are required for each nomination, the nominee and signatories must be financial members.

Nominated by:

Name..... Name.....

Signature..... Signature.....

Date..... Date.....

Denis Gojak
Hon. Secretary
24 August 1992

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University of Sydney 2006
Phone (02) 6922763 Fax (02) 6924203

Vale: Victoria Archaeological Survey, 1972 to 1992

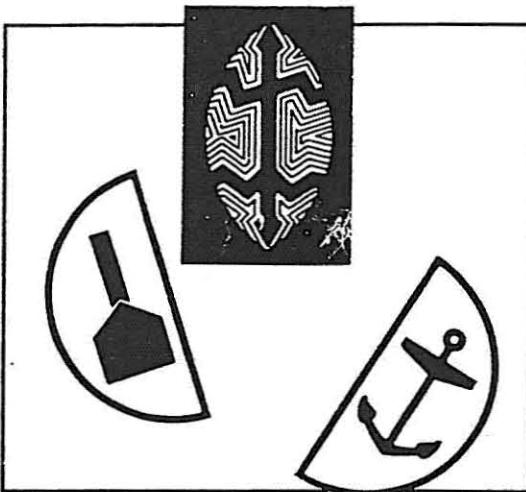
Archaeologists will be saddened at the sudden death, at such a young age, of VAS.

I first met VAS while I was a Prehistory student at La Trobe University, in 1976. We had a lecture or tutorial from Dr Peter Coutts who told us about VAS and the marvellous Summer Schools that we could go on. I signed up and I first met VAS in December 1976 at Yambuck in Western Victoria. Since then VAS has been such a part of my life, it is difficult to see quite what will follow. Certainly nothing quite as unique as VAS was.

I learned much from VAS particularly in the area of field work (La Trobe being new had no established fieldwork program). But it wasn't only field work, from Dan Witter I learned Binford, cultural ecology and stone tools. He gave his time to help me (and several others) and I gave my time to VAS, to count rocks and shells. Quite a lot has been said about Peter Coutts but at least he set up VAS in 1972 and guided it through the early years of its existence. He gave me and several others, the opportunity to learn archaeological skills, which were not widely taught at Universities.

Over the ten years at VAS, I've had a chance to work at almost everything there is to do at VAS. It was an interesting place to work with its own particular culture. Who will remember the Summer Schools (they were fun as a student, worse when you were on staff trying to run them)? Who found nothing at Corinella? The panel hearings, the VAS Planning Course? Who was the original slimy turd? Why did Ken Mulvaney get the tea pot? Who almost drowned the Governor? Does anyone have a complete set of VAS publications?

With its three units focusing on Aboriginal, Historical and Maritime archaeology, VAS was unique as a CRM unit in Australia. But as a unit VAS also I think suffered from isolation from whatever Department it lived in. The strength of VAS was its collection of staff and the strong collegiate support it provided. But that also created the distance between VAS and others who had to make decisions on land management.



Towards the end VAS was bounced around the Public Service with numerous changes in external administration which made it hard to settle down and build those all important networks between VAS and its clients. Internally there were also tensions between various units over what the role of VAS should be. In the last two years VAS tried to heal itself through the process of developing a corporate plan. But ironically the "corporate brochure" explaining the plan arrived on the morning of VAS's death.

VAS's death, in November 1992, was a shock to most of its staff. VAS left a legacy of solid professional work (which many people do not realise exists) that has defined archaeology in Victoria. There is also a huge pile of paper.

In a sense VAS may have lived overly long and perhaps a change in structure will help CRM archaeology adjust to the challenges that the 1990's will bring forward. However, I will take a long time to get used to answering the phone, Historical and Maritime Unit, Aboriginal Affairs Victoria.

Iain Stuart

THE STATE OF THE ART

New South Wales

The Observer Hotel, The Rocks

The archaeological investigation of the Observer Hotel, George Street, exposed the cellar of the 1844 Watermans Arms, as well as a substantial box drain. Both these structures have been incorporated into the restored hotel complex by the Sydney Cove Authority, and it reopens shortly. They are protected and displayed with accompanying explanatory notes. The project was carried out by Tony Lowe, with assistance from Sarah Dillane and Brett Noble.

The Jobbins Building

Excavation of rear yards of the Jobbins Building, terraces at 105-111 Gloucester Street, has just concluded. It was carried out by Jane Lydon, Brett Noble and a number of volunteers. A long-term conservation program has commenced with these buildings, and aims to conserve and lease all extant structures on the site. Replacement of floorboards in one house during stage 1 was preceded by investigation of sub-floor deposits by Ted Higginbotham, which produced evidence of its occupation.

The allotments are in the earliest-settled area of the Rocks, as evidenced by the first views of Sydney Cove, which show rows of houses probably erected by convicts, free settlers and officers 'squatting' unofficially (eg Thomas Watling ca.1800). They were detached and built of flimsy materials such as cabbage tree palm and wattle and daub.

The allotment was officially granted to ex-convict John Jobbins in 1839, and in ca.1855 the extant terrace was constructed in Greek Revival style. It was tenanted until 1986. It is bounded on the south by Longs Lane, and west by Carahers Lane. While the area was renowned for overcrowding, especially during the urban expansion of the 1870s and 1880s, these dwellings were well-built and occupied by long-term tenants of some means, such as Ann Lewis, boarding-house proprietor between 1863-73.

The excavation produced evidence of the following phases:

1. Collapsed brick drain leading from a building now under Carahers Lane. Earthenware

shards were recovered, of the kind thought possibly to have been made locally, and found in pre-1830 contexts elsewhere in Sydney.

2. A timber structure indicated by post holes and decayed timber beams. Vertical posts and horizontal piers would have provided a framework for flimsier partitions. A packed dirt floor was used. More earthenware shards were recovered.

3. pre-1823

Evidence of an L-shaped building dating before 1823, when it first appears on a plan, was recovered in the form of roughly shaped sandstone blocks resting on bedrock, bonded with a crude mud mortar with large shell fragments.

4. 1854-58

A substantial rectangular structure was built and used as stables.

5. pre-1865

The earliest levels of a cesspit sealed in 1865 produced a large quantity of intact domestic refuse, including bottles, vessels, shoes, toys, cutlery, seeds, bone, personal items etc. These can be related to Ann Lewis' boarding-house.

6. 1865

The area's notoriously bad sewerage was updated, evidenced by massive trenches cut though bedrock in several areas.

7. ca.1885-97

The rectangular structure was used as stables by Sydney Smith, cab proprietor (1885-97). Two doorways were exposed, dramatically worn by long use, as well as a worn cobbled yard surface. Smith had access from Longs Lane and paid more rent.

8. ca.1900-1920

The stables were converted into outbuildings, and the yard was asphalted during the occupation of the Monaghan family grocery. The artefact analysis commenced in September.

Heritage Centre

Research on The Rocks Heritage Centre, due to open next May, is in progress. This work is being carried out by Nadia Iacono.

New Zealand

Otago University is undertaking several excavations on historic sites over the summer months. In November, Matthew Campbell will be

furthering his research into early whaling stations with an excavation at the site of the Waikouaiti station, about 30 km north of Dunedin. Founded in 1837 this was one of the longest operating stations, and preliminary assessment suggests that there has been little disturbance of the archaeological remains.

During early December, Dinah Higham will excavate at Baird's Hotel in the remote Ida Valley. The site was an isolated 'roadhouse' on one of the first coach roads into Central Otago. It was occupied for a brief period in the 1860's, and is being investigated as part of Dinah's M.A. thesis research into the archaeology of coach transport between Dunedin and the Central Otago goldfields.

In February 1993 Peter Bristow will excavate some hut sites and possible tent sites on the Campbell's Creek goldfield near Alexandra as part of his M.A. thesis research into settlement patterns on the remote goldfields of Central Otago. One objective of this investigation is to test some of the commonly held assumptions about differences in the form and location of the dwellings of Chinese and European miners.

South Australia

Heritage catches the Victorian Disease

The new Arnold Cabinet has brought a plague of restructuring upon the South Australian Public Service. The Department of Environment and Planning has regressed into something like its two pre-1981 components, with the euphonious acronyms DELM (Department of Environment and Land Management) and OPUD (Office of Planning and Urban Development). Aboriginal Heritage has been combined with Aboriginal Affairs to form an agency called Heritage, Land and Community Relations, a title admired by public service cognoscenti for its almost Canberrian pomposity. The State Heritage Branch fell headlong into the space between the two portfolios, and for two months has reported to the Minister of ELM, but has been "administered" within OPUD, a working relationship whose fruitfulness some like to being appointed Methodist chaplain to the Vatican. To resolve this less than satisfactory situation someone in high places came up with the notion of splitting the Branch, with its conservation functions, including research and site management, going to DELM, while its development control functions go to OPUD. At this point public uneasiness at the process began to manifest itself. At the time of going to press the

latest development was a proposal for an independent enquiry into the functions of the Branch and its administrative structure, so there is hope for a sensible outcome.

Industrial Archaeology comes to town

South Australia has recently had a swarm of visiting historical archaeologists, mostly of the industrial persuasion. Angus Buchanan from the University of Bath was in Adelaide in late September to speak at the Institution of Engineers, and Robert Schuyler of the University of Pennsylvania gave a lecture at Flinders University in November. Patrick and Susan Martin from the Michigan Technological University are visiting for several months to do preliminary survey work on nineteenth century copper mining settlements. In early October Ian Jack paid us a brief call to look at some local iron smelting sites, and later Kate Holmes dropped in to do some documentary research on Arltunga.

Maritime Archaeology

Sarah Kenderdine has just finished a year long archaeological survey of wrecks and other sites associated with shipping in the River Murray, funded by the Murray Darling Basin Commission. Robert McKinnon's survey of shipwrecks around the coast of Kangaroo Island is complete, and the survey will move on to the adjacent mainland coast early in the new year.

A Bill for an Act....

South Australia's draft Heritage Bill has been released for public comment. Its provisions for archaeological permits were mentioned in an earlier column. The Bill is expected to go to Parliament in the autumn session as part of a package with the Development Bill and the Environment Protection Bill. The most far-reaching innovation of the new legislation is the creation of local heritage registers to be administered by Councils within their Development Plan.

Tasmania

Archaeological and historical investigations

The Department of Parks Wildlife and Heritage

(DPWH) is undertaking planning for Visitor Services Sites around the periphery of the World Heritage Area. Brett Noble has been appointed to undertake the investigations of these sites which includes assessment of the historic tin mining settlement at Melaleuca, investigation of the 1940s Trailside Museum at Cradle Valley and recording the remains of early logging industry at Liffey.

DPWH has obtained National Estate Grant Project funding to undertake two history survey projects: the "Hop Industry" and "Whaling and Sealing". By the time you read this a project officer should be appointed.

Don Ranson and Mike Nash (DPWH), Rob Mitcheltree (RMTT) and Iain Stuart (VAS) used a proton gradiometer and a resistivity array in a recent search for the mass burial site for the passengers of the *Cataraqui*. The wreck of the *Cataraqui* in 1854 was one of Australia's worst maritime disasters. The remote sensing noted an ambiguous target in the predicted area and further work is needed to clarify this.

IXL Factory complex, Hunter Street, Hobart: Michael Jones has undertaken excavations in the rear courtyard of the IXL complex. The area is largely reclaimed land and being associated with the earliest European settlement of Hobart had high archaeological potential. These works were necessitated by paving and drainage behind the complex.

C.H. Smith Building, Launceston: Martin Davies (DPWH) has investigated and prepared a significance assessment of the late 1850/early 1860 buildings at this site to identify what is significant and what should be retained in any future development. The site has been under threat from a new bus terminal but is now to be retained and holding works will be undertaken.

Surveys and projects

Anne McConnell, Senior Archaeologist with the Forestry Commission, reports that the Historic sites Inventory Project has recently been completed. Three regional reports prepared by Project Officers Lindy Scripps, Denise Gaughwin and David Parham are available from Anne:

L. Scripps. 1990 NW Tasmania Historic Sites Inventory Project, Unpublished report to the Forestry Commission, Tasmania.

D. Gaughwin. 1991 NE Tasmania Historic

sites Inventory Project, Unpublished report to the Forestry Commission.

D. Parham. 1992 SE Tasmania Historic Sites Inventory Project, Unpublished report to the Forestry Commission.

The Archaeology of the Timber Industry project is continuing, but is currently in recess, while project archaeologist Parry Kostoglou is away.

The Lyell-Denison Goldfields Heritage Study is still in progress. Forestry Commission Project Officer Cos Coroneos is due to complete it by the end of this year.

Denise Gaughwin is currently busy with fieldwork recording sites relating to the extractive industries of mining and timber in north east Tasmania. She has received a grant of \$2,600 from the Tasmanian Forestry Research Council to assist with the fieldwork and the Forestry Commission have made available staff to assist with the recording. The sites are being recorded as part of her PhD in the Department of Classical and Near Eastern Studies at the University of Melbourne.

Conservation

The Mountain Huts Preservation Society (MHPS) has been given permission to reconstruct a hut on the site of the Ironstone Hut at Lake Nameless in the Central Plateau. A draft Conservation Plan for the hut site, which now comprises ruined dry stone walls about a metre high, recommended that the ruins be conserved through a program of routine maintenance and that if emergency shelter were again required in this area that this be provided through the construction of a new hut away from the site in order to avoid disturbing the historic ruins. Following representations from MHPS, who wished to build a reconstruction on the site, the issue was referred to the World Heritage Area Consultative Committee. The Committee felt that the original Conservation Plan had not paid enough attention to the social value of reconstructing a hut on the actual site and recommended that interested volunteers and DPWH undertake the reconstruction. The existing remains, which represent the best surviving example of a rare construction technique for bush huts in Tasmania, will be thoroughly recorded this summer prior to being dismantled in preparation for the reconstruction.

A draft Conservation Plan for Dixons Kingdom Hut in the Walls of Jerusalem National Park has now been completed and is on display for public

comment. The principal recommendations of the draft Plan are that various recent additions be removed and that the hut be maintained as a public shelter.

Forthcoming events

The Tasmanian Arts Industry Training Board is undertaking a survey of local heritage training needs. A brief Discussion Paper entitled "Defining the Heritage Industry" is available from the Training Development Executive, TAITB, 77 Salamanca Place, Hobart, 7001. Watch out for training opportunities in Tasmania in the future.

Victoria

The Historical Archaeological Unit at Aboriginal Affairs has been finishing up a number of projects as the year has drawn to a close.

The Ramahyuck Aboriginal Mission survey and history are almost complete. David Rhodes is due to hand in the first draft of the report just before Christmas. The report should provide some interesting reading as well as useful comparative material with other mission stations around Victoria.

The Central Activities District Archaeological Management Plan project has just been completed by Siobhan Lavelle, Dana Mider and Marie Fels. This project has involved an extensive survey of the Central Activities District and has resulted in an inventory of potential archaeological sites. This will be able to be used as an early warning system about the presence of archaeological sites prior to major developments taking place in the heart of Melbourne.

Test excavations have been carried out by the HAU at the site thought to be a Caroline Chisholm shelter shed at The Gap, Sunbury. Unfortunately these failed to reveal any structural evidence of the shed. It is possible that the location which was recorded on an early plan is erroneous and further research will have to be done to check this.

Other survey work at The Gap has been conducted at the site believed to contain the remains of a nineteenth century inn. The site contains a stone lined cellar, the foundations of a small structure, a capped well and occupation debris such as 44 gallon drums. Further work will be done at this site in the New Year as it is likely to be destroyed by road works.

Test excavations were also conducted by the unit at "Woodbine", Port Fairy. Woodbine is a National Trust property once owned by Charles Mills. The excavations were conducted in the stable area where the addition of a roof was likely to damage archaeological deposits. A small amount of material was uncovered which is currently being catalogued.

In the new year a number of projects will be begun by the HAU. These include a standing structure analysis of the homestead "Pontville", a revision of the artefact catalogue system used by the HAU and the MAU, and completion of the archaeological work at Sunbury.

Western Australia

The continuing saga of the establishment of the W. A. Heritage Council continues. Many of you will have been aware of, and hopefully applied for the recently advertised Senior Conservation Officer positions. Given the lack of any person with even rudimentary knowledge of archaeological principles on the Heritage Council proper (despite nominations), the absence of a qualified archaeologist on staff is likely to result in a disastrous situation for archaeology in WA. Indeed the low level of heritage expertise currently represented on the Heritage Council makes it a dangerous body regardless of whatever discipline you would care to mention.

An example of the current direction of the Heritage Council was shown in the first issue of their Newsletter. On the rear cover was a photograph of the Northampton community happily digging out the interior and surrounds of their 1850's non-denominational church, possibly the oldest extant place of worship in the whole of the Midwest region. This was happily sanctioned by the Heritage Council under the rubric of "community participation", with a jaunty article raising the possibility that this is unlikely to be an isolated event.

Although there has been a very quiet (and certainly not publicly acknowledged) admission that there might have been a problem with this, there does not appear to have been any attempt to obtain an archaeological assessment of the damage inflicted nor any conservation requirements. The archaeological community in Western Australia waits with bated breath to see what happens.

CONFERENCES

With the conference season over there is little forthcoming to note save the 1993 ASHA which is to be held in South Australia. This issue contains some reports on several conferences so that those that were unable to attend at least have some idea of what occurred.

"Muddy Waters", Echuca 20-23 September 1992

The initial purpose of the *Muddy Waters* conference was to coordinate the heritage programs undertaken by South Australia, Victoria and New South Wales governments with respect to protection and management of historic shipwrecks and associated land based sites along the River Murray and its tributaries. With programs only recently undertaken or in the process of planning the integration of database information and interpretive programs between three states responsible for the heritage in one river system was perceived as a focus for proceedings.

Interest in the conference by many groups served to broaden the initial objectives of the meeting. *Muddy Waters* was used as a forum for communication between both local, state and federal governments and the local community on the river. It was the first conference to explore the unique issues raised by the practice of maritime archaeology in riverine conditions in Australia. It was an opportunity to bring together aspects of the dynamic history of the river from Aboriginal occupation, through European exploitation and development of historic shipping to present day concerns for the combined management of the River Murray environment and cultural heritage remains.

The papers presented at the conference came from a wide variety of sources. An overview of the river environment and the systems being established for the collation of geographical and heritage data established a framework for all papers that were to follow. Papers on the historical development of shipping on the river and an investigation on the shipbuilding trade in Goolwa provided a fascinating backdrop against which the archaeological sites could be interpreted. While government bodies detailed management programs, options and legislative protection, local groups offered insight into the practicalities of paddle steamer reconstruction. The methodology involved in the investigation of submerged sites within

South Australia formed as large component of the conference as the result of a project recently undertaken in the region.

The diverse subjects examined during the conference is a reflection of the growing trend to interpret heritage sites as part of a cultural landscape, to be viewed as a whole. Contributions were therefore welcomed on the conservation of Aboriginal burials, and on archaeological investigations conducted into economic activities that were distinct from yet contributed to historic shipping.

At the concluding session to the two days of papers there was expressed the strong need for another opportunity to further discussions between government and community with regard to heritage material that remains along the river. It is hoped that this challenge will be taken up as communication at all levels and the pooling of resources is the key to the successful protection of sites.

The third day of the conference was a field workshop involving the demonstration of remote sensing equipment and the location of submerged sites in muddy waters. This was a most successful day exploring some of the unique difficulties experienced in the practice of black water submerged site location.

Cooperation between the State Heritage Branch, Department of Environment and Land Management, South Australia and the Victoria Archaeological Survey, together with the Murray Darling Basin Commission helped make this conference a success. VAS generously donated the use of their boat together with operators for the field work sessions.

Sarah Kenderdine

Shipwreck and community

AIMA Conference, 13-18 November 1992

In mid November 1992 the Eleventh Annual Australian Institute of Maritime Archaeology (A.I.M.A.) Conference was held in Sydney.

The conference, co-hosted by The New South Wales Department of Planning and The Australian National Maritime Museum brought together over 70 practitioners from 11 countries for 6 days of lectures, workshops, public forums and the obligatory social events.

With an estimated 250,000 active sports divers in Australia the shipwreck resource is under threat, not only from looting but also from over use. The theme for this years A.I.M.A. conference was "Shipwrecks and Community", or how to sell the shipwreck resource to the people who use and pay for it (divers and non divers alike) without destroying that resource.

Amongst the speakers at this year's conference were three of the worlds leading gurus in maritime or underwater archaeology, Prof George Bass (Texas A & M University, U.S.A.), Dr Margaret Rule (*Mary Rose* Trust, England) and Lars-Ake Kvarning (*Vasa* Museum, Sweden).

George Bass (what a great last name for a maritime archaeologist) can be considered to be one of the grandfathers of maritime archaeology. Starting out as a classical archaeologist with an interest in early Bronze Age ships in 1960, he became responsible for the development of many of the techniques now used world wide in the excavation and interpretation of underwater sites.

In his paper, Bass illustrated the need for closer ties between archaeologists who specialise in shipping and shipwrecks, and other related disciplines, including classical and historical archaeology.

Margaret Rule, the director of Research and Interpretation for the *Mary Rose* Trust, was the archaeologist responsible for the excavation, recovery and continuing interpretation of the 16th Century English warship *Mary Rose*.

Dr Rule's paper concentrated on the theme of providing the maximum amount of information to the widest possible audience. During her work on the *Mary Rose* (England) and the *Hamilton* and *Scourge* (United States), Rule developed a live educational program which provided two way discussions between on-site archaeologists and their land based clients.

In the United States, five live broadcasts were made each day using a mixture of conventional video, colour still and computer enhanced black and white images. Students in classrooms across North America participated in the programs which were accompanied by extensive cross curricular classroom work before and after each broadcast, providing a cost effective method at interpreting the site to the largest possible audience.

Other papers presented at the conference examined the interpretation trail at the submerged city Caesarea in Israel, the academic, avocational and public education programs in south eastern United States and Canada along with the Australian experience.

Underwater shipwreck trails along with above water interpretation displays have now been established in Western Australia, Victoria and South Australia with an emphasis on protection of the past for the people of the future. The South Australian trail at Wardang Island has been nominated for a South Australian Tourism Award for excellence in Heritage Tourism.

One of the highlights of the conference was the two days of public lectures and forums held at the National Maritime Museum. During these sessions client groups had the opportunity to discuss with practitioners not only how they would like to see the resource interpreted but also their views on the future of Australian Historic Shipwreck legislation.

Next year's conference will be held in the later half of the year most likely September/October in Victoria.

Keiran Hosty

The 1992 ASHA Conference- an outsider's view.

9 -11 November 1992

Having just attended the 1992 ASHA Conference, the task of reviewing the event as a person from outside the Sydney-Melbourne axis seems to have fallen on my head. I can't really remember the circumstances under which I promised to write this, but let it be a lesson to future conference attendees that if you are going to share a floor with a newsletter editor, you just have to expect these things!

My personal assessment of the success of a conference revolves around two considerations; the quality (intellectual and otherwise) of the papers presented during the sessions, and; whether or not I had a good time (intellectual and otherwise) during the bits where we weren't in the conference room. For the reason that it is the shorter of the two categories, I will deal with the latter area first. If you want to get to the more serious bit, just skip the next few paragraphs.

First, my congratulations to the conference organisers and the hard working assistants for the smooth running of the whole operation. I really did have a good time. Darling Harbour was impressive (if one ignores the wholesale destruction of heritage required for its creation) in a very slick sort of way. The conference organiser's promise of food variety was more than fulfilled, and as a person with a penchant for fast food I was pretty happy with the arrangement. The conference dinner was a cheerfully sodden occasion, with a good range of conversations to crash into and the opportunity to have a relaxed talk to almost anybody (the adverb applying particularly to the heavily shepherded celebrity guests). Which brings me to the central point of this part of my review; almost the best social feature of this year's conference was the fact that we had a clearly identified pub to which we could all retire after the end of the day.

It doesn't even bear saying, although I will anyway, that the best deals in life are done over a glass of beer (cider/orange juice/coffee/Earl Grey). In the dozen or more conferences I have been to, some of the most worthwhile time spent, and often the whole reason I attend, is the relaxed exchange of news, information and ideas which comes at the end of the day. Being able to sit down and chat breaks down the barriers and creates the aura of bonhomie during which you can mull over the day's events and redefine the universe as we know it. But, to do this you must have a venue. A pub is good, because someone else is responsible for pouring the beer (cider/orange juice/coffee/Earl Grey). However, I think I would really prefer a situation where we can socialise and talk for as long as we like without having to be worried about the deadlines of 'closing time' the necessity of finding food, or of how we are going to negotiate our way home.

To get to the point, I am suggesting that ASHA tries using (and I'm sure you have all guessed what I'm going to say) a conference centre. I know there are some objections to this idea, but I think that for some (perhaps the further travelled) members, the benefits of getting to know and talk to our peers on an informal basis outweighs the other considerations. Another factor is that the somewhat diffuse social atmosphere at ASHA conferences as compared to, say, AAA (a comparison which I know some of you will find horrifying), makes them, how could you put it...bland. Maybe the last couple of years have been abnormal (this was only my second ASHA

conference), but if it isn't, I would really urge that we consider the options.

The second part of this report, looking at the papers and the nature of the sessions proper is a somewhat more difficult task. I was not unhappy with the diversity of the presentations, ranging as they did through the archaeology of landscapes, urban investigations, contact archaeology and the now almost notoriously titled "Archaeology of Ethnicity, Gender and Other Minorities" (subsequently changed to something more sound, possibly by the expedient of swapping the first two names around).

It is always interesting to have some foreign wisdom floating about, particularly when you get the chance to see whether the persons whose words you have read a hundred times can actually perform on their feet as well. I am not going to make a detailed analysis of their talks (I await their publication in the ASHA journal), although in picking through my notes there are points from each, not necessarily related to the main content of their presentations, which I will briefly raise.

Robert Schuyler's commentary during his self reflective bus tour of his childhood town stuck fairly close to the conference theme, looking at the nature and potential of available sources of data. We were eventually deposited at the idea that in contrast to Leone's search for disconformities, we should be looking at everything with the intention of creating an 'historic ethnography'. I certainly wasn't unhappy with this, although I must admit that I was a bit uncertain as to whether this was meant to be a revelation or a recapitulation.

Patrick Martin's paper opened with the cry that he was 'an empiricist, hopelessly befuddled by cultural materialism', a sentiment which automatically endeared this man to me. The main content of the paper was a familiar but still worthwhile cautionary tale about the uncritical use of non-archaeological data, nicely bounced off a backdrop of real live excavations. I probably need to hear one of these every year just to remind myself not to become a historian. However, my attention was most drawn to the statement that we must control the first order variables (such as economics), before we get stuck into the higher order variables (ideology, symbols, etc). I think this is a point which Australian historical archaeologists are really going to have to take to heart, before we get swept away with trying to prove to the Americans that we can spout big theories just as good (if not gooder) than they can.

In many respects the content of Mary Beaudry's paper lead on from Patrick's, with the alarming confirmation that American historical archaeologists appear increasingly reluctant to excavate as a means of obtaining their data. This is fairly obvious in the U.S. literature, which always leaves me feeling that a lot of the work presents interpretation (theory) as better than excavation (data), and falls into the category of material culture studies rather than archaeology (if you are in the mind to perceive that there is a difference). Anyway, I think the emphasis of the presentation was as much that we should embrace a diversity of other fields without losing the essence of being archaeologists. Although I forget the context, my favourite quote of the conference was Mary's statement to the effect that she approached her studies in "full ethnographic jacket", an expression which I am sure will re-appear in lecture halls across the country. (By the way, do we actually video tape or at least audio record the ASHA conferences? If not, why don't we?)

Although the more paranoid portions of my Australian brain fears the possibility of an American imperialist push into Australian historical archaeology, I must admit that I was pleased to hear much of what the international visitors had to say. In particular there is an opportunity to learn from the American experience and avoid both the methodological and theoretical pitfalls which appear to be afflicting them.

The Contact session easily emerges as the one which most captured my attention. In particular the paper presented by Henry Reynolds on the possibility of an unwritten treaty negotiated between Tasmanian Aboriginals and the European administration, with all of the implications for how the former may well have perceived and effected control over its running, was a wonderfully elegant presentation. But rather than look at the individual contributions, I think the session raises the issue

about how we are going to deal with contact sites.

This year both ASHA and AAA had relatively strong Contact sessions, and with this re-awakened interest I think we are about to see a race as to whether prehistory or historical archaeology lays claim to having the principal interest in the subject. As a converted prehistorian (hopefully with insights as to the strengths of each group), I feel that neither side has a particularly good grasp on dealing with the archaeological data valued by the other. In fact, each group appears relatively ignorant of what has been done by the other, and of all of the various nuances of analysis and interpretation which are available.

The need for an integrated approach to Contact sites is vital. Prehistorians desperately need insights into the processes of non-Aboriginal colonisation which create the Contact situation, as well as how to effectively use the vital documentary sources (something which was distinctly lacking in the AAA presentations). On the other hand, historical archaeology is unfamiliar with the processes of Aboriginal consultation (we must learn to ask permission to do this work) and the nature of prehistoric artefact assemblages so that we can actually understand the nature of the changes occurring. In particular, historical archaeology must raise its standards to the level of critical artefact analysis and data manipulation demanded by prehistorians. We both have a lot to learn, and I think it would stand us in good stead to be the ones to attempt to bridge the gap.

With great regret I must conclude this report and skip the other 80% of the conference. There were many papers throughout the rest of the sessions that stimulated my thought processes, and I must admit that by the end I had decided to revise several chapters of my thesis. In particular the papers presented by undergraduates were refreshing in their willingness to tackle everything from site specific questions to regional level

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patterns using a variety of theoretical standpoints. I hope that some of these themes are pursued into postgraduate studies and developed for wider application throughout Australasia. Our New Zealand colleagues once again provided several concise studies and an approach to the data which, quite frankly, I would be happy to see Australians follow.

I must end this report on a bit of a sour note, although I hasten to add that this is not necessarily the result of the conference or the individual papers. One of the reasons I attended ASHA this year was in the hope of informally discussing my Ph D research with various people and, more to the point of gaining access to a (now known to be mythical) body of unpublished artefact analyses. I was specifically hoping to establish what the acceptable approach was for presenting information, and hoping to gain access to comparative data through which I could put my own material into an Australian context. While (as I have already said) many people were kind enough to talk to me, I was more than a bit alarmed to find out that apart from a few dated, and not necessarily usable studies, no comparative analyses existed. I was gravely disappointed and somewhat embarrassed to have to return to my own university and the scrutiny of my prehistorian colleagues as empty handed as when I departed.

What this experience has done is to clarify in part (at least to me) why historical archaeology in Australia has continued to flounder along without any real direction and more or less without the respect from our prehistorian colleagues. Despite years of research, we have simply failed to establish the basis from which to compare our findings and advance beyond a site specific level. To put it simply, Australian historical archaeologists have a fundamental problem with generating meaningful data from their artefacts. The essence of this is a

misperception that description equals analysis. If it hasn't been pointed out previously comprehensive catalogues of ceramic fragments are not a substitute for properly quantified and presented data.

There are quite probably dozens of you who know what the artefact distribution and density around a mid-Nineteenth century urban domestic site will look like, as well as exactly what the expected range of materials in the assemblage will be. Why then have we failed to produce the graphs, tables and density diagrams with which to characterise this most common of sites? It may well be true that Australian sites can be seen in a global perspective, but first we must develop the means of seeing them in an Australian perspective.

We do not have to look far for a model of how to proceed beyond this point, hopefully not even beyond our own university departments. Australian prehistory has developed various conventions with regard to what and how data must be presented. Regardless of the site, somewhere in the report will be found at least the total artefact weight per excavation unit, as well as the total weights of the various major classes of material. In contrast, every historic site report is a new and exciting experience. It remains uncertain as to what, if anything, has been weighed, counted or measured, or in what form this may ultimately be presented. The absence of consistency makes comparative statements difficult, if not impossible. However, I think we can overcome this situation without any great difficulty.

I am fully aware that the last few paragraphs are not going to make me any friends, and at a later date I will probably have to answer for my transgression. In fact, I would be delighted for someone to prove me wrong at the next ASHA Conference, at which I propose we should have several "back to basics" sessions to thrash out this

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issue. I think it is vital that we temporarily put aside our pretensions towards theory and try to work out the methodological basis on which our empirical research should proceed. I look forward to the Adelaide conference and hope that we can expect an exciting and productive outcome.

Martin Gibbs

ASHA COMMITTEE

News from the President

At the first meeting of the National Committee for the year 1992-1993 an invitation to hold the Annual Conference for 1993 in Adelaide was gratefully accepted. It is likely that this will be in late September or early October.

There was also some discussion of an idea to hold regular meetings of the Society in Sydney. Agreement was reached to hold such meetings at 8.00 pm on Thursdays 25 February, 22 April, 24 June, 26 August and 25 November, at a location to be arranged in central Sydney. At each meeting a member of the Society will be invited to speak about their recent work, and refreshments will be provided afterwards. On each occasion the Committee will meet before the general meeting takes place. Denis Gojak and myself are at present arranging a suitable venue and a selection of speakers, and it is my intention to send each member of the Society a printed program for these meetings. This should be accomplished by the end of January.

It was felt that the increasingly national and indeed international interests of the Society indicated that the time had now arrived to hold such a program of meetings for all members and their guests each year. We realised that many interstate members will not be able to attend meetings in Sydney on a regular basis but we hope that they will attempt to do so whenever they are visiting for other purposes. As for those of you within easy reach of the centre of Sydney, we need your support if this experiment is to succeed. The major purpose of a Society such as this is communication in all possible forms; quite a lot can be achieved in this regard by those of us who can meet together once every other month. We have avoided September and October in the program because the Conference will be on then, when we will look forward to a really record breaking gathering in Adelaide. So please, write these things down now in your beautiful, clean new 1993 Diary.

One for the Record

At the Society's Annual General Meeting in November this year, Judy Birmingham stood down from the Presidency of the Society after a remarkable thirteen years service. It is appropriate for me, as the new President, to record the Society's recognition of her many and devoted efforts in this role.

Judy was founding member of the Society in 1969 and was its Secretary from 1969-1980 before becoming President. She remains currently the Joint Editor (with Brian Egloff) of the *Journal* and a Vice-President of the Society. From 1988-1991 she was also *Newsletter* Editor. Over the years she has contributed a great deal both to the Society and to Australian historical archaeology as a whole, as she will no doubt continue to do in the future. It is no exaggeration to say that she has been one of a small band of people who was instrumental in establishing historical archaeology in Australia. It is gratifying to see that the University of Sydney has this year promoted her to Associate Professor, in recognition of her services to scholarship. It is much to be hoped that those services will long continue.

At the recent Annual General Meeting a vote of thanks to Judy was passed unanimously for her work as President of the Society over so many years.

Graham Connah

1992 Annual General Meeting

The AHSA AGM was held during the conference. Some highlights included:

Election of the 1992-93 Committee

President	Graham Connah
Vice Presidents	Judy Birmingham Ilma Powell
Treasurer	Ted Higginbotham
Secretary	Jean Smith
Committee	Mary Casey Adeen Cremin Denis Gojak Anthony Lowe Clare Watson

Adoption of constitution

Two significant special resolutions were passed. The first changed the name of the Society to the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology. This reflects the expanded scope of the Society to study New Zealand, the Pacific and Southeast Asia.

The second was to adopt the new constitution as published in the Winter issue of the Newsletter.

THE GOOD WORD

Clark, M. 1992 *A Historian's Apprenticeship*, Melbourne University Press, Melbourne. \$24.95

Manning Clark sits in the Australian historical landscape like a sort of Ayers Rock. Regardless of what you might like to think of *The History of Australia*, all six volumes are there and it cannot be ignored. Separate from Manning Clark's historical work are the two volumes of his autobiography, *The Puzzles of Childhood* and *The Quest for Grace*.

This book has come as a sort of finale to Manning Clark's autobiographical and historical work. The two meet and the biographical is used to explain the historical. For Clark argues that it is what is inside a historian's heart that influences what is written.

For Manning Clark it is his own interest in the failings of the "human heart" or human nature that drives his own historical work. Although he claims not to see the origins of this interest, it clearly lies in his own self doubts and self criticisms as well as his fathers thwarted career.

The History of Australia is populated by flawed individuals always striving for some goal they never reach, held back by flaws in their own character. Clark's historical sketches of Wentworth and Robert O'Hara Burke are reprinted as appendices in this book as way of example.

As an aside, I wonder whether the voice talking of flaws of others, is that of the perfectionist, sternly critical of the faults of others, yet an even sterner internal critic of Clark's own faults to the point where he couldn't write because he was not good enough. It is a role that Clark never offered up among those he acknowledged in his personality.

Clark wrote history about people and about life. His first chapter in *A Historian's Apprenticeship* explains this. The second discusses the writing and the influences on his work. It is not surprising that Thucydides, Carlyle, Gibbon and Macaulay get a

mention as examples of historical writing that Manning Clark drew on. They all fit in the same 'school' of narrative history. He also understood as much from the physical environment in which the historical events were played out. Indeed he expresses regret for not paying enough attention to this aspect.

The work, as he admits in the third chapter did not proceed in a linear fashion but in fits and starts, both the research and the writing were haphazard (it is a relief to find that others work in that way).

To conclude, this is not a book that explains what sized file cards Manning Clark used nor a theoretical text arguing for a particular historical approach but an attempt to explain what he did as a historian and the struggle he went through to get there. Manning Clark starts with the historical and the autobiographical separate but in this book they have merged so that the past becomes the present and the historian is revealed to be writing his own history as well as Australia's.

EDITORIAL

CRM Under Threat ??

Is Cultural Resource Management in crisis? It seems from the news items that there is a good deal to be concerned about with changes in South Australia and Victoria as well as the Heritage Review in NSW and the Heritage Council in Western Australia. In New Zealand the acts protecting heritage are being reviewed by the right-wing Nationalist Government.

Much of the recent growth in historical archaeology has been due to the availability of work through CRM agencies either as direct projects or as a result of the legislation they administer. If this were to vanish, the effects on historical archaeology, both in terms of jobs and protection of archaeological sites and their contents would be dramatic.

The main issue is not so much a political desire to dismantle historical archaeology but the effects of years of bureaucratic change. VAS for example was moving from one part of the bureaucracy to the other about every 3 to 6 months, the Heritage Branch in SA seems about to do the same. All this does not improve service delivery, it diverts the limited professional resources of each agency into long battles to ensure that something logical

survives.

If archaeologists are really concerned about the need to conserve Australia's archaeological heritage then this crisis needs to be addressed. Members of the agencies concerned, as impartial public servants, have limited opportunities to present arguments in favour of maintaining or improving their agencies. However others (ie ASHA members) need not be so inhibited. Politicians are there to be lobbied and questioned and some interesting questions could be asked, for example, on how splitting the Heritage Branch in SA could be seen as improving the protection of heritage.

Without some form of external political lobbying the CRM agencies may well fade away leaving the preservation of Australia's and New Zealand's archaeological heritage to the good will of the free market. Dare to struggle - dare to win!!

The Anabasis

Whether it was the declining Ozzie dollar or the Paul Hogan "Put another shrimp on the barbie" campaign that caused it, Australia has been deluged by visiting archaeologists. The first indication was Lewis Binford who was followed by Mark Leone, Lord Renfrew, Prof Angus Buchanan, Bob Schyler, Patrick Martin, Mary Beaudry, Margaret Rule, Lars Kvarning and George Bass (to name only the ones visiting Melbourne).

Last issue, Lewis Binford had just passed through leaving an impression of a very dynamic and articulate individual. Mark Leone, in contrast, lacked the messianic nature of Binford but was no less articulate. Having been a fan of Leone's writing it was fascinating to hear him speak and see his slides of places such as the Pacca garden in Annapolis. What impressed me was his openness to questioners from professors to students.

Lord Renfrew whizzed in, gave a good talk on the Aegean and was off again. A bit like the Queen.

Angus Buchanan was visiting from Bath and gave two lectures in Melbourne. Unfortunately, I missed most of them. However, the lecture I did see on the development of steam technology was well presented and very articulate and knowledgeable. Angus Buchanan was later interviewed on Late Night Live on Radio National.

Those who visited the ASHA Conference will know of the quality of the three American speakers

Bob Schyler, Patrick Martin and Mary Beaudry. What was interesting was the theme of rejecting the post modernist approaches to archaeology typified by the work of Leone. What a pity he wasn't there to present his perspective. It was extraordinary to hear archaeologists standing up and boasting that they were empiricists. Mary Beaudry deserves a particular note of sympathy as she seemed to be suffering from a bad bout of jetlag.

Margaret Rule and Lars Kvarning were on tour courtesy of the National Maritime Museum. Their talk at Scienceworks (Melbourne's new museum) coincided with a huge storm and downpour that cut the power 20 minutes prior to the talks start! Fortunately the City of Williamstown was able to restore power and there were no further disruptions.

Both were impressive speakers. Margaret Rule described the *Mary Rose* project from the wrecking to the restoration. I was not aware of the amount of detailed archaeological excavation undertaken prior to the raising of the hull. Lars Kvarning then described the raising of the *Vasa*. I must admit he destroyed a long cherished belief of mine that they filled the *Vasa* with ping pong balls and floated it to the surface. In fact they undertook a simple salvage operation and I think were quite lucky that the ship's hull withstood it. Both ships are slowly coming out of a long period of conservation and are being displayed along with their associated finds. Perhaps the talks could have been sponsored by the Swedish and United Kingdom tourist commissions as everyone seemed inspired to visit the respective Museums.

George Bass, who was at Monash University for their classical society, talked on trade in the Bronze Age Aegean. I enjoyed the story he told and how his work is challenging the given norms of Bronze Age trade. He had just flown out of the Mediterranean and punctuated his talk with expressions such as "we found this last week" which made me feel more of the excitement of his work. He came across as an unashamed empiricist, claiming to be lead where the data took him.

For those who were fortunate to catch even one of these visitors it was a fascinating experience. However the questions still remains unanswered, what caused this archaeological anabasis?

Other matters

I hope to get out four issues next year. For this I

need copy or I will have to resort to invention! Do not rely on me finding you please send any copy to me:

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At the AGM it was brought to my attention that I should be signing the editorials so that everyone knows who I am.

Thanks to Peter Bell, Kristal Buckley, Graham Connah, Martin Gibbs, Denis Gojak, Kieran Hosty, Sarah Kenderdine, Jane Lydon, Patrick Martin, Angie McGowan, Cath Snelgrove, Ian Smith and Skerick.

Iain Stuart.

RESEARCH PROJECTS

Patrick Martin, Associate Professor of Archaeology, Michigan Technological University, is currently on sabbatical leave in Australia gathering data for a comparative study of mining communities. Martin's home institution, Michigan Tech, is the former Michigan School of Mines and is situated in the Lake Superior Copper District in Michigan's Upper Peninsula. As such, he has been studying some of the copper mining companies and communities that dot the landscape, combining historical and archaeological data to help understand the development of this important industry.

"The distinctive characteristic of the Lake Superior copper deposits is that they are predominantly native copper, metallic copper unalloyed with other elements. As such, they have been mined for several thousand years by Native Americans, and the copper was traded over a significant portion of the North American continent. Europeans were made aware of the copper's presence in the seventeenth century, and made several abortive attempts to develop mines in this frontier region. It wasn't until the early 1840s, however, that successful mining was begun, and America's first great mineral rush focused on the copper of the Keweenaw Peninsula. Over the following 130 years, several hundred companies were formed to exploit the mineral wealth of the region.

Approximately 12 billion pounds of refined copper were removed, providing a substantial portion of the world supply, and supporting a population of up to 100,000 at the industry's peak in the early 20th century. With the mines closed and current population in the region at about 35,000, there are good opportunities to study the rise and fall of a mining district from the perspectives of history and archaeology. Some of this work is being done under the aegis of heritage legislation and land managing agencies, while some is strictly a matter of scholarly investigation.

"The establishment of a mining district in the frontier wilderness of the Upper Great Lakes required the importation of labor and technological know-how after the initial period of exploration. The United States had not developed a tradition of mining expertise by this time, and it was only logical that the managers turned to European mining districts for skilled workers. Large numbers of Cornish mining men were recruited to develop mining properties, bringing their experience in deep, hard rock mines to this new field. Besides the Cornish captains, there were Irish laborers, fresh from the potato famine, and new German immigrants, as well. In fact, each of the state and federal census documents during the first 60 years of mining show that more than 70% of the district's residents were foreign-born.

"This mixture of ethnic and national variation, combined within the structures of mining company ownership and management, resulted in interesting social systems. While the national ethos called for a melting pot of cultures, and the interests of companies in developing a compliant workforce reinforced homogenization and citizenship, there were forces at work that emphasized separateness and maintenance of ethnic boundaries. These forces played out in arenas such as churches, mutual aid societies, and ethnic neighbourhood. The matter of settlement is of particular interest to archaeologists, for it is a material matter, susceptible to study through archaeological means. In the context of company-owned housing schemes, this dimension takes on some additional significance, since it is possible to explore the extent to which settlement location is chosen and/or manipulated. Furthermore, it is possible to examine the interplay of ethnicity and social status, the degree to which these are interrelated, and their material expression in the archaeological record.

"While the Lake Superior district is rich in material for archaeological study, an anthropological impulse requires controlled

comparison; even if certain patterns are evident in the one area, can they be generalized to broader contexts? This is where the interest in South Australian copper mines arises. In many ways, the development of the South Australian mines provides a perfect comparative parallel for Lake Superior. Both districts were discovered in the early 1840s, both enjoyed significant success prior to gold rushes in their respective countries and lost miners to those rushes, both were in relatively unsettled regions (though South Australia had a small pre-existent population and agricultural base), and both depended heavily on Cornish mining expertise to provide technology and organizational direction. In both cases, the industry was crucial to establishing a healthy economic base for the region, and continued to supply a source of wealth and employment well into the twentieth century.

"My particular interests, beyond a general comparison of the two districts, focus on the relationship of workers to the companies and the means by which they did or did not maintain separate ethnic identities. Upon superficial examination, the Cornish in South Australia appear to have been more successful in maintaining a separate identity than their counterparts in the Lake Superior district. While this particular group of experienced miners had influence in both regions, the SA Cornish seem to have been more pervasive than the LS Cornish. Is this difference reflected in the archaeological record? Is there a material distinction measurable between the two districts, in terms of house size, layout, location, furnishings, foodstuffs, disposal practices etc? Is there more or less difference displayed between the Cornish managers and other miners, such as the Irish or Welsh? Are ethnic differences detectable at the artifact assemblage level, or do the homogenizing forces of industrial capitalism overwhelm differences measurable by archaeologists? Are the company-owned and controlled residential locations of Lake Superior fundamentally the same as their counterparts in Australia? These are some of the questions I wish to pursue, after gaining some level of control over the makeup of the communities and the nature of the archaeological record.

"I cannot hope to collect sufficient data during this short visit to attack such a range of questions. Instead, I intend to assess the potential for longer-term research, an assessment that is not possible from a North American base. While the Australian mining sites are known, there are insufficient published references to determine what remains.

Heritage studies undertaken in South Australia are simply not available in the US. And many sites have not seen substantial attention by Australian scholars. It is necessary to visit sites, archives, agencies, and individuals to gain some appreciation of the scope of material available for comparative study. My visit, thus far, has been very rewarding. The sites are fantastic, the people and institutions most accommodating. If anything, I'll have far more information than I can handle; certainly enough to flesh out some grant proposals. I anticipate seeking support for one or more seasons of fieldwork, in cooperation with at least one Australian university, with particular emphasis on field methods training for students at both undergraduate and post-graduate levels. I am hopeful that the current atmosphere encouraging the "internationalization of education" will enhance our funding chances. I will also pursue other avenues to spend additional time in Australia, including possibilities of visiting positions and/or educational exchanges, and for supporting reciprocal visits of students. Any suggestions or advice along these lines will be gratefully accepted!"

Kingston and Arthur's Vale

Historic Area Management Board

Historical Archaeologist

Expressions of Interest

Norfolk Island

The KAVHA Board is seeking expressions of interest from archaeologists interested as acting as a consultant to the Board in relation to its undertaking of conservation Works. The Board wishes to appoint an archaeologist over a three year period with specific commissions to be negotiated annually.

An advertisement for this position will be placed in the Weekend Australian on 23 January 1993

Submission details and other information may be obtained from the Professional Services coordinator, Mr Bruce Delprado, phone (02) 414 7494 , Fax (02) 414 7956).

Submissions due 12 February 1992

ASHA PUBLICATIONS

The Australian Journal of Historical Archaeology

	Members	Non-members
Volume 1 (1983)		<i>out of print</i>
Volume 2 (1984)	\$10.00	\$15.00
Volume 3 (1985)	\$10.00	\$15.00
Volume 4 (1986)	\$13.00	\$17.00
Volume 5 (1987)	\$14.00	\$18.00
Volume 6 (1988)	\$15.00	\$19.00

Major Publications

Birmingham, Bairstow & Wilson (eds) <i>Archaeology of Colonisation: Australia in the World Context</i> Papers from the Seventh Annual ASHA Conference 1987	\$26.00
Birmingham & Bairstow (eds) <i>Papers in Australian Historical Archaeology</i> Selected ASHA Newsletter Articles 1969-1982	\$20.00

Occasional Papers

\$6.00 each

- Maureen Byrne *Ross Bridge, Tasmania*
Eleanor Crosby *Survey and Excavations at Fort Dundas, Melville Island, NT*
Marjorie Graham *Printed Ceramics in Australia*
R.V.J. Varman *The Marseilles or French Pattern Tile in Australia*
Lithgow Regional Library (ed.) *Lithgow Pottery: A Source Book Part II*
Holmes, Kate *Windsor Barracks*

Postage & packing in Australia add \$2.50 per item
Postage & packing overseas add \$5.00 per item

ASHA CONTACTS

State Representatives:

A.C.T.	Dr Mike Pearson c/o AHC GPO Box 1567, Canberra 2601
New South Wales	Barbara Fitzroy 56 Central Ave, Como 2226
Northern Territory	Position vacant
Queensland	Eleanor Crosby 21 Castle Hill Drive, Nerang 4211
South Australia	Peter Bell c/o DEP GPO Box 667, Adelaide 5001
Tasmania	Angela McGowan 7 Cosgrove Ave, South Hobart 7000
Victoria	Iain Stuart VAS 29-31 Victoria Ave, Albert Park 3206
Western Australia	Myra Stanbury WA Maritime Museum Cliff St, Fremantle 6160