

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY  
**NEWSLETTER**

Volume 28:1 1998  
Print Post Regulations No: PP24359/00114  
ISSN 0156-9295

Box 220 Holme Building  
University of Sydney 2006  
Phone: 9351 2763 Fax: 9351 6392

---

## **THE STATE OF THE ART**

---

### **New South Wales**

#### **Historical Archaeology Data Collection Standards Workshop**

Venue: Sydney Cove Authority Conference  
Room

Date: 11 March 1998  
Time: 9.00 am to 1.00 pm

#### *Aims of the Workshop*

The purpose of this initial Workshop is to get agreement among consulting and academic practitioners and agencies about minimum standards for:

- \* collecting archaeological data from excavations
- \* collecting archaeological data from surveys and other sources of information
- \* managing archaeological collections (artefacts and records)

This is a complex task and cannot be completed in one meeting. Therefore the NSW Heritage Councils Archaeology Advisory Panel wishes to use the meeting to get the feel of the archaeological community about how far they wish to see the issue taken, to outline a process of consultation and the development of standards that are embraced by consultants heritage agencies and academic researchers. If you would like to register to attend the Workshop please call Caitlin Allen of the Heritage Office on (02) 9849 9569 by 5.00 Friday 6th March

#### **Archaeological Repository in N.S.W.**

The issue of a repository for artefacts recovered from archaeological excavations in NSW has had a long history. The *Heritage Act 1977* recognised that regular archaeological excavations would produce quantities of artefacts which would need permanent storage.

Unfortunately the nominated repository had little extra space for such a purpose. Since then artefact collections have been stored in various places depending on the client. While some clients, particularly government ones, will organise and fund long-term storage, private developers are obviously much less willing, especially once their connection to the site has ended. Many of these collections, if not in the consultant's back shed, are in temporary paid storage.

The resulting situation is that artefact collections are scattered throughout the state and that the status of most is unknown. While it is likely that some have already been lost, other collections would be in danger of being disturbed, of deterioration, or of fading labels. It is not possible to monitor most of these collections.

A recent feasibility study commissioned by the Heritage Office of NSW has indicated that a preferred option for the establishment of the repository is Newcastle Regional Museum. The Museum has buildings that could be adapted for such a use and staff who are enthusiastic about the repository's possibilities. These latter include making available reports and databases on the Internet, making artefacts available via inter-museum loans, and artefact exhibits. To date the Newcastle Regional Museum is the best option to come to light.

As ASHA members you are encouraged to send the letter attached to the Heritage Office of NSW expressing your support for the establishment of a repository and to encourage the Heritage Office to fully investigate the Newcastle option. The establishment of such a repository would obviously be a step forward in encouraging scholarship, to increasing the availability of information, and to ensuring that significant collections of artefacts, often the only physical remains of the site, are available to future researchers.

## News from HLA-Envirosciences

Claire Everett has left HLA-Envirosciences Pty. Ltd. to work with du Cros and Associates in Melbourne. All at HLA are missing her and wish her well in this exciting new stage of her career. Iain Stuart has been busy on two historical projects as well as continuing his thesis work.

In mid-December Iain Stuart was involved in preliminary monitoring works near Croudace House at the John Hunter Hospital site, Lambton Heights, Newcastle. Croudace house was built in the 1860's for the manager of the Lambton Colliery and is perched on the crest of a ridge overlooking Lambton. The house once had extensive gardens. The house and grounds were incorporated as part of the hospital site in the 1920's when the emphasis on mining activity had turned to the New Lambton mine near Belmont and the manager (Croudace's son) moved there.

The preliminary monitoring works were notable as the excavator clearing bush on the adjacent site caught fire and was burnt out. The fire was quite spectacular and it was only good luck that prevented the surrounding bush from catching fire and threatening the John Hunter Hospital. Further works are expected to occur in February.

The monitoring work on the New Southern Railway construction site at Arncliffe still continues. The work involves monitoring for both Aboriginal and Historical sites. In January another shell deposit was located during excavation works containing dense *Anadara* shell typical of that found in Aboriginal middens. After some field work it was determined from the presence of glass in the deposit and its stratigraphic location in a series of fill deposits that the shell deposit was not an Aboriginal site.

An interesting aspect of this project was the presence of contamination on the site and the requirement for wearing rubber gloves, minimising skin contact with the soil and the need to keep the deposit moist to minimise ingestion of dust. This again raises questions about whether archaeologists are really aware of the potential health risks that excavation of a site might entail.

### **The Lake Innes House Research Project 1998**

This project (near Port Macquarie, NSW) which commenced in 1993, will be on again in 1998, dates 15 August - 13 September. It is

possible that some excavation at the main site may be involved but the greater part of the work will continue the survey and recording of 1997 on the associated sites, which are revealing more evidence than was expected. I would be interested in hearing both from those who have worked at this site complex before and might like to help again and from other people who would like to volunteer their services to help, even if they can only spare a few days. As I shall be visiting the University of Uppsala, in Sweden, from January till May, all queries or offers of assistance should be directed to Paul Rheinberger, 21 Macquarie Grove, Caves Beach, NSW 2281, phone 02 49 72 1138, fax 02 49 72 1474, who will be coordinating arrangements.

Anyone interested in finding out more about Lake Innes House and its associated sites should consult: Connah, G. (ed) "The archaeology of Lake Innes House: investigating the visible evidence 1993-1995". Published by Connah, Canberra, for the New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service, pages 45, figures 47. Available from Eric Claussen, National Parks and Wildlife Service, PO Box 61, Port Macquarie, NSW 2444, price \$17.50 (including postage). Also available from Ann Andrews, Publication Officer, Research School of Pacific and Asian Studies, Australian National

University, Canberra, ACT 0200.

*Graham Connah*

Kylie Seretis, a graduate in historical archaeology from the University of Sydney, has just begun her doctoral studies (ethnic identity and material culture in 19th-20th century Cyprus) at Glasgow. She is fully funded by a University of Glasgow fellowship and scholarship for her overseas fees.

*WAC News. Vol. 5. No.2.*

### **Current historical archaeology and heritage conservation at the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service**

There has been a lot of activity at NPWS since the last report to ASHA. As always most of the emphasis has been on general heritage conservation rather than specifically historical archaeology. Even so, the works below have generally had a significant archaeological component.

Not surprisingly for a heritage land management agency most of the routine work carried out by the historic heritage specialists

involves working with field staff who manage and conserve sites. As a result of increased support from the NSW Treasury we have been able to focus on conservation plan production in the last two years - either within Cultural Heritage Services Division (CHSD), by ranger staff, by students as part of their coursework or by external consultants. The list of completed conservation plans and other management documents is impressive, all the more so as most of it was done in-house.

Conservation plans prepared included the Hill End Quartz Roasting Pits complex, which is one of the oldest gold-rush structures, surviving from the early 1850s. It was the subject of early investigations by the Sydney University Historical Archaeology course, making it doubly historic. The conservation and interpretation plan was prepared by Denis Gojak, Caitlin Allen and Peter Tonkin. Denis Gojak also completed another conservation plan on Bare Island Fort, in Botany Bay National Park, south of Sydney. This is a significant late 19th century fort, most notable for the shoddy concrete used by the contractor, which resulted in the resignation of the Government Architect before a Royal Commission gave him the boot.

Some of the more significant other conservation plans and baseline management documents that have been undertaken either in-house or by external consultants include:

Blue Mountains walking tracks - conservation plan - CHSD and external consultants

Cattai NP Conservation Plan - Cloustone

Fort Denison Conservation plan - CHSD

Goobang NP (near Parkes) - multidisciplinary cultural heritage assessment - CHSD

Mount Wood Homestead (near Tibooburra) - conservation plan - Peter Freeman

Nielsen Park Bathing Pavilion Conservation Plan - Sydney University M. Heritage conservation

Parramatta River Regional Park Landscape Conservation Management Plan - CHSD

Ski lodges heritage study in Kosciusko NP to assist in their continued management - Peter Freeman

Steel Point Battery Conservation Plan - Sydney University M. Heritage conservation.

As well as management focused research, such as the CRA, NPWS has been able to fund a number of other projects internally which are aimed at providing basic data that can be applied to the work that is carried out throughout the Service, to lift our game in interpretation, strategic planning and assessment work. These include a major project on post-contact Aboriginal cemeteries being undertaken by Denis Byrne and Adrienne Howe-Piening. Another substantial project is the Archaeology of Social Diversity, which is aiming to see whether archaeological research carried out in North America focussed on social diversity can be successfully applied to the sorts of historic places and relics managed by NPWS. A third project which will commence in early 1998 is a study of fire effects on cultural heritage, to become a resource for fire management planning and assessment of hazard reduction strategies.

The Service has been able to encourage or support a number of university archaeological and heritage projects being carried out around NSW. Currently there are projects being carried out at Kiandra, Kosciusko NP, by Dr Annie Clarke of the Australian National University, at Lake Innes House, near Port Macquarie by Professor Graham Connah, University of New England and at Kinchega NP, near Menindee by Dr Pim Allison of Sydney University. Graham Connah has published a report on the work at Lake Innes.

As if that isn't enough CHSD has tried to focus its energies on providing strategic support for heritage conservation within NPWs, by giving staff the guidance, knowledge and support to make sensible heritage management decisions. Among other initiatives we have prepared a 2 day training course on Introduction to Cultural Heritage for NPWS staff, which has been very well received. There has also been input to NPWS strategic planning, policy formulation, servicing the field with hundreds of short requests for field inspections, data searches, technical advice and reviews and assessments. The current aim is developing guidelines for environmental impact procedures in historic heritage, guidelines for undertaking works and performing assessments.

*Denis Gojak*

## ACT

Jane Lydon submitted her M.A. thesis in September 1996, at the Australian National University (ANU), and has now graduated. The thesis explored the role of the material in

cultural exchange and the creation of identity, through a detailed case study: interaction between Chinese and white communities in Sydney's Rocks area at the turn of the century. The thesis won the ANU's Crawford Medal for best (M.A.) thesis produced in 1996. She then worked in the Historic Section of the Australian Heritage Commission for six months. She is now enrolled in a PHD at the new Centre for Cross-Cultural Research at ANU. This will extend the conceptual concerns of the Master's project, but its substantive focus will instead be on Aboriginal-white relations in the late nineteenth century. She is also currently the consultant archaeologist for Norfolk Island's Kingston and Arthur's Vale Historic Area (KAVHA).

The Canberra Archaeological Society (web page [sunsite.anu.edu.au/archinoz/casmain.htm](http://sunsite.anu.edu.au/archinoz/casmain.htm)) was formed in 1963 to cater for the needs of all people interested in archaeology. Membership entitles you to a monthly newsletter and attendance at monthly meetings - 'monthly' meaning from March to November. Individual Membership is \$25, Student Membership \$15, and Family Membership \$35. Address The Canberra Archaeological Society, GPO Box 86, ANU, Canberra ACT 2601 AUSTRALIA.

CAS meetings are held in Manning Clark Lecture Theatre 6 at ANU on the third Wednesday of the month. Topics from guest speakers range from Australian prehistory to historical and classical studies. The next meeting is a presentation by Leonie Knapman on Joadja and is at 8pm on 18 February 1998. Leonie has several books and a video on Joadja to her credit. Members also have the opportunity to attend field days on which sites of significance in or near the ACT are visited. The Society is also involved in fieldwork, both site recording and excavation, on prehistoric and historic sites.

A forthcoming site visit is a tour of the archaeological excavations conducted by students from ANU at the goldfields mining town of Kiandra in the Snowy Mountains. The excavations are part of a 4 year project carried out in collaboration with NSW NPWS. For further information on this CAS tour of the excavation should contact Keith Harrison on 02 6291 4310.

*Richard Morrison*

## VICTORIA

### Heritage Council - Archaeological Advisory Committee

The Archaeological Advisory Committee of the Heritage Council has been recently convened to provide advice on all matters pertaining to archaeological heritage in the state of Victoria. The Committee, chaired by Dr Jan Penney (Chair of the Heritage Council) consists of Dr Elizabeth Pemberton (University of Melbourne), Professor Tim Murray (La Trobe University), Mike McIntyre (Heritage Victoria), Megan Goulding (Aboriginal Affairs Victoria) Dr David Dunstan (Monash University), and Andrew Long (consulting archaeologist).

This Committee will look at matters ranging from advising on policy issues relating to the operation of the Heritage Act, to working on briefs for various thematic studies. Current issues include: and also streamlining and strengthening data collection, advising clients on the employment of casual archaeologists and the statutory requirements and standards expected from such work.

After considerable discussion the committee is convinced that the profession itself should undertake the primary role of 'accreditation'. The model developed by Professional Historians Association may be suitable. The PHA accredits historians on two levels, Associate or Professional, depending on qualifications and experience which ensure that those wishing to enter the profession are not disadvantaged. Members must adhere to a Code of Ethics, have access to a Approved Fee Scale, can use the Contract Checklist which protects each party to any agreement, has access to a Panel in the event of any dispute over fees or work provided and so on. The PHA itself prints a Register of Historians available for contract work and thus ensures that only historians accredited and working by the Code of Ethics are promoted.

Neither Heritage Victoria nor Aboriginal Affairs Victoria can recommend a consultant nor can they suggest to any client that a consultant is not qualified to undertake any specific project. This is outside the role of government bodies. Professional bodies, such as the proposed AIPA, has a responsibility to both promote their profession, to ensure that appropriate standards are maintained, and to assist potential clients obtain the information they need to make an informed decision on the hiring of consultant archaeologists. We urge all professional archaeologists to consider the

implications of undertaking this important role and make it the priority of any new organisation.

### La Trobe University

#### Excavations at Kelly and Lucas' Adventure Bay Whaling Station

During November and December a team of archaeologists and archaeology students from La Trobe and Flinders Universities carried out excavations at the site of Kelly and Lucas' Adventure Bay Whaling Station on Bruny Island. These are the first excavations at a site that has been surveyed and published several times in the past, most notably by Nigel Prickett in *Archaeology of New Zealand* (1993) and by Parry Kostoglou in *Shore Based Whaling in Tasmania Archaeological Research Project. Volume 1: Industry Overview and Recommendations*. (Department of Parks and Wildlife Tasmania, Hobart, 1995). The excavations uncovered the remains of a substantial two roomed stone building with a brick fireplace, a storage building, two hearths and a tryworks. The underwater survey work located a whale skull and lower jawbone about 80 metres north of the small beach at the whaling station site.

The site was a shore based whaling station run by James Kelly and Thomas Lucas, two Hobart entrepreneurs and leaders in the whaling industry. It was in operation by 1829 and continued to be used on a seasonal basis until at least 1841. The station is one of four at Adventure Bay, and one of at least five stations around Tasmania owned or managed by James Kelly between 1824 and 1854. There are reports of bay whaling activity in the area from 1804, but the first confirmed occupation of this site was in 1829 when James Kelly applied for a first class allotment 'for the purpose of carrying on the whale fishery'. According to the missionary G.A. Robinson, who visited the region in that year, Kelly was already in partnership with Lucas at that time. The allotment was a three acre site immediately opposite Penguin Island, and on that site Kelly proposed to erect 'a works and necessary dwelling house of thirty feet front and fit for carrying on the whale fishing'. By 1841 Kelly was able to certify that the improvements he'd made on the land were valued at £200 (Evans *Shore Based Whaling in Tasmania Historical Research Project. Volume 2: Site Histories*. Department of Parks and Wildlife Tasmania, Hobart 1993). Kelly encountered financial problems shortly thereafter and the station probably closed the following year, although a survey of the area

in 1842 indicated that he still held the lease on the station.

During the period of the station's use, it was part of a flourishing fishery in and around Adventure Bay. There were three other stations occupying leases there and the township of Cookville was surveyed in order to accommodate those leases. In 1829 there were between 80 and 90 men at the bay engaged in whaling. The stations were occupied on a seasonal basis over the winter months, and because of their proximity to Hobart there would have been frequent opportunity for supplies to be taken on.

The site is located at Grass Point, on two benches two metres and five metres above the high tide mark on a level terrace 100 metres long and 70 metres wide. Excavation centred on three domestic structures and one of the tryworks. A 25 square metre trench on the main structure revealed a stone building 12 metres long and five metres wide. It was initially built as a two roomed structure with a brick fireplace and a doorway at each end, and was expertly constructed of coursed random rubble. Subsequently, the fireplace in the southern room was filled in and removed and the northern room was further subdivided into two compartments, one of which had a stone flagged floor. This was the largest building on the site and may have served as the quarters of the headman on the station. In front of this building was a more roughly built stone structure 2.5 metres wide and three metres long. It was a single compartment with no fireplace and a door on the southern side and may have been used for storage.

Two structures that were associated with crew accommodation were also investigated. Five by five metre trenches were excavated at each, and revealed the remains of stone fireplaces but no other structural evidence. The most intact fireplace retained an in-situ brick hearth, while the semi-circular shape of the stone chimney was reminiscent of the Cornish chimneys documented by Jim Allen at Port Essington. A trench 6.5 metres by 5.5 metres situated immediately adjacent to the shingle beach revealed the footings of a remarkably intact tryworks. The tryworks was consisted of a brick core encased in a masonry shell. The core contained two adjacent hearths, each with its own stoke hole and flue, separated by a brick plinth. A thick deposit of burnt oil, the remains of the blubber scraps used as fuel, encrusted the brick floors of the hearths and stokeholes.

Faunal remains were prominent among the artefacts recovered, and primarily consisted of

cuts of beef and pork imported as salt meat. Other artefacts of note included good quality transfer-printed tablewares, fragments of Chinese export porcelain, sherry glasses, gin, wine and beer bottles, gun flints, a military button, and copious quantities of clay pipe.

Public tours of the excavation were promoted in the local area and more than 400 people, including several school groups, visited the site during the three week season. Grass Point is part of the newly declared South Bruny National Park, and the Tasmanian Department of Parks and Wildlife has expressed interest in developing permanent interpretive materials for the site.

The excavation was directed by Dr. Susan Lawrence and is part of AWSANZ, (Archaeology of Whaling in Southern Australia and New Zealand) a collaborative project coordinated by Susan Lawrence and Mark Staniforth. Funding for the excavation was provided by a La Trobe University Central Starter Grant and by the Tasmanian Department of Parks and Wildlife.

*Susan Lawrence*

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

As a result of the South Australian election and changes in government portfolios in late 1997 the State Heritage Branch is now situated in the Department of Environment, Heritage and Aboriginal Affairs. Among the places that have been included in the State Heritage Register since July 1997 is the whale bone area and possible whaling lookout structure at Fowlers Bay which was recorded by Mike Jones and Mark Staniforth during an ANZSES expedition in 1994.

### **Flinders University**

Fieldwork under the direction of Mark Staniforth commenced in April 1997 and continued in November 1997 as part of the AWSANZ project. The fieldwork involved recording whaling station sites on the Eyre Peninsula (Point Collinson and Sleaford Bay) and Kangaroo Island (D'Estrees Bay) in South Australia. Funding of more than \$41,000 for the publication of the AWSANZ conference proceedings, the development of an AWSANZ website and fieldwork has come from a Flinders University URB establishment grant, the Ian Potter Foundation, the Australian National Centre for Excellence in Maritime Archaeology (WA Maritime Museum) and a small ARC grant.

In December 1997 a joint team of staff and students from La Trobe University and Flinders University under the direction of Dr Susan Lawrence conducted a three week archaeological excavation at Kelly and Lucas' whaling station at Adventure Bay, Bruny Island, Tasmania. The remains of a substantial stone wall two roomed building, a storage building, two hearths and a tryworks were uncovered in the excavation. Flinders University staff and students undertook the underwater survey work which located a whale skull and lower jawbone about 80 metres north of the small beach at the whaling station site.

*Mark Staniforth*

## **TASMANIA**

### **Parks and Wildlife Service**

It is business as usual at the PWS:

\* Eleanor Castella is back in Tasmania to undertake further work on her study of the Ross Female Factory;

\* Mike Nash has returned from his Macquarie Island trip;

\* the Branch is in the process of carrying out an audit of our historic site records;

\* as indicated below by Dave Parham, the Supply River Mill project is finally under way; and

\* some minor excavation works have recently been carried out at Maria Island National Park by Charles Parkinson in preparation for this years site maintenance program.

### **Forestry Tasmania**

Denise Gaughwin has been on leave during January. She has therefore been unable to send in any news from Forestry Tasmania. I am however sure that she will catch up on any relevant news during the next edition of the ASHA Newsletter.

### **The Tasmanian Heritage Council**

The Tasmanian Heritage Council are still in the process of assessing and listing those sites previously recorded by the National Trust, Australian Heritage Commission, Hobart City Council and Launceston City Council for entry onto the Tasmanian Heritage Register.

## Port Arthur Historic Site

Port Arthur are in the process of carrying out the Summer works program that was mentioned in the previous Newsletter.

### Consultants

The Hobart office of Austral Archaeology completed several small projects during January 1998. These included historical archaeological survey of an area proposed for expansion of an existing waste water treatment facility at Longford in the State's northern midlands and extant recording of a railway workshop building in the Hobart Rail Yards complex. The write-up of the Davey Street excavation is ongoing and the company continues to provide advice to the Department of Transport through the Bridgewater planning study and heritage assessment projects.

The historical archaeological inventory and recording of the Supply River Mill site in the west Tamar district of northern Tasmania is under way with fieldwork planned for early March. The Supply River locality has been a focal point for historic period visitation and later settlement since the sloop *Norfolk* under the command of Bass and Flinders dropped anchor and took on drinking water there in 1798. Subsequent expeditions commanded by Freycinet (in 1802) and Collins (1804) followed suit. Collins, commander of the brig *Lady Nelson*, is credited with the naming of the place. The ships mineralogist, A. W. Humphrey took the opportunity to carved his initials on a rock in mid-stream. This may constitute the earliest surviving evidence of historic period graffiti in Tasmania. By the 1820s the economic potential of the place had been recognised and a water powered flour mill was constructed. Despite the attention of Aboriginal raiding parties and bushrangers the mill continued production. In c1841 TW Monds served part of his apprenticeship at the mill which, after several phases of re-building, operated until c1860. The archaeological program will provide a full record of the site in the format required for inclusion in the Tasmanian Historic Places Index maintained by the Cultural Heritage Branch, PWS.

*David Parham*

Tasmania report compiled by *Michael Jones*

## QUEENSLAND

### Japanese Bath-House

Thursday Island's *first* historical archaeology project resulted in finding one of the two hot water baths once used by Japanese pearl divers. The concrete 'bath' is 2 metres by 18m and weighs around 4.7 tonnes. The walls are about 500mm thick. It is lined with blue on white ceramic tiles each 240mm square and 16mm thick. It was built as part of the Milman Street bath house in about 1900 and fell into disuse in the early 1930s.

The bath was found during a test excavation of a site in the former Japanese enclave of 'Little Yokohama'. The site is to be used for urgently needed housing for Thursday Islanders. Although the discovery has caused widespread interest the 'test excavation' itself was something of a non-event. It simply involved turning a 'block of concrete' upside down. It proved to be the upturned bath. Site monitoring will be conducted when the new house foundations are laid after the wet season. Limited subsurface material is expected however, as the bath was located on the edge of fill about 20 metres from the bath-house site. More at the next ASHA conference if there is a topic on the 'archaeology of ablutions'!

### Papua Niugini-Gladstone Gas Pipeline

Gordon Grimwade and Peter Bell have undertaken a range of projects to evaluate the likely impact of a 2000 kilometre long gas pipeline from Kutubu, PNG to Gladstone, SE Queensland. The desktop studies to date culminate in the EIS to be published in a few weeks. Field work is anticipated during the winter months.

### New staff

Mark Moore, formerly on contract to the Tasmanian Forest Service, has recently joined Gordon Grimwade & Associates. Mark will be working, initially, in Northwest Queensland on a range of impact assessment consultancies from road construction to mining and tourism development.

*Gordon Grimwade*

## WESTERN AUSTRALIA

### Discovery of French coin on Dirk Hartog Island, Shark Bay, WA

The recent discovery of a French coin dated 1766 on Dirk Hartog Island, Shark Bay, Western Australia has raised a number of interesting issues, not the least of which are questions of ownership and the protection of sites of cultural heritage significance in Western Australia. Funded and led by French researcher and author, Philippe Godard, a small team of people, including Max Cramer of Geraldton and co-members of the 'Batavia Coast Heritage Group', embarked on a search for the site where Captain François Alesno, Conte de Saint Allouarn, of the *Gros Ventre*, reportedly buried two coins and a parchment proclaiming possession of Western Australia in 1772—more than half a century before the First Fleet arrived in Botany Bay.

The ship's Log book (now in the French National Archives) and other archival documents discovered by M. Godard and a co-researcher in Paris over three years of searching, indicated that the parchment, protected in a bottle, was buried at the base of a tree with the coins nearby. Descriptions of the landscape gave clues as to where the French ensigns must have come ashore—at Turtle Bay, on the north-east coast of the island, south of Cape Inscription where Dutch explorer, Dirk Hartog, left his famous pewter plate in 1616.

Searching with metal-detectors, the team investigated positive signals around the base of a dead tree eventually recovered a lead cap folded around a silver coin (see details below). Digging with shovels, the team unearthed a considerable amount of 'modern' debris—glass fragments, pieces of tin cans and so on. Unfortunately, the investigators did not invite any archaeologists to participate in their explorations and a subsequent visit to the site by a maritime archaeologist from the WA Maritime Museum discovered that a large area of ground had been grossly disturbed. Evidence of camp fires close to the tree seemed to indicate that this was a spot which past campers liked. Indeed, any stunted tree in this environment which offered a modicum of shelter from prevailing winds and/or a little shelter from the sun would have been highly sought after!

A number of issues have been raised by this discovery. Firstly, the question of 'ownership'. Unlike the State and Commonwealth Acts which clearly define the responsibilities of

finders with regard to the discovery of shipwreck sites (or relics) and/or sites on land associated with historic shipwreck relics, survivor camp sites and so on, there appears to be a 'grey area' in Western Australia with respect to non-shipwreck sites of 'cultural heritage significance or special interest'.

The *Heritage of Western Australia Act 1990* was passed in order 'to provide for, and to encourage, the conservation of places which have significance to the cultural heritage in the State, to establish the Heritage Council of Western Australia, and for related purposes'. The Heritage Council was established but, within a short space of time, the Act was found to be unworkable; it was extremely lengthy (112 pages) and difficult for heritage managers (let alone the general community) to interpret. Consequently, the Act was submitted to Crown Law for redrafting. In the meantime, faced with an immense number of sites requiring registration, conservation and protection the Heritage Council has been forced to focus its attention principally on the built environment. It is unclear whether the Heritage Council has any jurisdiction over the coin or whether the site can be afforded protection under the Heritage Act. Federal sources have been approached for advice regarding the legal status of the coin and site; and, it is not improbable that the French Government may have some claim, as did the Netherlands Government in the case of the Dutch shipwrecks. The group of 'finders' are divided in their opinion as to 'ownership' and custody of the coin and issues as to where it should be displayed to the public have aroused strong regional claims.

The coin and capsule have not yet been submitted to the WA Museum for identification and analysis to test their authenticity. Photographs of the coin indicate that it is a French écu (as detailed below). These coins were in circulation for a long period of time which raises some doubts as to whether this is indeed one of the coins left by St Allouarn, or perhaps later French visitors to Shark Bay—Baudin and Hamelin in 1801; Peron and de Freycinet in 1818 (members of whose expedition were sent ashore on Dirk Hartog Island to recover the plate left by Willem de Vlamingh in 1697); the unfortunate survivors of the French whaler *Perseverant* wrecked in the vicinity of Shark Bay in 1841; not to mention visitors of other nationalities e.g. British explorer Phillip Parker King in 1822.

The reported contamination of the site with 'modern' material and the unorthodox methods of recovery certainly leave one in doubt as to

the exact context in which the coin and capsule were located. Bottle glass sherds submitted for identification exhibit three-piece mould lines, which clearly place them in a 19th to 20th century time frame. Archaeological excavation of undisturbed deposits may help to confirm the local sequence of occupation and provide some degree of confirmation. Mobile, sloping sand deposits, however, which have caused a natural disturbance to the area over time, coupled with the human disturbance of previous search parties, will provide a challenge for even the most competent of historical archaeologists!

### FRENCH ÉCU

The coin found recently on Dirk Hartog Island is a French écu of 1766 minted in Bayonne. The obverse legend reads

LUD.XV D.G.FR.ET NAV.REX

which is the abbreviation for LUDOVICUS XV DEI GRATIA FRANCIAE ET NAVARRAE REX

and which translates as:

Louis XV By the grace of God, King of France and Navarre. The obverse shows the bust of Louis XV facing left (Louis XV reigned from 1715 to 1774).

The reverse legend reads: SIT NOMEN DOMINI BENEDICTUS 1766

which translates as: The name of the Lord is praised and there is the letter 'L' at the bottom between DOMINI and BENEDICTUS. The letter L is the mintmark for the Bayonne mint; Bayonne is a town in France close to the Spanish border and the Atlantic Ocean. Incidentally, Navarre is part of Spain, but used to be a kingdom at one time under French rule. By coincidence this is just south of Bayonne.

The denomination écu was used over many years, from 1641 to 1793, and was the standard silver crown-size coin of France, in parallel to the British crown, German thaler, Mexican peso, Spanish dollar and later the United States silver dollar. It was tariffed at 6 livres and had an average weight of about 29.5 grams, the diameter varying from 38 to 41 millimetres. The silver fineness of 0.917 was somewhat higher than that of the Spanish dollar which was used throughout the world including Australia.

Towards the end of the eighteenth century the French écu was in extensive circulation outside

the borders of France, especially in Germany. It was minted in very large numbers because the French gold/silver ratio favoured silver. After the French Revolution many écus were exported as people escaped the Revolution, and entered circulation in the British isles and elsewhere. Generally speaking, they did not circulate as widely as the Spanish dollar because the écu has more silver. But écus did circulate extensively in the British isles in the 1790s, and there are many with chopmarks as well because they served as trade coins and ended up in China. It is quite possible that some would have been lost in shipwrecks in Western Australia en route to the Far East, or simply used in Australia during the currency shortages of the last century.

George Sobin, *The Silver Crowns of France, 1614-1973* (published by Richard Margolis) lists the issues of Bayonne as the commonest mintmark of the year 1766; among issues of the Bayonne mint, 1766 is the fifth commonest year.

From the newspaper photograph the coin appears to be partially corroded, which means its value in the coin market would be well below the catalogue value of US \$35. Of course it would have a greater value if it could be conclusively identified as part of the reported French declaration, but this will require extensive chemical analysis.

The écu was replaced by the 6 francs piece after the French Revolution, but did in fact circulate alongside its replacement up until the 1830s. It was usually nicknamed the écu d'argent to distinguish it from the gold piece of the same name. In fact the word écu itself comes from the French word for shield, which was one of the standard motifs on these coins, usually sporting fleur-de-lis. There was a further refinement of the name relating to some aspect of the design. The piece found in Shark Bay was known as écu bandeau, because of the head band on the bust of Louis XV as he appeared on the coin.

Professor Walter R Bloom

Division of Science

Murdoch University, Perth, WA 6150,  
AUSTRALIA

Tel: +61 (8) 9360 2143

Mobile: 0417 930 854

Fax: +61 (8) 9360 6332

Email: bloom@murdoch.edu.au

## **Bricks from Wonnerup area, WA**

A request has recently been received by the WA Maritime Museum to identify a number of old, worn bricks which have been washing up along a 400 metres stretch of the Wonnerup coastline (Busselton–Dunsborough region). A photograph of the bricks indicates a range of colours, from reddish brown to pink, with varying shapes of frog—heart-shaped, diamond shape and rectangular shape. The clay body appears quite coarse with various inclusions ranging from mid-brown to white. Some bricks appear to have been over fired.

It is possible that the bricks were used as ballast for the timber ships which docked at the old Wonnerup Jetty; once they had collected their cargoes of timber the bricks were tossed overboard as the added weight if the timber took over their job. Or, they may be associated with an as yet unlocated wreck in the area, reports alluding to bricks laid end on end for up to 5–6 metres underwater at Wonnerup beach.

If any ASHA members have any information that may assist with the identification of these bricks we would be glad to hear from them.

## **New shipwreck discovered near Rottnest Island, WA**

Father and son Ralph and Michael Sier and friend Kees de Nijs discovered a new shipwreck west of Stragglers Rocks, near Rottnest Island. The wreck is thought to be the dredge 'Fremantle', launched in 1894 in Scotland and sunk off the Stragglers in 1936. The site is an excellent dive site, especially for newly trained divers, and notice has been sent to all WA Dive Shop operators advising them of the location as part of the Museum's Wreck Access Program encouraging sport divers to enjoy and respect shipwreck sites as a recreational and educational facility. The finders have been encouraged to research the wreck and write an article about their discovery.

*Myra Stanbury*

## **Northampton Archaeology Project**

**24-26th January 1998**

Dr Martin Gibbs with the assistance of the Archaeological Society of Western Australia has completed the fourth season of surveys of the 1850-1880s lead and copper mines and settlements of the Northampton Mineral field, located approximately 450 km north of Perth. At this distance the mine sites were situated on the northern frontier of colonisation, and

appear to have operated as small but self-contained settlements, generally consisting of recruited Cornish miners, their wives and families. Unfortunately, this isolation has resulted in almost no documentary evidence. However studies of other Cornish settlements and mining activities in such areas as Burra and Moonta do appear to recognise the contemporary presence in Western Australia.

The Northampton Archaeological Project is aimed towards examining the nature of these mid-19th century mines and settlements, as well as associated systems such as the early pastoral settlements. Particular focus has been paid to the identification and recording of the cultural landscape of these transplanted Cornish communities, many of which remain remarkably intact. It is hoped that in the long term the project will be able to extend to the excavation and analysis of some of these sites, examining a variety of social and economic questions related to the isolation of the settlements, and the organisation of the mining communities.

Since 1994 Dr. Gibbs and between 10 and 20 students and volunteers from the Archaeological Society have received a small grant from the Northampton Shire Council to subsidise the project. So far the mine sites of the Gwalla, Wanerenooka and Wheal Ellen have been surveyed, while Martin has also recorded the Warribanno lead smelter (c.1853-58), and the Lynton convict depot, which provided occasional labour for some of the mines. The sites are facing varying levels of threat and in the case of the Gwalla mine, an extremely interesting case where the ex-convict manager appears to have tried to create a model community on his mining property, the whole of the settlement has subsequently been destroyed by redevelopment.

This year the team surveyed the site of the Geraldine Lead Mine, which opened in 1849 as the first commercial mine in Western Australia. Under blistering conditions (44 degrees Celsius in the shade on at least two days) we were able to record the mine workings which included an extensive cobbled ore floor, engine houses, shafts and workshops. The investigation of the surrounding area revealed that the settlement was far larger and more complex than previously recognised or anticipated, including the foundations for nearly three dozen buildings spread over more than a kilometre. In the effort to simply locate and produce a basic plan of the site it was not possible to undertake detailed recording, which will be the basis for this year's trip to be scheduled for a much cooler time of year.

## NEW ZEALAND

The second stage of the Dusky Sound archaeological project is currently underway. Led by Dr Ian Smith, the team is investigating the site where a storehouse and huts were established by Capt Bampton in Facile Harbour in 1795 to house some of the 244 people beleaguered there when his ship the 800 ton East Indiamen *Endeavour* had to be abandoned because it was no longer seaworthy (it barely made it across the Tasman). Bampton deliberately sailed to Dusky Sound to claim a much smaller vessel left on stocks in Luncheon Cove. This vessel, named *Providence* by Bampton, was built by Raven's sealing gang in 1792 under the direction of William Leith. It was the first European vessel constructed in N.Z. Little remains of the *Endeavour* now (N.Z.'s first European shipwreck) save a pile of ballast stones. From the outset the beached wreck was scavenged for anything of value by other mariners and in more recent years by divers and souvenir hunters.

Following the 1996 PCE (Parliamentary Commission for the Environment) report on "Historic and Cultural Heritage Management in New Zealand", the government has recently released a "Historic Heritage Review" discussion paper and awaits submissions from all interested parties. One likely outcome of the review is the devolution of some (if not all) the archaeological site protection provisions of the Historic Places Act to local authorities under the auspices of the RMA (the Resource Management Act).

The Dept of Conservation has recently contracted two specialists in their respective fields, Dr Ian Smith (University of Otago Anthropology Dept) and Dr N Prickett (Auckland Museum) to undertake major national thematic studies of the history and archaeology of the N.Z. sealing and N.Z. shore whaling industries.

The 1998 ASHA journal is being edited by Dr Neville Ritchie, Conservancy Archaeologist, Dept of Conservation, Private Bag 3072, Hamilton N.Z. Further papers are still required. Email address nritch@doc.govt.nz.

*Neville Ritchie*

---

## CONFERENCE NOTES

---

### 1998 Pots, People, Processes Conference

A Joint Conference of THE SOCIETY FOR POST-MEDIEVAL ARCHAEOLOGY and THE NORTHERN CERAMIC SOCIETY

To be held in Stoke-on-Trent, UK. on Friday 24th April - Sunday 26th April 1998.

The theme of this conference is recent work on British ceramics from both historical and archaeological perspectives. Over thirty speakers, pre-eminent in their field, will deal with pottery manufacturing and firing technology, pottery types, factory excavations and waste assemblages, distribution and consumption, all of which represent some four centuries of British ceramic developments. This promises to be one of the most important ceramic conferences of recent years, which will lay the foundations for ceramic research into the next millennium.

Subjects include:

The excavation of an 18th-century potworks at Shelton Farm, Stoke-on-Trent

Delftware production at Wapping, London

The technology of Nottingham Brown Salt-glazed stoneware

Pots and Potters of Ticknall, Derbyshire

The Development of the Coalport China Works

Excavations at, and finds from J. & P. Bell's Pottery, Glasgow

The Archaeology of the Forth Potteries

Pottery and Porcelain finds from a 'new' factory site at Isleworth, Middlesex

19th-century Staffordshire Ceramics for the American Market

Pottery from a 19th-century China Dealer's shop in Exeter

Excavations at Dudson's Factory, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

Ceramics from 19th-century Chester Households

Ceramics from an early 19th-century inn at Uxbridge

Excavation and renovation of a Pottery Kiln at Nantgarw, S. Wales

300 years of Buckley Pottery

Recent work into the study of redwares (including Metropolitan slipwares) from Harlow, Essex.

The conference will include the opportunity, on Saturday night, to view the exhibition 'Digging for Early Porcelain', to be held at the City Museum & Art Gallery, Stoke-on-Trent, which examines the contribution of archaeology to the study of early porcelain production in England and Scotland. A series of short papers is devoted to this theme. The conference is 55GBP for members/65GBP for non-members, and includes lunch on all three days. The conference is non-residential. For further information, please contact:

DAVID BARKER, Keeper of Archaeology, City Museum & Art Gallery, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 3DE, U. K. Tel +44 (0)1782 232323, Fax +44 (0)1782 232500 or Email david.barker@stoke01.stoke-cc.gov.uk\

#### 1999 SHA Conference

January 5 -10, 1999.

THE SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY CONFERENCE ON HISTORICAL AND UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY will be held at the Hilton Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah. The theme is 'Crossroads of the West: 19th Century Transportation, Mining and Commercial Development in the Intermountain West' (including emigrant trails, stagecoach routes, the Pony Express, the Transcontinental Railroad, telegraph lines and highways). Please contact Don Southworth, Program Coordinator, Sagebrush Consultants, L.L.C., 3670 Quincy Avenue, Suite 203, Ogden, Utah, 84403 (E-Mail address is Sageb@aol.com) or Michael R. Polk, Conference Chair, Sagebrush Consultants, L.L.C., 3670 Quincy

Avenue, Suite 203, Ogden, Utah, 84403 (E-Mail address is sageb@aol.com); telephone 801/394/0013; fax 801/394/0032.

## CONFERENCE NEWS

### 1998 ASHA Conference

*First announcement and call for papers*

The 1998 ASHA conference will be held in Sydney 3 to 5 October 1998. Hosted by the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service with the generous support of the Museum of Sydney.

Papers are sought on all topics relevant to the historical archaeology of Australia, New Zealand and the region. We are keen to receive papers on the themes of cultural contact, archaeology of identity, public archaeology and urban archaeology.

All conference correspondence:

Denis Gojak

NPWS

PO Box 1967

Hurstville NSW 2220

Australia

Email: [denis.gojak@npws.nsw.gov.au](mailto:denis.gojak@npws.nsw.gov.au) to receive further announcements directly.

### 1999 WAC Conference

The fourth meeting of the World Archaeology Congress (WAC) will be held in Cape Town, South Africa from 10 - 14 Jan 1999. WAC4 is currently calling for symposia and papers through any of the following categories:

*Symposium Convenor* - Symposia comprise a set of papers (4-5 or 8-10) that address a central theme. Convenors submit suggestions for symposia and, once accepted, take responsibility for co-ordinating the session.

*Workshop Convenor* - Workshops provide a two hour forum for sharing information and skills. Workshop convenors are responsible for organising the session and leading discussion.

*Symposium Paper Presenter* - Fifteen minutes are allotted for paper presentations. Papers are presubmitted and will be available to all Congress participants through the World Wide Web.

*Poster Presenter* - Posters and photographic presentations may be offered by delegates and will be on display throughout the Congress.

For further information contact the WAC4 organisers by email at:

wac4@globalconf.co.za

or see the web site at:

<http://www.uct.ac.za/depts/age/wac>

---

## RESEARCH NOTES

---

### La Trobe University Honours theses, 1997

The Cultural Landscape of a Small Gold Mining Settlement: The Welsh Village Near Chewton, Victoria by Valerie Hill.

This thesis examines the way in which the inhabitants of a small gold mining settlement interacted with the landscape during the Australian gold rush in the latter half of the nineteenth century. The presence of people within the landscape is an impetus for change and the marks left by past human intervention can reveal the manner in which the landscape was regarded, the importance of particular resources and the ways in which the landscape influenced and restricted its human occupants. Through the analysis of historical and archaeological evidence, the study looks at transformation within the landscape as a result of mineral extraction and the establishment of settlement. The analysis of the cultural landscape of the Welsh Village near Chewton in Victoria clearly demonstrates the way in which the landscape evolves as subsequent episodes of human activity are transposed.

*Susan Lawrence*

### Flinders University Theses

Of six honours theses in Archaeology completed in 1997 three were in historical archaeology and related topics:

Simon Coote. *Mills as markers: flour mills, places, the cultural landscape and their taphonomy.*

Charles Parkinson. *Land based whaling activities on the west coast of South Australia 1829 -1845.*

Nathan Richards. *The history and archaeology of the Garden Island ship's graveyard, North Arm of the Port Adelaide River, Port Adelaide, South Australia.*

Also of possible interest to ASHA members is a Graduate Diploma thesis completed in 1997:

Helen Halley. *An analysis of selected pottery fragments from the wreck of the Sydney Cove.*

Archaeology at Flinders has 14 honours students who are intending to complete their thesis in 1998 including 7 in historical archaeology and related topics:

Gordon Copland. *Transitory migration and the effects on settlement patterns using the Chinese in South Australia as a case study.*

Cherrie de Lieuen.

Cassandra Philippou. *Indigenous and historical cultural heritage and the law.*

Shirley Matthews. *North Arm ship graveyard.*

Nick Nelson. *Whaling and whaling stations on Kangaroo Island.*

Pauline O'Malley. *Documentation and analysis of ceramic artefacts recovered from ships wrecked in South Australian waters between 1830 and 1880.*

Melanie Pecanek. *From slum to marketplace - a comparative study of the East End markets in Adelaide and Paddy's market in Sydney.*

*Mark Staniforth*

---

## DIARY NOTES

---

### The AACAA Inc. Occasional Meeting Series for 1998

From 6pm at the Benledi Room, Glebe Library, 106 Glebe Point Rd., Glebe.

*5 March:* NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service - Dennis Byrne and Denis Gojak

*3 April:* News from Interstate

Jillian Comber: Far North Queensland

David Nutley: Maritime Archaeology interstate

*7 May:* Monitoring Archaeological Sites

Tessa Corkhill: Monitoring Rock Shelters

Laila Hagland: Monitoring open sites in the Hunter Valley

*1 June:* Heritage Teaching and Training: A role play case - Sarah Colley and Paul Dwyer

*2 July:* CRM and Research

Beth White: Using CRM consultancies in research programmes

Mary Casey: topic to be confirmed

*6 August:* Occupational Health and Safety

Various speakers will examine OH&S issues in Aboriginal historic and maritime archaeology. A guest speaker on OH&S will be there to provide advice and answer questions

*3 September:* End of Year Bonanza

Val Attenbrow: topic to be arranged

Siobhan Lavelle and Anne Bickford: Diana watch: a right royal phenomenon

*Jennie Lindbergh*

### **Earthwatch Oman Expedition, 1998**

Tom Vosmer is seeking expressions of interest for the 1998 Oman expedition, scheduled for March 22 through April 22, 1998. The expedition will be based at Qalhat, a coastal ruined port dating between 2nd-16th centuries, situated about 5 hours by road from Muscat.

Expedition aims:

1. To do a controlled visual search to re-locate and identify and mark artefacts noted underwater last year. Depths usually 2-5 metres, max 12 metres.
2. Expand the search area, logging any new finds.
3. Magnetometer and possibly sub-bottom profile searches.
4. Survey and mapping of underwater artefact distribution, by measurement underwater where practical, aerial photography from a kite (shooting SMBs), Differential GPS fixes, aided by EDM survey from land.

5. Survey and mapping of port ruins ashore, by measuring tape, theodolite and EDM, DGPS and aerial photography.

6. Survey of land surface artefact distribution.

7. Recovery of selected artefacts from underwater.

8. Some sediment coring may also be done.

We also hope to put daily expedition reports, with illustrations, to an expedition website. Everyone will need to be in Muscat by afternoon of 22 March latest. Project briefing, with slides, that evening. We will leave for Qalhat morning of 23/13. There are two Earthwatch teams, 23 March through 5 April and 9 through 22 April. We will return to Muscat by afternoon of 21 April.

Further details available from:

Tom Vosmer

Research Institute for Cultural Heritage Curtin University

e-mail: PVOSMER@cc.curtin.edu.au or

Department of Maritime Archaeology

Western Australian Maritime Museum

Cliff Street

Fremantle, WA 6160 Australia

Tel +61 (8) 9430 8439 (w) or 9336 1716 (h)

Fax +61 (8) 9430 5120 (w) or 9336 1716 (h)

*Tom Vosmer*

---

## **ASHA NEWS**

---

### **ASHA logo design competition**

ASHA wishes to announce an ASHA logo design competition. The winning design will be awarded with (a) a free year subscription to ASHA, (b) free entry to the 1998 ASHA Conference, and (c) a complimentary t-shirt featuring the winning design. Entries will close at the end of April (or thereabouts), and should be sent to - ASHA Logo Competition, Box 220, Holme Building, University of Sydney, N.S.W. 2206.

*Rowan Ward*

## **The annual ASHA Lecture Series in Sydney**

on Thursdays from 6pm:

*26 February:* "Is it worth excavating?"  
Discussion : The Benledi Room, Glebe Library, 186 Glebe Point Rd.

*23 April:* Roland Fletcher "The Menace of the Material" 1st Floor, The Rocks Visitors Centre, The Sailors Home, 106 George St, The Rocks.

*26 June:* Wayne Johnson "Archaeology of Newcastle and Environs" The Rocks Visitors Centre, 106 George St, The Rocks.

Lectures for the latter part of the year in the next Newsletter.

*Jennie Lindbergh*

## **Inaugural ASHA Seminar Series in Melbourne**

Following the success of the Sydney seminar series over the past several years, ASHA members in Victoria have initiated a seminar series to be held in Melbourne. It will feature work in progress by Victorian and visiting archaeologists. In addition to providing a means for members to make contact with each other, initial sessions will be open to anyone interested, it may serve to attract new members. Sessions will be held bi-monthly on the second Thursday of the month. All seminars will be in the Martin Building Lecture Theatre, La Trobe University, at 6:30 pm, followed by dinner in Brunswick Street. The schedule of speakers for 1998 is given below. Please direct any queries to: Susan Lawrence, (03) 9479 1790, s.lawrence@latrobe.edu.au

*12 February:* Arthur Streeton's 'Dear Gold Hills': Excavations at Viewbank Homestead. Leah Mackenzie, Heritage Victoria.

*9 April:* On the Road to the Diggings: Short's National Hotel, Gisborne. Roger Luebbers, Luebbers and Associates

*11 June:* Finding Old Melbourne at the Customs House. Fiona Weaver, Practical Archaeology

*13 August:* Sailors' Tales: Stories of Whaling from Bruny Island. Susan Lawrence, La Trobe University.

*8 October:* Archaeology of the Timber Industry at Henry No. 1 Mill, the Otways. Peter Davies, La Trobe University

*10 December:* A History Without Words... Tim Murray, La Trobe University

*Susan Lawrence*

## **ASHA NEWSLETTER PRODUCTION**

The ASHA newsletter is being produced by a series of editors in different places over the next year. Copy to be included should be sent to the editor by the first of the month. The schedule for the next few editions in 1998 are:

June: Ian Smith (Dunedin, NZ).  
September: Gordon Grimwade (Qld).  
December: Leah McKenzie (Vic).

## **NEXT ASHA NEWSLETTER**

Please send items of interest for the next ASHA Newsletter to:

Dr Ian Smith,

Department of Anthropology,

University of Otago,

PO Box 56,

Dunedin, New Zealand.

Email: [ian.smith@stonebow.otago.ac.nz](mailto:ian.smith@stonebow.otago.ac.nz)

---

## ASHA PUBLICATIONS

---

### *Australasian Historical Archaeology*

Special offer Vols. 2-12 (inclusive) \$10.00 each

	Members out of print	Non-members
Volume 1		
Volume 2	\$10.00	\$15.00
Volume 3	\$10.00	\$15.00
Volume 4	\$13.00	\$17.00
Volume 5	\$14.00	\$18.00
Volume 6	\$15.00	\$19.00
Volume 7	\$16.00	\$20.00
Volume 8	\$17.00	\$21.00
Volume 9	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 10	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 11	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 12 (1994)	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 13	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 14	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 15	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 16	\$18.00	\$22.00

### Major Publications

Birmingham, Bairstow & Wilson (eds) <i>Archaeology and Colonisation: Australia in the World Context, Papers from the Seventh Annual ASHA Conference</i>	\$26.00
Birmingham, J. <i>Wybalenna: The Archaeology of Cultural Accommodation in Nineteenth Century Tasmania</i>	\$36.00
Rogers, B. <i>Nineteenth Century Salt Manufacturing Sites in Tasmania</i>	\$12.50

### Occasional Papers

Maureen Bryne: <i>Ross Bridge, Tasmania</i>	\$6.00 each
Eleanor Crosby: <i>Survey and excavations at Fort Dundas, Melville Island, NT.</i>	
Marjorie Graham: <i>Printed Ceramics in Australia</i>	
R.V.J. Varman: <i>The Marseilles or French Pattern Tile in Australia</i>	

Postage and packing in Australia:  
Journals ~ Occasional Papers add \$4.00 per item  
Major publications add \$6.50 per item

Postage and packing overseas (surface mail):  
Journals ~ Occasional Papers add \$5.00 per item  
Major publications add \$15.00 per item

---

## ASHA CONTACTS

---

ACT	Richard Morrison, c/AHC, GPO Box 1567, Canberra 2601	ph. (06) 217 2133 fax (06) 217 2095
NSW	Jenny	ph. (043) 651 164
NZ	Neville Ritchie, Dept of Conservation, Private Bag 3072, Hamilton, NZ	ph. (0011 64) 838 3363
NT	Lloyd Browne, P.O. Box 3013, Darwin, NT, 0801	ph. (08) 8985 2981
QLD	Queensland Eleanor Crosby, 21 Castle Hill Drive, Nerang 4211	ph. (075) 78 2255
SA	Susan Lawrence-, Archaeology, Flinders University, PO Box 2100, Adelaide 5001	ph. (08) 201 2595
TAS	Angela McGowan, Parks and Wildlife Service, GPO Box 44A, Hobart 7000	ph. (002) 33 6596
VIC	Fiona Weaver, 24 The Avenue, Belmont 3216	ph. (052) 43 1462
WA	Myra Stanbury, WA Museum, Cliff St, Fremantle 6160	Ph. (09) 335 8211 fax (09) 430 5120

Editor this issue: *Mark Staniforth*

General Editor: *Noeleen Curran*

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY  
**NEWSLETTER**

Volume 28.2 1998  
Print Post Regulations No: PP24359/00114  
ISSN 0156-9295

Box 220 Holme Building  
University of Sydney 2006  
Secretary: (02) 9558 6618

---

## **THE STATE OF THE ART**

---

### **NEW ZEALAND**

#### **Eighteenth Century Settlement Discovered**

There were only two European settlements established on New Zealand shores during the 18th century, both of short duration and both in Dusky Sound near the south western corner of the South Island. In 1997 the Dusky Sound Historical Archaeology Project, led by Ian Smith (Otago University) and Karl Gillies (Southland Museum and Art Gallery), investigated the first and better known of these at Luncheon Cove locating an iron working area associated with ship building, but finding no surviving evidence of the buildings reported to have been constructed there (see ASHA Newsletter 27:2).

Investigations in 1998 were focussed on the 1795-97 *Endeavour* settlement in Facile Harbour. This was an 'accidental' settlement, brought about by the unseaworthy condition and eventual abandonment of the larger of two ships carrying 244 people from

Port Jackson to India. While most of these people were able to depart after about 6 months, having completed construction of the ship partially built at Luncheon Cove, at least 35 remained marooned there for another 18 months. Although the *Endeavour's* hulk has been known and scavenged for many years, no firm evidence of the shore camp established there had ever been found.

Survey strategy involved surface examination and test pitting of all previously suggested site locations, which produced no result, and metal detection along transects up and down the inner slopes of the harbour as systematically as the dense forest vegetation would allow. This revealed an extensive area of scattered metal in the northwestern corner of the harbour.

Excavations near the centre of this zone revealed the collapsed stone chimney and cobblestone floor of a hut, and on an adjacent terrace, nails and remnants of planking which probably mark the location of a storehouse - the only building described in the few surviving

historical records. Material recovered included small numbers of bottle glass and ceramic fragments along with nails, hoop iron and other metal items. As at Luncheon Cove, high soil acidity seems to have destroyed most organic remains.

Excavations to the north and south revealed no obvious structural remains and an even narrower range artefacts, and preliminary assessment suggests that one of these areas may have been used for timber sawing, and the other as a storage dump for fittings and stores removed from the *Endeavour*.

#### **Whangamumu Whaling Station**

Department of Conservation archaeologists in Northland have been undertaking detailed mapping and assessment of the Whangamumu whaling station in the Whangaruru Harbour for management purposes. Established in the 1840's, it became the largest station on the Northland coasts and is the only one that retains clear and recognisable structures.

#### **Burke Brickworks, Auckland**

Simon Best, Rod Clough and Don Prince recently excavated the remains of a large (34 x 9 m) Hoffman Kiln on the banks of the Whau Creek, Avondale, prior to its destruction in advance of a new residential subdivision. This site fills an important gap in the archaeology of Auckland's

heavy clay industries, complementing Simon and Rod's earlier excavation of simple clamp and Scotch kilns from the 1850's at the Pollen site, and Rod's investigation of late 19th - early 20th century beehive kilns at Limeburners Bay.

#### **Christmas Creek Dam Restoration**

Neville Ritchie's restoration work on the Christmas Creek kauri driving dam has been completed. This long running saga has been a battle against weather, malfunctioning machinery, theft of some of the replacement kauri timbers and difficulties in finding an appropriate wood preservative. However the final operation took place in late March, using a large helicopter to fly in, and then lower into place the large timbers, weighing a tonne or more.

#### **The *Inconstant*, Wellington**

Susan Forbes has been excavating the hulk of the barque *Inconstant* which was rediscovered during restoration of the old BNZ buildings in central Wellington. The barque was beached on the Wellington waterfront in about 1850 for use as a warehouse and subsequently buried during reclamation, parts emerging briefly in 1901 when the BNZ buildings were constructed. Surviving timbers, which include the bow and wooden structures on the shoreline are remarkably intact,

and possibilities for *in situ* preservation are being investigated.

*Ian Smith*

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

Terry Arnott of the State Heritage Branch, together with Mark Staniforth, Cherrie de Lieuen and Nathan Richards from Flinders University are scheduled to undertake three days pre-disturbance fieldwork on Flinders Island, 38 km off the coast of Eyre Peninsula. The island was the site of a reputed whaling station as well as the home of a man named William Bryant (or Bryan) who lived there from about 1826 until his death. Bryant lived on the island with two Indigenous women who he had abducted - a Tasmanian woman named Fanny and Charlotte, who was from near the mouth of the Murray River. The survey work at 'Bryant's' hut will form part of Cherrie's honours thesis and documentation of any whaling station remains will be incorporated into the AWSANZ project.

### **Flinders University**

Flinders University staff and students undertook pre-disturbance survey work on the dugouts along the creek at Burra in April. Archaeology and cultural tourism students spent four days recording, photographing and surveying the remains of the dugouts.

Dr Claire Smith has applied for an Australian Postgraduate Award - Industry (APAI) for a PhD student to conduct research on aspects of the archaeological heritage at Burra. Cash and in-kind support for this application has come from the Burra Branch of the National Trust, the Goyder Regional Council and the Mid-North Development Board. It is hoped that the Burra project will extend to other archaeological sites in and around Burra and result in a long-term collaboration between the University and the Burra region.

Dr Bill Adams will join the staff at Flinders University in June 1998 to teach Cultural Heritage Management and North American Historical Archaeology. His career has alternated between university teaching and research positions in private industry, museums, and government offices. He has taught at Washington State University, the University of Kentucky, the University of Florida, among others. Bill has directed fieldwork throughout much of the United States, as well as Canada, Israel, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Republic of Palau. In 1981-87, he directed the Kings Bay Project, a massive six year long multidisciplinary study of human adaptation to the Georgia coast, resulting in five volumes detailing the

culture history, ceramics, and zooarchaeology for the prehistoric shell midden sites, as well as for six plantations. Since 1985, he has operated his own consulting firm. Since 1989, he has been working on goldrush sites in Alaska and in a variety of historic and prehistoric sites in Micronesia. In 1995-96 he served as the Senior Archaeologist for the Republic of Palau.

*Mark Staniforth*

## **QUEENSLAND**

### **SEQ RFA Cultural Heritage Project**

The South East Queensland bioregion extends from the NSW border north to Gladstone and west to a line from the Bunya Mountains to east of Monto. Technical work for the Regional Forest Agreement for South East Queensland is due for completion at the end of June, 1998.

The non-Indigenous cultural heritage component of the project involved the production of a number of reports - a thematic overview history, a study of travel routes, forest towns and settlements, a study of sawmills and tramways, reports on the historic social and aesthetic values of forests, and the development of a set of guidelines for managing cultural heritage places.

The project to investigate historic values in the bioregion involved field survey work by officers of the Department of Environment. In the course of this work over 800 sites have been recorded in forested areas, including specific forestry-related buildings and structures, sites associated with the extraction and movement of timber, recreation, farming, grazing and mining and mineral processing sites. A photographic collection of more than 10,000 colour slides and prints and over 100 oral history tapes provide further information of the sites. Some 104 places in the cultural heritage inventory are proposed for inclusion in the Register of the National Estate for historic or social value.

Despite the enormous area to be covered and time constraints relating to project deadlines, the project demonstrates the value of a regional approach to identification of cultural heritage sites and is one of the first such projects undertaken in Queensland.

*Judith Powell*

## **WESTERN AUSTRALIA**

### **The 'Prise de Possession'**

On 30 March 1772 the French vessel *Gros Ventre*, commanded by Louis-François-Marie Aleno, Comte de

Saint-Allouarn, anchored off Turtle Bay at the north end of Dirk Hartog Island in Shark Bay. At 10 a.m., Saint-Allouarn sent a boat with an officer to reconnoitre the land, accompanied by the boat's crew and five soldiers.

After landing, they walked about three leagues (9 miles) into the country without seeing a living soul. On returning to the coast, M. de Mings (Mingault or Mengaud-the name is variously spelled in the documents) took possession of the land, hoisting a flag and causing a notification of the fact that he had taken possession to be read in the form usual in such cases. The document was put in a bottle and buried at the foot of a small tree. Near it were put two crowns (ecus) of six francs each. The ship's log refers to this Bay as the 'Baie de Prise de Possession' (the Bay of Taking of Possession).

In January 1998, an expedition led by Mr Philippe Godard of Noumea, and including members of the Batavia Coast Maritime Heritage Group from Geraldton, discovered a French ecu bearing the head of King Louis XV and dated 1766 at a site on the cliff top overlooking Turtle Bay. The silver coin, which was encased in a lead capsule, is believed to be associated with Saint Allouarn's expedition (See previous *ASHA Newsletter*).

The significance of the discovery prompted the Western Australian Maritime Museum to launch an expedition, co-ordinated by Curator of Maritime Archaeology, Myra Stanbury, to further examine the site in March-April 1998.

On 1 April 1998, at 9.20 a.m., an intact bottle bearing a lead closure similar to that recovered by the Godard team was discovered by expedition team members Bob Sheppard, Bob Creasy and Dr Michael McCarthy, and carefully excavated by terrestrial archaeologist Rodney Harrison of the Centre for Archaeology, University of Western Australia.

Whether the bottle contains the original document claiming possession of this part of Western Australia in the name of the King of France is yet to be determined. There is a quantity of sand in the bottle which raises the question as to whether it is the result of burial, or it was purposely placed in the bottle - i.e. rather than being buried, the bottle was simply placed on the surface of the ground in a prominent position. There was no indication from the archaeological stratigraphy to suggest that a pit had been dug to bury the bottle; and the shallow depth of burial tends to support the second hypothesis. Research to date suggests that, in other incidences, two bottles were placed at the 'Prise de Possession' site. This

naturally raises the question as to whether the earlier capsule and coin found at Dirk Hartog Island were also attached to a bottle. As yet, these have not been made available to maritime archaeologists for examination.

The bottle is currently undergoing non-invasive forensic examination before any attempt is made to open the lead closure.

The bottle is a dark olive green colour, with tapering sides and sloping shoulders. The 'flower pot' shape was typical of French wine bottles of the period and does not appear to have been used by the English (see Jones, O., Smith, E.A., 1985 *Glass of the British Military, ca. 1755-1820*: 22, fig. 11; Hume, I. N., 1961 The glass wine bottle in Colonial Virginia. *Journal of Glass Studies*, III: 91-117).

It is sealed with a lead closure (similar to that found by the Godard team) with a textured imprint on the inner surface (visible where the arms of the closure have been rolled to form a casing for iron wire). This further supports earlier suppositions that the closure has been made from a lead cloth seal.

The edges of what appears to be a coin are visible through gaps in the lead closure. Two threads of iron wire, one above the string rim (and beneath the coin) and one below the string rim

(through the casing) hold the capsule firmly in place; parts of the wire still remain *in situ*.

Further to the issues discussed in the previous *ASHA Newsletter* regarding protection of the bottle and the site from which it was recovered, it is now conceded by Crown Law that the *State Maritime Archaeology Act 1973* affords protection to both. Under this Act, a site may be declared a 'maritime archaeological site' whether it is underwater or on land (within the terms of the Act). The reading of the Act now makes it clear that a number of other maritime archaeological sites not necessarily associated with a shipwreck, but rather 'an historic ship', will be able to be protected under the Act.

*Myra Stanbury*

## TASMANIA

### News from the Public Sector

The Cultural Heritage Branch of the Parks and Wildlife Service has recently appointed Brett Noble as the Historic Heritage Section Manager. Brett is hoping to get a number of new projects up and running during the forthcoming financial year. Mike Nash is completing a report on the survey works carried out at Macquarie Island during last Summer. The branch is also

in the process of completing an audit of their historic heritage resources.

The cultural heritage staff at the Forest Practices Unit are in the process of recording the sections of the Van Diemens Land Company road that pass through state forest. This interesting study is using both remote sensing and GIS technology. Denise Gaughwin mentioned that there are a number of other interesting projects about to happen; so watch this space.

The Port Arthur Historic Site have recently commissioned Godden Mackay to produce a conservation plan for the site. The site archaeologist Greg Jackman is also in the process of completing a report on the works carried out at Point Puer during last Summer. It is hoped further Archaeological Summer Programs will occur; this is however subject to funding constraints.

#### **News From The Private Sector**

The Tasmanian office of Austral Archaeology Pty Ltd has recently completed the archaeological survey and recording of the Supply River flour mill for the West Tamar Council and DELM. A heritage assessment of the Beaconsfield Gold Mine has also been completed for the Beaconsfield Mine Joint Venture. The write up of the Davey Street excavation for DELM is well advanced and the firm

continues to provide input to the Bridgewater planning study being undertaken by the Department of Transport and Pitt and Sherry.

The company was also successful in its bid to undertake historical archaeological excavations in part of Parcel 2 in the Wapping precinct of inner city Hobart for the Wapping Implementation Project. The excavation is scheduled to commence in June 1998 and be complete by the end of July 1998. A full professional team has been engaged involving personnel from our Sydney and Adelaide offices, along with specialist subconsultants. The excavation will explore a section of the Collins Street frontage and corresponding yard spaces known to have been the site of several dwellings from the 1820s onwards.

*David Parham*

Jane Becker and Ginni Woof have recently been involved with work at the Mt. Direction Signal Station.

*compiled by Michael Jones*

#### **Cultural Heritage Practitioners Tasmania (CHPT)**

CHPT is a voluntary affiliation of Tasmanian cultural heritage practitioners who aim to promote the cultural heritage of Tasmania and its

sound management and interpretation to government, industry and the public.

CHPT, working towards the appropriate conservation of cultural heritage and its promotion with professionalism and in keeping with the accepted standards and ethics of cultural heritage management.

CHPT will act as an initial contact and referral point, to answer general queries and provide advice on where to find the right cultural heritage information and assistance. CHPT operates as a voluntary, non-profit association, and does not undertake paid work.

If anyone wishes to know more about the organisation and how they can become involved, they should contact:

Anne McConnell  
Convenor CHPT  
GPO Box 234  
Hobart Tasmania 7001 Australia

Telephone: (03) 6239 1494

Email: [annemc@aaa.net.au](mailto:annemc@aaa.net.au)

*Anne McConnell*

## **ACT**

### **Consultants**

Australian Archaeological Survey Consultants are completing a combined Aboriginal and historical

survey as part of the environmental audit of the Department of Defence Field Firing Range at Majura. Their discoveries include a 1917 biplane crash site, early ACT boundary markers, four hut sites, a well, possible WWI officers' training trenches, and a pock-marked landscape clearly demonstrating its firing range history. They have also found a significant number of Aboriginal artefact scatters representing a wide range of human occupation patterns, and European and Aboriginal scarred trees.

Navin Officer have undertaken a field survey in the Gungahlin district and have been engaged for the survey of the proposed high speed train corridor in the Majura Valley.

## **ACT Heritage Unit, ACT Government**

The Unit advises that it is proposing the following future work - the completion of the Majura Valley historical archaeology survey and also a survey at Gungahlin, both required as a result of urban development pressure.

## **National Cultural Heritage Forum, Australian Heritage Commission (AHC)**

In 1996 the Commonwealth Minister for the Environment reviewed arrangements for Ministerial consultation with conservation organisations and decided to establish

a separate forum for those groups principally interested in cultural heritage issues.

The Commission facilitated consultative mechanisms which were jointly established between Senator Alston, Minister for Communications and the Arts, and Senator Hill, Minister for the Environment. Both Ministers share responsibilities for cultural and built heritage. It was agreed that the Forum would focus on historic environment places rather than cultural heritage issues generally.

Membership of the National Cultural Heritage Forum was based on the organisations participating in the Commission's Reference Group as well as further specific groups representing history, archaeology and shipwrecks. ASHA is represented at the NCHF by its President. Other members include Australia ICOMOS, the Federation of Australian Historical Societies, the Property Council of Australia, Australian Council of National Trusts, and the National Committee on Engineering Heritage. The first meeting was held on 16 May 1997.

The most recent meeting of the NCHF was held on 27 May 1998 and was attended on behalf of ASHA by Aedeen Cremin. The Forum covered such topics as the review of Commonwealth and State roles and

responsibilities for historic heritage (including the present review of Commonwealth Environmental Legislation, the national Heritage Places Strategy, and National Standards development), various resourcing issues (including Federation funding), Commonwealth owned heritage properties, regional and rural heritage issues, issues to do with paper based heritage records in private hands, and issues to do with funding of regional cultural heritage advisory services.

#### **HERCON, AHC**

A National Heritage Convention (HERCON) is to be convened by the AHC at Old Parliament House, 6-7 August 1998, involving 100 of Australia's main non-government players in the heritage field - including industry, indigenous and conservation groups, the National Trust, heritage professionals and academics. The convention is to focus on the development of agreed national standards for heritage identification and management and will inform the development of a joint Commonwealth and State National Heritage Places Strategy. Attendance is by invitation and a representative from ASHA has been invited.

## **National Estate Grants Program, AHC**

Commission technical staff have recently concluded internal assessment of the 1998-99 round of NEGP applications including a number of historical archaeology projects or projects in which historical archaeology figured.

*Richard Morrison*

## **VICTORIA**

### **Heritage Victoria**

Heritage Victoria has experienced a number of staff changes recently. Jane Harrington is leaving to take up consulting work and further studies. She will be replaced for six months by Jenny Climas. Jenny is a Heritage Planner and has worked in Australia and in Britain. Her expertise in planning will greatly assist in looking at archaeological zoning plans in Victoria.

Maggie Baron who was Manager of Operations has also left as a result of Departmental changes. Maggie is currently Acting Director of the office of the Secretary of the Department of Infrastructure. We all wish Maggie and Jane well in their future endeavours.

David Bannear has nearly completed the documentation of gold mining industrial sites. Over 120 sites are on

the Victorian Heritage Register as a result of his work. A few which are on private land are still being negotiated. In July David will be completing the registration documentation for the Wonthaggi State Coal Mine. After this he will continue working for the Department of Natural Resources and Environment on contract to Parks Victoria to assist in developing a strategy for the protection and management of gold mining sites.

Peter Davies has been working on the registration of timber sites for the past two months for their inclusion on the Victorian Heritage Register. He has started doing some of his field work, spurred on by the early arrival of snow in the highlands. He is engaged in a race against the snow to finalize this fieldwork.

Leah McKenzie has been managing the Permits team for Heritage Victoria for the past six months.

As a result of the introduction of the new planning schemes there has been a pressure to place Heritage places on local planning schemes. Eleven councils have undertaken heritage studies of which we are pleased that a number have employed archaeologists on their teams thus explaining the types of places being considered for planning protection.

*Leah McKenzie*

## La Trobe University

### Landscape and Garden Creation At Murrungowar, Victoria

Since late 1996 I have been investigating landscape and garden creation in the context of community settlement and abandonment at Murrungowar, as part of research towards my postgraduate degree in historical archaeology at La Trobe University. Murrungowar is a forested, mountainous region of East Gippsland which was opened to closer settlement in 1890. In the process of clearing the native forest in order to create 'arable' land, several agricultural enterprises were attempted including dairy, vegetable and grain production. These met with varying degrees of success and by 1925 most selections had been forfeited back to the Crown. The area quickly reverted to forest which has been subject to logging since the 1940s, although a few private, albeit unoccupied, land holdings remain. Over the past 18 months students from La Trobe University and the University of Melbourne, as well as non-student volunteers, have participated in the mapping and excavation of former land selections on both private land and within what is today known as Murrungowar State Forest. This season of fieldwork was the latest in a series of explorations of Murrungowar over the past 18 months.

Fieldwork at Murrungowar has consisted of several visits to identify and map sites, to note present day seasonal vegetation changes, and to complete two seasons of excavation. To date five former selections have been mapped and soil samples have been obtained from each in order to reconstruct garden vegetation, land use and general environmental conditions.

The first season of excavation took place at Mooney's Allotment in 1997. This allotment has changed hands several times since 1890, however had only one phase of occupation during the period under study (1904 - ca. 1913). A total of seven square metres of garden was excavated in order to determine the archaeological visibility of former beds and paths and to retrieve soil, pollen, seed and phytolith samples for vegetative and environmental reconstruction. An additional 15 square metres of a shallow refuse pit was also excavated in order to retrieve artifactual remains.

The second season of excavation took place recently at the Close Family Allotment. This selection had a single phase of occupation between 1894 and 1915, after which time the Close family moved to the nearby town of Orbost. Although the farm is now covered in forest regrowth and is part of Murrungowar State Forest, the site retains considerable significance for

former Murrungowar residents and their relatives.

A total of 28.5 square metres was excavated at this site with an additional 64 square metres of garden surfaces revealed and mapped. The field work undertaken was successful in determining the boundaries and orientation of the house site and cheese room (of which only stone chimney bases were visible among the vegetation), the construction of a water storage pond and the design of two garden areas; a garden in front of the house and a terraced garden between the house site and the cheese room. Again, soil samples were taken for garden and land use reconstruction.

Mapping of a further three selections will be completed over the coming few months.

I am extremely grateful to Geoff Stevenson (Orbost local historian), Ursula Pietrzak (Monash University), David Kermond and Alan Thumble-Ward (Dept of Natural Resources and Environment) and the many field volunteers for their contribution to fieldwork and laboratory analysis.

*Maddy Atkinson*

#### **Excavations at Henry's No.1 Mill**

Henry's No.1 Mill was one of the largest sawmills in the Otway region,

operating from 1904 until its partial destruction by fire and abandonment in late 1927. Its only connection to the outside world was via a timber tramway to the rail head at Forrest, a township 10 km to the north. The remote location meant that most employees and their families lived and worked on site, with a small settlement of around 100 people gradually developing around the mill. Residents were served by store, boarding house, billiard room, butcher, baker and blacksmith, with a school for the mill children opening in 1909, and a post office in 1913.

The site is located in the upper reaches of the West Barwon River in south-west Victoria, in a zone of wet sclerophyll regrowth forest and high, year-round rainfall. Excavation carried out in January of this year concentrated on the domestic part of the site, in an area once dominated by family houses. Material evidence was sought relating to settlement structure, trade networks, consumption patterns, and human responses to the local environment.

Several low clay mounds were the main focus of investigation, from which protruded stones, bricks and large iron artefacts. A series of hearth foundations were revealed, representing both open fireplaces and enclosures for cast iron kitchen ovens. Although construction methods varied,

commonly a low, squared foundation of clay was constructed, up to 1.5 metres across, bordered with timber, on top of which stones and bricks were set to give shape to the hearth. Pieces of iron rail, plating or machinery, salvaged from the industrial part of the site, were also incorporated into these structures. Further clay packing was then added for insulation and support. A pair of these hearth features was revealed in each of the three main excavation trenches, corresponding to the location of individual houses. Chimneys were built from timber, and lined with clay or corrugated iron. Large quantities of nails, and burnt remains of timber floorboards and stumps, point to the widespread use of locally available materials in the construction of mill houses.

The construction of such substantial hearths reveals a practical response to a generally cold and wet environment, with fireplaces providing not only warmth and light, but a likely centre of household social activities as well. A stone arrangement, possibly representing a garden edging, along with the planting and eventual growth to maturity of exotic pines and oak trees, testifies to the desire of mill residents to modify their immediate environment, and create a sense of place in their isolated forest community.

Artefacts recovered from the site consisted mostly of metal, glass and ceramic fragments. Numerous beer and condiment bottle remains provide evidence of involvement in an essentially regional economy, while patent medicine bottles suggest the search for expedient remedies to illness in a remote valley far from medical aid. Bricks from the Hoffman, Garterraig, South Yarra and Lal Lal brick companies were also recovered, and highlight the reuse and recycling of industrial and construction materials. Children's toys, such as marbles, ceramic dolls' heads, and a fragmentary tea set, are reminders of the presence and significance of children in the daily life of the mill settlement.

Henry's Mill also provides a potential case study of site formation processes. By 1927, dwindling timber resources, shrinking markets, and the destruction of the sawmill shed by fire, resulted in the gradual abandonment of the site, and closure of the school and post office. Heavy equipment and machinery was sold or transferred to nearby mills, while salvageable houses and buildings were cut into panels and removed, leaving behind only floor stumps and hearth foundations. In spite of such systematic abandonment, sufficient physical evidence remains to extend our understanding of the lives of such forest dwellers, highlighting

their resourcefulness and willingness to endure hardship and isolation.

*Peter Davies*

---

## CONFERENCE NOTES

---

### **National Conference on the Heritage Conservation of Religious Property**

4-6 September 1998

International College of Tourism & Hotel Management, Sydney.

For further information and a registration brochure please contact the Conference Secretariat:

Capital Conferences Pty Ltd  
PO Box N399  
Grosvenor Place  
SYDNEY NSW 1220  
Tel: 02 9252 3388  
Fax: 02 9241 5282  
Email: capcon@ozemail.com.au

### **Society for Historical Archaeology Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology**

January 5-10, 1999  
Hilton Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah.

*Conference theme:*

**Crossroads of the West: 19th Century Transportation, Mining**

### **and Commercial Development in the Intermountain West**

(including emigrant trails, stagecoach routes, the Pony Express, the Transcontinental Railroad, telegraph lines and highways). Please contact Don Southworth (Program Coordinator) or Michael R. Polk (Conference Chair) at:

Sagebrush Consultants, L.L.C.  
3670 Quincy Avenue, Suite 203  
Ogden, Utah, 84403  
Email - sageb@aol.com  
Telephone: 801/394/0013  
Fax: 801/394/0032.

---

## RESEARCH NOTES

---

### **Amazing Grace**

Many congratulations to ASHA member Dr Grace Karskens, whose book on *The Rocks: Life in Early Sydney* has recently received two prestigious awards for works in history: the Premier's Prize of NSW and the Christina Smith Prize of South Australia.

Grace studied historical archaeology at undergraduate and postgraduate level at the University of Sydney where she did a master's on the Great North Road, then went on to do a PhD in History on the history of The Rocks. She wrote the research design and was involved throughout the excavation of the large urban site of Cumberland

Place in The Rocks. She has been a Research Fellow at the University of Sydney and is now at the University of NSW. Her work is extremely unusual in Australia in bringing together both archaeological and documentary evidence to write the social history of a place.

*The Rocks* was reviewed in *Australasian Historical Archaeology*, vol. 15 1997.

*Aedeen Cremin*

---

#### **ARCHAEOLOGY ON THE WEB**

---

Australasian Universities currently teaching historical archaeology:

**Flinders University, South Australia**  
Archaeology (School of Cultural Studies):

<http://www.cc.flinders.edu.au/Archaeology/>

**James Cook University, Townsville**  
Department of Archaeology:

[http://www.jcu.edu.au/dept/Anthropology\\_and\\_Archaeology](http://www.jcu.edu.au/dept/Anthropology_and_Archaeology)

**La Trobe University, Victoria**  
The School of Archaeology:

<http://www.latrobe.edu.au/www/archaeology>

**University of Otago, Dunedin, NZ**  
Department of Anthropology:

<http://www.otago.ac.nz/Anthropology/index.html>

**University of Sydney, NSW**

The School of Archaeology, Classics and Ancient History:

<http://www.archaeology.usyd.edu.au>

ASHA information can be accessed at:

<http://www.archaeology.usyd.edu.au/publications/index.html>

**University of New England, Armidale, NSW**

Archaeology and Palaeoanthropology:

<http://www.une.edu.au/Arch/ArchPal.html>

*Mark Staniforth and Ian Smith*

---

#### **NEW & RECENT PUBLICATIONS**

---

*European Journal of Archaeology*

This new academic journal has recently been launched by SAGE publications. Edited by John Chapman at the University of Durham (UK), the journal will include new empirical data and new interpretations of the past whilst encouraging debate about the role of archaeology in society, how it should be organised in a changing Europe, and the ethics of archaeological practice. All periods are covered. Papers, review articles, interviews and short 'debate' pieces are sought.

Issue 1. Volume 1 (April 1998) includes Arturo Morales, Eufrosia Rosello and Francisco Hernandez on late upper Palaeolithic subsistence

strategies in Southern Iberia; Mark Gillings on embracing uncertainty and challenging dualism in the GIS-based study of a palaeo-flood plain; Teresa Chapa Brunet on Iron Age Iberian sculptures as territorial markers; and Mark Pearce on reconstructing prehistoric metallurgical knowledge.

The *European Journal of Archaeology* will be published three times a year in April, August and December by SAGE Publications in association with the European Association of Archaeologists. For more information, including submission details and subscription rates, please contact:

Jonathon Carter  
Journals Marketing Manager  
SAGE Publications  
6 Bonhill Street  
London EC2A 4PU, UK  
Fax: +44 (0)171-374-8741

Email: jonathan.carter@sagepub.co.uk.

***International Journal of Historical Archaeology.***

A new quarterly journal which first appeared in March 1997 intended, as the editor Charles Orser wrote in the first issue, "to provide a truly international outlet for research in historical archaeology". While the two issues which have appeared to date have a largely US focus there have been some papers worth a look including Alasdair Brooks 'Beyond the

fringe: transfer printed ceramics and the internationalisation of Celtic myth' (*IJHA* 1(1): 39-56) and Elizabeth Scott 'A little gravy in the dish and onions in a teacup: what cookbooks reveal about material culture' (*IJHA* 1(2): 131-156).

Annual individual subscription is US \$41 from:

Plenum Publishing Corporation  
233 Spring St  
New York, NY 10213-0201, USA.

***Journal of Material Culture***

An interdisciplinary journal published three times a year which has been around for a couple of years now (first issue March 1996) edited by Daniel Miller and Christopher Tilley. Occasional articles may be of interest to Australian historical archaeologists such as: Nick Merriman 'Understanding Heritage' (*JMC* 1(3): 377-386).

Annual individual subscription is US\$45 from:

Sage Publications  
6 Bonhill Street  
London, EC2A 4PU, UK.

***Material History Review***

A longstanding Canadian interdisciplinary journal which is published twice a year on subjects to do with material history and culture. In addition to high quality articles has excellent book, film, video and exhibit

reviews primarily focused on Canada but with some American and European relevant material such as: 'National Maritime Museum, reading the relics: *Titanic* culture and the Wreck of the *Titanic* exhibit'. Exhibit review by Michael McCaughan (*MHR* 43: 68-73).

Annual subscription is US \$18 for 1 year, \$32 for 2 years and \$46 for 3 years and payment can be made by MasterCard or VISA to:

Finance Division (MHR)  
National Museum of Science and Technology  
PO Box 9724  
Station T, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

### ***Conservation and Management of Archaeological Sites***

A quarterly journal which started in 1996 and is "devoted to the publication of original research and review articles on any aspect of the preservation and presentation of archaeological sites". Of possible relevance are articles like: Agnew, N., Maekawa, S., Coffman, R., and Meyer, J. 'Evaluation of the performance of a lightweight modular site shelter' (*CMAS* 1(3): 139-150) and Casella, E.C. 'To enshrine their spirits in the world: heritage and grief at Port Arthur, Tasmania' (*CMAS* 2.2:65-80).

Annual individual subscription is US\$60 from:

James & James (Science publishers) Ltd  
Waterside House  
47 Kentish Road, London, NW1 8NX, UK.

### ***Archaeological Review from Cambridge - History and Archaeology Special Edition Vol 14.1***

A themed journal which has devoted an issue to the theme of 'History and Archaeology'. Lots of very interesting articles including: Ian Morris 'Archaeology as cultural history', Rupert Britton 'Stuck in the past: historically oriented archaeology', Catherine Hills 'History and Archaeology: do words matter more than deeds?' and Karen Neilsen 'Archaeology and History: complementary sources'.

Can be ordered as a back issue for 7 pounds (including surface mail) from *Archaeological Review from Cambridge*:

c/o The Department of Archaeology  
Downing Street  
Cambridge, CB2 3DZ, UK.

### ***World Archaeological Bulletin Number 7***

The WAC Bulletin (Number 7) 1996 had a focus on historical archaeology. Articles by Australians are Sarah Colley and Anne Bickford's 'Real' Aborigines and 'Real' Archaeology: Aboriginal places and Australian Historical Archaeology' and Ian Jack's review 'Historical Archaeology in

Australia' as well as lots of other articles reflecting the state of historical archaeology around the world.

The WAC Bulletin comes as part of WAC membership at \$27 per year available through the WAC Treasurer:

Dr Robin Torrance  
The Australian Museum  
PO Box A285  
Sydney South, NSW 2000

Back issues may be available.

*Rowan Ward and Mark Staniforth*

---

**AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE OF  
PROFESSIONAL  
ARCHAEOLOGISTS (AIPA)**

---

AIPA 1998 Executive Committee:

**President:**

Roger Luebbers (03) 9848 7363  
email: raluebbers@onaustralia.com.au

**Vice President:**

Jane Harrington (03) 9655 9736  
email: jane.harrington@doi.vic.gov.au

**Secretary:**

Andrew Long (03) 9534 9355  
email: atlong@netlink.com.au

**Treasurer\*:**

Mike McIntyre (03) 9655 9744  
email: mike.mcintyre@doi.vic.gov.au

**Membership Secretary:**

Sarah Myers (03) 9381 2464  
email: alkhlawi@eisa.net.au

\* Jeremy Smith will be Acting Treasurer from June - September 1998 while Mike McIntyre is overseas.

At a full meeting on April 8, the Executive Committee accepted a proposal to call an election for the formation of the Council, the chief policy making body and the major forum of the Institute.

Nominations closed: 1 July 1998

Election of the Council: 29 July 1998

(Apologies, as this issue of the Newsletter will not be distributed before the critical dates, election information on the Council function and election procedure has not been printed.)

---

**OBITUARY: SUE PEARSON**

---

Many members of the Society who knew her will be saddened to hear of the death in March this year of Sue Pearson. Born in Canada by as genuine an Aussie as you could hope to meet, she had been a nurse, and the wife of a New Guinea forestry officer who later became a New England farmer, before she came to archaeology. One of the many external students of the University of New England, she completed her Honours degree in 1986 on the subject of botanical indicators in historical archaeology, subsequently publishing a paper on this subject in

the Society's Journal. She excavated with the writer at Bagot's Mill, Reddestone Creek, Regentville, and Saumarez Homestead, doing particularly valuable work as a site recorder. She also did the detailed analysis of the Bagot's Mill material, assisted with the Lake Innes House survey, and was in the process of working for an MA, with a thesis on brick characterization and chronology. In recent years she did, in addition, completed a number of consultancies in northern New South Wales, particularly for the State Forestry Department. She was a resourceful archaeologist with a reputation for accurate work, an absolutely dependable colleague with a remarkable sense of humour, and a good friend to many people. Our sincerest condolences to her family.

*Graham Connah*

---

## DIARY NOTES

---

**National Conference on the Heritage Conservation of Religious Property**  
4 - 6 September 1998

**SHA Conference**  
5 - 10 January 1999

see Conference Notes for details

---

## ASHA NEWS

---

The Society is pleased to announce receipt of the 20th royalty check for \$24.00 from sales of *Historical Archaeology: A Guide to Substantive Theoretical Contributions*, edited by Robert L. Schuyler (\$31.95 + \$4.00 postage, Baywood Publishing Company, Inc., Amityville, New York 11701).

---

## NEXT ASHA NEWSLETTER

---

Material for inclusion in the next Newsletter should be forwarded to the Guest Editor by the 1st of September. Please forward to:

Gordon Grimwade

Telephone: (07) 4095 3737 or

(07) 4095 2175

Fax: (07) 4095 2117

email: [gordongrimwade@internethnorth.com.au](mailto:gordongrimwade@internethnorth.com.au)

Apologies for the delay in distribution, but here it is!!

Thank you all for your enthusiasm and support. Without your contributions, the Newsletter would not be the success that it is, and would be merely a shadow of its current self!!!

I look forward to your forthcoming news of events and activities.

*Noeleen Curran*

---

## ASHA PUBLICATIONS

---

### *Australasian Historical Archaeology*

Special offer Vols. 2-12 (inclusive) \$10.00 each

	Members <i>out of print</i>	Non-members
Volume 1	\$10.00	
Volume 2	\$10.00	\$15.00
Volume 3	\$10.00	\$15.00
Volume 4	\$13.00	\$17.00
Volume 5	\$14.00	\$18.00
Volume 6	\$15.00	\$19.00
Volume 7	\$16.00	\$20.00
Volume 8	\$17.00	\$21.00
Volume 9	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 10	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 11	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 12 (1994)	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 13	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 14	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 15	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 16	\$18.00	\$22.00

### Major Publications

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

Birmingham, J. \$36.00  
*Wybalenna: The Archaeology of Cultural Accommodation in Nineteenth Century Tasmania*

Rogers, B. \$12.50  
*Nineteenth Century Salt Manufacturing Sites in Tasmania*

### Occasional Papers

Maureen Bryne: *Ross Bridge, Tasmania* \$6.00 each  
 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*

**Postage and packing in Australia:**  
 Journals ~ Occasional Papers add \$4.00 per item  
 Major publications add \$6.50 per item

**Postage and packing overseas (surface mail):**  
 Journals ~ Occasional Papers add \$5.00 per item  
 Major publications add \$15.00 per item

---

## ASHA CONTACTS

---

ACT	Richard Morrison, c/AHC, GPO Box 1567, Canberra 2601	ph. (02) 6217 2133 fax (02) 6217 2095
NSW	Jennie Lindbergh, 23 Thomas Street, Darlington, NSW, 2008	ph. (02) 9698 2417
NZ	Neville Ritchie, Dept of Conservation, Private Bag 3072, Hamilton, NZ	ph. (0011 64) 838 3363
NT	Lloyd Browne, P.O. Box 3013, Darwin, NT, 0801	ph. (08) 8985 2981
QLD	Queensland Eleanor Crosby, 21 Castle Hill Drive, Nerang 4211	ph. (075) 78 2255
SA	Susan Lawrence, Archaeology, Flinders University, PO Box 2100, Adelaide 5001	ph. (08) 201 2595
TAS	Angela McGowan, Parks and Wildlife Service, GPO Box 44A, Hobart 7000	ph. (002) 33 6596
VIC	Fiona Weaver, 24 The Avenue, Belmont 3216	ph. (052) 43 1462
WA	Myra Stanbury, WA Museum, Cliff St, Fremantle 6160	Ph. (09) 335 8211 fax (09) 430 5120

Editor this issue: *Ian Smith*

General Editor: *Noeleen Curran*

AUSTRALASIAN SOCIETY FOR HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY  
**NEWSLETTER**

Volume 28:3 1998  
Print Post Regulations No: PP24359/00114  
ISSN 0156-9295

Box 220 Holme Building  
University of Sydney 2006  
Secretary: (02) 9558 6618

---

## **THE STATE OF THE ART**

---

### **ACT**

There seems to have been little historical archaeology activity in the ACT since the last report. This has been variously attributed to the cold weather and lack of funds. The following is offered at a more general level related to heritage activity in, or initiated in, the region, and matters that may be of interest to historical archaeologists.

#### **Australian Heritage Commission (AHC)**

The AHC's HERCON (National Heritage Convention), 6-7 August 1998, referred to in the previous newsletter, was attended by 225 delegates from across Australia. Delegates represented major conservation organisations, the National Trust and other historic groups (ASHA was represented by our President), state heritage and environment agencies and industry. The Convention agreed overwhelmingly on national principles and standards for the protection of Australia's heritage. The HERCON outcomes will be used by the AHC and the Commonwealth Government to assist the intergovernmental process to develop the National Heritage Places Strategy and ultimately, new

Commonwealth heritage legislation. HERCON proceedings are to be published in September.

A Memorandum of Understanding between Environment Australia, the AHC, and the National Trust (that is, with the Australian Council of National Trusts on behalf of all state/territory National Trusts), was signed on 7 August 1998. This is an important step in the creation of a national heritage database and better cooperation between the Commonwealth Government and the non-government heritage sectors.

Murray Mallee communities in SA, Victoria and NSW have been assisting the AHC to identify the region's special heritage places. Around 130 people attended three workshops held in Berri, Mildura and Bordertown in July to assess this large area of public land's natural and cultural heritage places for possible listing in the Register of the National Estate.

The AHC has launched a new book 'Protecting local heritage places: a guide for communities' (pp123). This is designed to help local government and community groups to identify and protect their local natural and cultural heritage places. Copies are available free from the AHC. (GPO Box 1567 Canberra ACT 2601)

*Richard Morrison*

### **National Heritage Convention Report**

The National Heritage Convention, an initiative of the Australian Heritage Commission, was held in Canberra on August 6 and 7, 1998. The Convention brought together a diverse array of organisations and people including representatives from the Australian Conservation Foundation, the National Trust, indigenous groups, local government agencies and industry. There were even a few archaeologists! Proceedings were chaired by the Hon Barry Jones MP AO.

The purpose of the Convention was to bring together Australian Heritage Officials, professionals, indigenous, community and industry leaders to grapple with and resolve critical issues facing Australia's heritage.

It was an intense, fun-filled, provocative and productive two days. The lively debates, both within the working groups and on the floor of the senate chamber in the old Parliament House, were instructive and entertaining.

Significantly, and despite the challenge posed by such a diversity of backgrounds and views, a communique, was adopted, together with a set of key principles and standards. While the Australian Heritage Commission is yet to indicate precisely how it will proceed, the production of such a cohesive heritage management framework is a first at the National level.

The convention agreed:

1. That Australia should act as a community that respects, sustains and celebrates its diverse heritage, which connects us to the past, present and country for all generations.

2. That Australian governments should develop and implement a National Heritage Places Strategy, where all levels of government and community take responsibility for heritage protection. Such a Strategy should:

- be developed in close consultation with the community and reflect the breadth of community views;

- be based on clear statements of principles and standards that fully take into account the Heritage Principles and Standards agreed at this Convention and attached to this Communique;

- recognise that while there may be a need for administrative divisions at different government levels for the management of heritage in Australia, the Commonwealth Government must take responsibility for leadership and standards setting for the conservation of all heritage places at whatever level they are managed;

- recognise that while heritage places may be identified and managed by local, state and territory governments and the community, there should nevertheless be a national, comprehensive inventory of heritage places, subject to confidentiality and other standards.

Such agreed principles and standards should:

- become the essential conditions expected by Australians for the protection of their heritage places; and

- be the basis for decision-making on the resources to be devoted by all sectors for the protection of identified heritage places.

3. That all levels of government should devote new and substantial resources for the identification, protection, conservation, promotion and management of Australia's heritage places.

4. That sectors of the Australian community with particular interest in heritage, including business, community and voluntary groups, should continue and intensify their work to protect the nation's heritage.

5. That proceedings of this Convention will be distributed to all Australian governments and other relevant individuals and groups.

In addition, the Convention adopted the following thirteen principles:

- Recognising our responsibilities to past and future generations, the Australian

community will conserve its heritage through co-operation and respect between all communities and governments.

- All levels of Government and government agencies must demonstrate leadership in protecting, conserving, promoting and managing heritage values.

- Recognising that indigenous people are owners and custodians of their heritage and have consequent obligations, the heritage of all Australians, should be managed in accordance with evolving traditions, customs and laws.

- Communities should be actively involved in all processes of identification, protection and use of heritage places, other than where this would be inconsistent with the conservation of heritage values.

- There should be a comprehensive inventory of heritage places accessible to the general public, subject to confidentiality to protect heritage values or customary rights.

- Identification and assessment should be based on the full range and diversity of heritage values.

- Determination of significance should be based solely on heritage values.

- The fundamental aim of conservation is to sustain heritage value with the least possible intervention.

- The use of heritage places should, as far as practicable, be limited to uses which are compatible with the heritage values of the place. Where there is a conflict between heritage and other values, prudent and feasible management options must be sought and considered.

- The effective identification and conservation of heritage places is dependent upon relevant research, education and presentation which respects the heritage values of the place and the sensitivities of communities.

- Conservation of heritage should be adequately resourced, recognising the rights,

responsibilities and capabilities of governments, owners, custodians, communities and interested parties.

- Where the use of a place involves a risk of significant irreversible damage to heritage values, lack of scientific certainty should not be used as a reason for allowing that use.

- Planning processes and decisions must include conservation management planning for heritage.

There were also resolutions adopting relevant elements of the 1996 Evatt Review of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage Protection Act, 1984, and fast footwork to get the words of the national standards agreed, as people rushed to Canberra airport, in time to wait 6 or 7 hours for the Sydney storms to pass and their flights to leave.

Assuming that the mad flurry of drafting in the final stages produces a printed set of standards as well as some verbage documenting the late, off-the-flow resolutions, I may, perhaps, have an opportunity to report further to ASHA members about the National Heritage Convention outcomes in a future issue.

*Richard Mackay*

## **NEW SOUTH WALES**

### **Godden Mackay**

Busy days for Godden Mackay archaeologists Matthew Kelly, Nadia Iacono (and arm-chair archaeologist, Richard Mackay). Nadia completed a second excavation season in the United Arab Emirates over March and April this year, and is off to Sicily in September to take in some sites and sun. Matthew has just returned from excavating a Roman site in Luxembourg and a Celtic site in at Durenberg near Saltzberg and Richard has been visiting Roman forts, baths and other cultural places in the United Kingdom (with his son in tow).

### **Prince of Wales Hospital Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum Cemetery Excavations**

The final report for this project, undertaken by a team from Austral Archaeology and Godden Mackay, was finalised in early April. The project results include important insights into the history of the Benevolent Asylum Cemetery and the children who were buried there. Post excavation analysis of the skeletal assemblage continues to contribute enormously to the study of physical anthropology. Benefits are already evident in the Project's provision of rare data for cochlear implant studies aimed at assisting living children with hearing impediments. The results of excavation of the Aboriginal hearth and other prehistoric elements has also contributed valuable information to the prehistory of Eastern Australia.

### **Angel Place, Sydney CBD**

Recent archaeological excavations at the AMP site, between Pitt and George Streets in the heart of the Sydney CBD have produced remarkable results. A section of the brick oviform Tank Stream (covered by a Permanent Conservation Order) runs through the centre of the development site. This stream was the original fresh water supply for Sydney.

Over 50 intact Aboriginal flaked stone pieces (in an area of intact alluvial silt deposits no larger than 2m square) and early European remains were recovered. European features include remains of an early well containing c.1820 refuse, and two c.1830-40s sandstock brick barrel drains which had discharged into the open Tank Stream, prior to its enclosure in the 1860s. The site evidences the focus of both Aboriginal and European occupation alongside this former fresh water stream. With post-excavation now over and the final report nearly complete, these important remains are sure to contribute invaluable information to our knowledge of the Aboriginal and early European histories of Sydney.

### **Christmas Island**

Godden Mackay is engaged in work at Christmas Island, lair of the 120 million red crabs. A small team visited the island in December 1997, before the monsoons set in, to identify and assess items of industrial heritage significance. A second phase of fieldwork, focusing on broader heritage planning issues is currently underway. The island has been a source of phosphate since the first trial shipment in 1895 and produces bulk crushed phosphate rock and bagged phosphate dust. Unfortunately the island's extensive railway system was removed for scrap in the early 1990s. However the industrial history of the island is still represented by the remnants of several chutes used to move phosphate down the cliffs to the wharf area. The railway and chutes are now superseded by trucks and a conveyor system. The earliest mining fields, worked by indentured Chinese "coolies", are evocative places where only jagged limestone pinnacles remain, rather like shark teeth, the phosphate in between them, composed of marine organisms, having been dug out by hand and carried by tram to the chutes. Phosphate processing on the island has an estimated 20 years life. When this process ultimately ceases tourism is expected to be the major focus of employment on the island. The Godden Mackay study has looked at future tourism and interpretative opportunities associated with the industrial history and remaining relics on the island.

### *Nadia Iacono*

### **Cumberland/Gloucester Street Archaeological Excavation Site**

The project has been incorporated into the university curriculum at both Sydney University and La Trobe in Victoria. Further research of the material from the site is being undertaken by archaeologists involved in the post analysis stage of the project.

Godden Mackay Heritage Consultants is planning to publish the extensive set of reports arising from the Archaeological Investigation of the Cumberland/ Gloucester Streets site in

the Rocks, Sydney. The four-volume set of reports is being offered at \$550 and the Artefact Database at \$50. Publication is dependent upon receipt of sufficient orders. For further details or an order form, please phone Penny Crook before October 1 on 02 9319 4811 or e-mail PennyC@goddenmackay.com.au.

*Penny Crook.*

### **The Con & The Road**

The biggest archaeological project at the moment is the Conservatorium of Music excavations being undertaken by Mary Casey & Tony Lowe in Sydney. This site has received quite a bit of press over the last two months, with vocal camps on either side of the issue as to what should be the ultimate fate of the site.

The NSW Heritage Council is to meet in early September to decide the ultimate fate of the remains. It is likely that some remains will be retained in situ and other removed, to be interpreted elsewhere on the site. None of this is a certainty as yet, however, so stay tuned for an update in the next newsletter.

### **Standards**

The NSW Heritage Office has been working with the archaeological community over the last few months on drafting standards for archaeological work. Originally conceived as "data standards", the project has been broadened somewhat to look at best practice methodology in field survey, excavation and artefact collection and analysis.

Many practitioners have been operating in isolation, having to develop their own standards for the various aspects of archaeology, and the Standards Working Party hopes that by drawing on the best aspects of what all practitioners are doing in the field and codifying that practice, the game can be lifted for the whole discipline. The idea is not to set an unachievable bar for historical archaeologists, but rather to take the best bits

of what is being done in the field and assemble a manual.

Drafts of some of the standards should be available at the ASHA conference for discussion. Additional comments and contributions are welcome, and should be addressed to Mac North & Caitlin Allen, NSW Heritage Office, Locked Bag 5020, Parramatta NSW 2124.

### **Repository**

No news is no news, with regard to the repository. A bid was put in to the Federation Fund for \$1.7 million, to establish an archaeological repository at the Newcastle Regional Museum, however the outcome of this grants program has not been announced. In addition, an economic analysis of the repository issue is under preparation by the NSW Heritage Office with the assistance of the National Parks and Wildlife Service.

Archaeologists who have worked in NSW who may still personally retain collections or know of collections not in proper storage are urged to contact Mac North at the NSW Heritage Office so that "missing" collections can be traced.

*Mac North*

## **VICTORIA**

### **Heritage Victoria**

Leah McKenzie is currently Acting Manager for Approvals and Assistance (formerly Financial Assistance), as well as trying to do her own job. Proposed work for January/February 1999, will be Stage 3 excavation of Viewbank, on the Plenty River. This stage has been greatly assisted by the collaboration of Dr Elizabeth Pemberton from the University of Melbourne, who will also be involved in the fieldwork.

Mike MacIntyre has recently returned from several months break, during which he managed to visit numerous Historical Archaeological sites (and Maritime) in Canada, USA, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

David Bannear has been appointed to the new part time position of Regional Archaeologist, based at the Department of Infrastructure, Bendigo. His role is to provide advice on the conservation of places of cultural heritage significance, in particular mining and other historical archaeological places, and issues relating to these, throughout regional Victoria.

The Maritime Heritage Unit plans fieldwork for November 1998, on the "City of Launceston", in Port Phillip Bay. The fieldwork will consist of the excavation of the stern accommodation area, in preparation for the site being open to recreational divers in the year 2000.

#### **Consultants**

Du Cros & Associates has been sold to Biosis. Hilary Du Cros continues as a consultant, while David Rhodes is Project Archaeologist. Prior to this, one of the larger projects undertaken in the Melbourne area was their work on the Gas Works site.

The long standing "Watching Brief" at the Old Customs House, Flinders Street, Melbourne, has finally finished. The new Hellenic Archaeological and Immigration Museum, plans to be open before the end of the year. The last stage of work has involved excavations within the vault area where we were delighted to find the 1841 foundations had survived. The "Watching Brief" at the Old Melbourne Observatory is winding down. An enormous variety of widths and depths of trenches have been "watched" with the occasional small rubbish hole to record. These projects have involved Fiona Weaver, Graham Perham, Sarah Myers and Jeremy Smith, for several months.

Sarah Myers has recently undertaken excavations at the Alexander Gardens in Melbourne, recording early garden layouts and features.

Jeremy Smith has recently returned from several weeks in the Middle East, and is undertaking a part-time position at Heritage Victoria.

#### **La Trobe**

Susan Lawrence gave the most recent talk (14 August) at the ASHA talks held at La Trobe. She spoke on the excavations undertaken early this year at Bruny Island. The talk was well attended.

*Fiona Weaver*

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIA**

#### **Heritage Victoria**

Leah McKenzie is currently Acting Manager for Approvals and Assistance (formerly Financial Assistance), as well as trying to do her own job. Proposed work for January/February 1999, will be Stage 3 excavation of Viewbank, on the Plenty River. This stage has been greatly assisted by the collaboration of Dr Elizabeth Pemberton from the University of Melbourne, who will also be involved in the fieldwork.

Mike MacIntyre has recently returned from several months break, during which he managed to visit numerous Historical Archaeological sites (and Maritime) in Canada, USA, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

David Bannear has been appointed to the new part time position of Regional Archaeologist, based at the Department of Infrastructure, Bendigo. His role is to provide advice on the conservation of places of cultural heritage significance, in particular mining and other historical archaeological places, and issues relating to these, throughout regional Victoria.

The Maritime Heritage Unit plans fieldwork for November 1998, on the "City of Launceston", in Port Phillip Bay. The fieldwork will consist of the excavation of the stern accommodation area, in preparation for the site being open to recreational divers in the year 2000.

#### **Consultants**

Du Cros & Associates has been sold to Biosis. Hilary Du Cros continues as a consultant, while David Rhodes is Project Archaeologist.

Prior to this, one of the larger projects undertaken in the Melbourne area was their work on the Gas Works site.

The long standing "Watching Brief" at the Old Customs House, Flinders Street, Melbourne, has finally finished. The new Hellenic Archaeological and Immigration Museum, plans to be open before the end of the year. The last stage of work has involved excavations within the vault area where we were delighted to find the 1841 foundations had survived. The "Watching Brief" at the Old Melbourne Observatory is winding down. An enormous variety of widths and depths of trenches have been "watched" with the occasional small rubbish hole to record. These projects have involved Fiona Weaver, Graham Perham, Sarah Myers and Jeremy Smith, for several months.

Sarah Myers has recently undertaken excavations at the Alexander Gardens in Melbourne, recording early garden layouts and features.

Jeremy Smith has recently returned from several weeks in the Middle East, and is undertaking a part-time position at Heritage Victoria.

#### **La Trobe**

Susan Lawrence gave the most recent talk (14 August) at the ASHA talks held at La Trobe. She spoke on the excavations undertaken early this year at Bruny Island. The talk was well attended.

*Fiona Weaver*

### **TASMANIA**

#### **Port Arthur, Tasmania**

A team from Godden Mackay, in conjunction with Context (Kristal Buckley and Chris Johnson) and archaeologist Anne McConnell are currently preparing a new Conservation Plan for Port Arthur. Work to date has focused on understanding the significance of the place and wide scale community consultation.

### **QUEENSLAND**

#### **Mine survey in NW Queensland**

Site survey, recording, and evaluation of the Trekelano copper mine site, south of Mt Isa, was undertaken in June by Mark Moore. The Trekelano mine operated from 1913 until about 1945, with a mining hiatus between 1922 and 1928. Thirty seven sites containing 127 features were defined. Many of these features consisted of domestic campsites including hearths and tent outlines. Five hearth types were identified, including three sizes of stacked rock hearths (sometimes augmented with tin), recycled ore bucket hearths, and cast iron stoves. Most of the stacked rock hearths are associated with the pre-1922 camps, and the bucket and cast iron stoves are mostly found on the post-1928 camps. The spatial distribution and nature of the campsites shifted substantially before and after the mining hiatus. Those dating prior to 1922 consisting of segregated tent sites and associated artefact scatters, and it appears as though much of the cooking was conducted at these tent sites. Rifle and shotgun cartridges at a number of pre-1922 sites may suggest that local game augmented the diet during this period. After that date, industrial-scale cooking was introduced and several kitchen-related features were identified with large, dense trash scatters consisting predominantly of food cans. Also, in contrast to the earlier campsites, childrens' toys are present at the later camps (probably indicating the presence of women as well). The Trekelano Mine changed hands during the 1922-1928 hiatus, perhaps explaining the shift in domestic arrangements at the site. Alternatively, the later arrangements may be an archaeological reflection of labour negotiations in the 1910s and 1920s.

The Trekelano artefacts were deposited during transitions in bottle manufacture from mouth-blown moulded manufacturing techniques to machine manufacturing techniques. Also, the period marks the transition from soldered hole-in-cap canned food packaging to non-soldered seam "sanitary" can packaging. Although the

more "modern" items initially appear in the archaeological record soon after the development of the techniques, the earlier versions persist for a surprisingly long time. For example, although mouth-blown moulded bottles disappear at Trekelano by c.1945 and perhaps up to ten years earlier, machine-soldered hole-in-cap cans persist throughout the period. This stands in marked contrast to North America, where soldered can seams disappear on frontier mining sites around 1910, and few mouth-blown moulded bottles date to later than 1920.

#### **Trevethan Creek Way Station, Cooktown**

Archaeological salvage excavations were undertaken at the Trevethan Creek Way Station, south of Cooktown, in July and August by Mark Moore, Gordon Grimwade, and Caroline Sandes. The Trevethan Creek site was a stopover point for packers and travellers to the alluvial tinfields near Rossville. The site was established in 1886 and persisted until the mid-1920s. The structure itself has since been destroyed by road construction, but a recent survey for a road realignment resulted in the discovery of bottle dump measuring 18 metres long and 8 metres wide. Testing of the bottle dump revealed that the glass deposits are about 20 cm deep and clast-supported. Based on the dump volume combined with testing results, approximately 15,000 to 20,000 bottles were discarded in this location. Anecdotal accounts and archaeological evidence indicates that the dump has been highly disturbed by bottle collectors, and hence complete bottles are exceedingly rare. Analysis of the fragments is in progress, and the goal is to create a manual illustrating the range of bottle types, maker's marks, and ceramic varieties represented in the dump. It is hoped that the manual will provide a much-needed baseline to aid in recording historic glass scatters in the Cooktown region and throughout north Queensland.

#### **Cairns Wharves**

The Cairns Wharves have been subjected to an intensive heritage assessment for the Cairns Cityport redevelopment. The project is being conducted by Mark Moore, Gordon

Grimwade, and Geoff Morton. A substantial portion of the historic Cairns Wharves remain intact, including much of the concrete wharf built between 1912 and 1925 and two wharf sheds dating to 1912/ 1913. A sugar shed built in c.1925 and designed to hold up to 6000 tons of bagged sugar is located immediately behind the wharf frontage. The shed was originally part of a complex array of conveyors designed to transport bagged sugar from railway cars directly into the holds of ships, and visa-versa. The conveyor apparatus is intact along the roof of the shed, although the portions outside of the building have since been removed. Other heritage elements on the Cairns Wharves include three timber piers and wharves (c.1944 and 1960's), a cargo crane (c.1913), the brick Electrical Workshop (1951), the timber Waterside Workers' Amenities Hall (1954), the Harbour Board Store foundation (c.1920), the timber Cairns Yacht Club (c.1920), and various features such as gates and railway tracks. A large 1920's crane used for stacking and loading "sinker" logs was originally located adjacent to the sugar shed. Sold by the Cairns Harbour Board in the 1950's, the crane has been traced to a timber mill on the Atherton Tableland, where it currently resides in a virtually unmodified state.

*M. Moore*

## **NEW ZEALAND**

#### **ASHA Journal 1998**

Neville Ritchie, wearing his editor of the 1998 ASHA journal hat, reports that he has had an overwhelming response to his call for papers. Seventeen were offered of which eleven were received. They are in various stages of processing, but only about eight will fit into this year's journal.

#### **N.Z. Archaeological Association annual conference**

A further decline in the numbers of papers being presented at the N.Z. Archaeological Association annual conference on aspects of historical archaeology occurred this year. The

trend, in part, is attributable to lack of University interest and fewer mitigation opportunities. The historical archaeology presentations were "The Endeavour Settlement, 1795-97, Dusky Sound" (Ian Smith), "Industrial Archaeology of Great Barrier Island" (Brenda Sewell), "The Dunedin Gasworks: The Preservation of Industrial Archaeology in Dunedin" (Peter Petchey), and "N.Z. Shipwrecks and other Maritime Sites" (Mary O'Keefe). Mary stressed that archaeologically trained divers were needed in New Zealand, and noted that of the 1100 shipwrecks listed by Ingram in N.Z. waters between 1835 and 1900, only six shipwrecks in total were recorded on the national N.Z.A.A. database. A highlight of the conference was an excellent fieldtrip by launch around Queen Charlotte Sound (the conference was held in Picton at the head of the Sound) during which landings were made at several interesting sites including coastal defence and whaling station sites.

*Neville Ritchie*

---

## ARCHAEOLOGY ON THE WEB

---

The ASHA website is now up and running. The June Newsletter (Volume 28.2) listed the address as:  
<http://www.archaeology.usyd.edu.au/publications/index.html>

Please note that ASHA information is at:  
<http://www.archaeology.usyd.edu.au/ASHA>

---

## CONFERENCE NOTES

---

### ASHA Conference

3 - 5 October 1998

Museum of Sydney, Sydney

### IMPORTANT NOTICE

Attendees at the ASHA Conference are requested to arrange postal voting before the day. Last time absentee voting on the big day (at Sydney Town Hall) took nearly all afternoon.

*Denis Gojak*

### Australia ICOMOS

Australia ICOMOS is holding a half-day symposium on cultural tourism on Saturday afternoon, 10 October 1998 to link in with both the UNESCO and ICOM Conferences. The symposium will explore benefits and threats to cultural heritage sites which emanate from tourism and to input into the review process of the ICOMOS Cultural Tourism Charter which will be adopted at the ICOMOS General Assembly in Mexico in 1999. Contact Robyn Riddett at 03 9662 3344, fax 03 9662 1037 or e-mail [allomlovell@tpgi.com.au](mailto:allomlovell@tpgi.com.au).

### Society for Historical Archaeology Conference on Historical and Underwater Archaeology

January 5-10, 1999

Hilton Hotel, Salt Lake City, Utah.

*Conference theme:*

**Crossroads of the West: 19th Century  
Transportation, Mining and Commercial  
Development in the Intermountain West**

(including emigrant trails, stagecoach routes, the Pony Express, the Transcontinental Railroad, telegraph lines and highways). Please contact Don Southworth (Program Coordinator) or Michael R. Polk (Conference Chair) at:

Sagebrush Consultants, L.L.C.

3670 Quincy Avenue, Suite 203

Ogden, Utah, 84403

Email - [sageb@aol.com](mailto:sageb@aol.com)

Telephone: 801/394/0013

Fax: 801/394/0032.

---

## RESEARCH NOTES

---

### Confederate Blockade-runner *Denbigh*.

The Institute of Nautical Archaeology's project of the wreck of the *Denbigh* at Galveston, TX is proceeding. Initial dives revealed that the frames of the paddle wheels are exposed above the bottom from the hubs up. Some of the machinery between the paddle wheels is also visible. Another large protruding structure seems to be part of the boiler and exhaust system. Thanks to EdgeTech and Survey Systems, Inc., both of Houston, we have conducted a side-scan sonar survey and a sub-bottom sonar survey. We also plan a magnetometer survey to check for scattered wreckage. The *Denbigh*'s trinomial site designation is 41GV143.

For background information on the history of the ship and for progress reports on the fieldwork, please visit our web site at <http://nautarch.tamu.edu/PROJECTS/denbigh/denbigh.html> or search on the term *Denbigh* Project.

Other activities of INA's Texas Operations include two reconnaissance surveys. We visited a 19th century river steamboat wreck visible in the riverbank at Brownsville, Texas. We recorded this wreck, and it received the site number 41CF177. It is identified in local lore as either the USS *Rio Bravo* (ex-*Planter*) or the *Corvette*, both very important historic ships. We also recorded the site of a ferro-concrete wreck near the seaward end of the north jetty at Galveston, 41GV144. The site dates to the first half of the 20th century, before WWII. The ship is a whale-backed

tanker design and may be the *Durham* or *Darlington*.

Barto Arnold

*Institute of Nautical Archaeology*

*Texas A&M University*

*PO Box Drawer HG*

*College Station, TX 77841*

*email: barnold@tamu.edu*

---

## DIARY NOTES

---

### ASHA Conference

3 - 5 October 1998

### Australia ICOMOS Symposium

10 October 1998

### SHA Conference

5 - 10 January 1999

see Conference Notes for details.

---

## PUBLICATIONS

---

*The Persistence of Sail in the Age of Steam: Underwater Archaeological Evidence from the Dry Tortugas.* by Donna J. Souza; 206pp, 63 figs. and tables, 9 appendices, glossary, index, and references. Price \$42.50 (US and Canada)/ \$51.00 (elsewhere). Text adoption price on orders of six or more copies: \$27.50 each. Contact Eliot Werner at Plenum Press on (212) 620-8000.

Using an anthropologically oriented research design, this investigation of the wrecks of six sailing ships dating from the middle to late nineteenth century shows how merchant

sailing attempted to compete with steamships, not only through technological adaptation, but also through increased risk-taking. Souza addresses risk-taking behaviour, its archaeological signatures, and supporting evidence. Highlights include - maps, photographs, and contemporary illustrations - tables of anchor and chain sizes - a list of all wrecking vessels known to have operated in Dry Tortugas, and - a glossary of nautical terms. The result is a work with broad applications to the study of cultural change and a model for a new kind of underwater archaeology.

#### *Discover Archaeology*

A new archaeology and science magazine due to be issued in Jan/ Feb 1999. It is an illustrated, glossy bimonthly magazine reporting on the latest discoveries in archaeology and archaeological sciences. The format will include feature articles, essays and comments, and reviews.

Information about the magazine, its content, and breaking news in archaeology will be provided on the magazine's web site:

[www.discoverarchaeology.com](http://www.discoverarchaeology.com)

This magazine will always be looking for articles, both short news briefs and full-length submissions, and hope that ASHA members can contribute. Guidelines for submissions can be found on the web site.

One year (6 issues) of Discover Archaeology for \$15.95 (plus \$10.00 postage and handling). All funds must be in US dollars drawn on a US bank. Mail orders to:

Discover Archaeology

PO Box 9473

El Paso, Texas 79995

email: [info@discoverarchaeology.com](mailto:info@discoverarchaeology.com)

---

## ASHA NEWS

---

### ASHA SEEKS FEDERATION FUNDING

A book explaining how Australians lived at the time of Federation is the subject of a Federation Funding application. It will be titled *Common Wealth: the lifestyle of Australians at the time of Federation*.

The publication is expected to use abundant images and plain English to reach a wide audience. It will be a source book for Australia's material culture, showing its diversity and distinctiveness in both public and private contexts.

The book is planned for launching at the Society's 2001 conference, which is to be held in Canberra in September. The text must therefore be ready for publication by June 2000. The book is intended to have a wide appeal and to be easy to read. As a time capsule of Australian life it will open people's eyes to the past and enable today's Australians to measure the distance we have travelled since 1901.

Because the text will be authoritative and will draw upon sources such as archaeological reports which are out of reach of the average person, it will provide a reliable reference for school teachers, librarians, historical societies and students at both secondary and tertiary levels.

---

## NEXT ASHA NEWSLETTER

---

Please send Northern Territory contributions to Jennie Lindberg (NSW rep).

All information for inclusion in the next newsletter should be received by 30 November 1998.

---

**ASHA PUBLICATIONS**


---

*Australasian Historical Archaeology*

	Members <i>out of print</i>	Non-members
Volume 1		
Volumes 2 - 13	\$10.00 each	\$12.00 each
Volume 14 (1996)	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 15 (1997)	\$18.00	\$22.00

**Major Publications**

Birmingham, J., D. Bairstow, & A. Wilson (eds) \$26.00  
*Archaeology and Colonisation: Australia in the World Context, Papers from the Seventh Annual ASHA Conference*

Birmingham, J. \$36.00  
*Wybalenna: The Archaeology of Cultural Accommodation in Nineteenth Century Tasmania*

Lawrence, S. & M. Staniforth (eds) forthcoming  
*The Archaeology of Whaling in Southern Australia and New Zealand*

Rogers, B. \$12.50  
*Nineteenth Century Salt Manufacturing Sites in Tasmania*

**Occasional Papers**

Maureen Byrne: *Ross Bridge, Tasmania* \$6.00 each  
 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*

Postage and packing in Australia:  
 Journals - Occasional Papers add \$4.00 per item  
 Major publications add \$6.50 per item

Postage and packing overseas (surface mail):  
 Journals - Occasional Papers add \$5.00 per item  
 Major publications add \$15.00 per item

---

**ASHA CONTACTS**


---

ACT	Richard Morrison c/AHC, GPO Box 1567, Canberra 2601	ph. 02 6217 2133 fax 02 6217 2095 email: rmorrison@ahc.gov.au
NSW	Jennie Lindbergh 23 Thomas Street, Darlington, NSW, 2008	ph. 02 9698 2417 email: Jennie.Geoff@bigpond.com
NZ	Neville Ritchie Dept of Conservation, Private Bag 3072, Hamilton, NZ	ph. 0011 64 838 3363 email: NRitchie@doc.govt.nz
NT		
QLD	Gordon Grimwade PO Box 9, Yungaburra, QLD, 4872	ph. 07 4095 3737 fax 07 4095 2117 email: gordongrimwade@internorth.com.au
SA	Mark Staniforth School of Cultural Studies, Flinders University PO Box 2100, Adelaide, SA 5001	Ph. 08 8201 5195 fax 08 8201 3845 email: Marl.Staniforth@flinders.edu.au
TAS	Angela McGowan Parks and Wildlife Service, GPO Box 44A, Hobart 7000	ph. 03 6233 2424 email: angiem@delm.tas.gov.au
VIC	Fiona Weaver 24 The Avenue, Belmont, Vic., 3216	ph. 03 5243 1462
WA	Myra Stanbury WA Museum, Cliff St, Fremantle, WA, 6160	Ph. 08 9335 8211 fax 08 9430 5120 email: myra.stanbury@museum.wa.gov.au

Editor this issue: *Gordon Grimwade*

General Editor: *Noeleen Curran*

# NEWSLETTER

Volume 28:4 1998  
Print Post Regulations No: PP24359/00114  
ISSN 0156-9295

Box 220 Holme Building  
University of Sydney 2006  
Secretary: (02) 9558 6618

## THE STATE OF THE ART

### Victoria

#### Heritage Victoria

Heritage Victoria is spending considerable time ensuring that all records are Y2K compatible. Currently the conservation, Heritage Inventory and Ship List databases have been converted and the IT team is working on the Heritage Buildings database which includes the Heritage Register. The Heritage Register will be transferred to a new database software, currently the NSW Heritage System (with some modifications). It is hoped that this would be available on the web during 1999. This is an interim solution as the Department of Infrastructure continues to explore options for an integrated database which will incorporate archaeology, shipwrecks, buildings, gardens, trees, cemeteries, precincts and conservation places and objects.

The Heritage Act is currently undergoing a review as part of the National Competition Policy. Public submissions are open until 11 December 1998. For further information contact Mike McIntyre.

Leah McKenzie has been appointed Manager, Heritage Approvals and Assistance for Heritage Victoria. She will still remain responsible for archaeological heritage management as Senior Archaeologist.

The Maritime Heritage Unit is currently undertaking fieldwork on the *City of Launceston* in Port Phillip Bay. To date the weather has been bad and reduced the amount of diving time. So far preliminary gridding of the site and documentation has been undertaken. The intention of the excavation is to archaeologically recover parts of the site and prepare for the site to be open for divers to visit and view.

Leah McKenzie, with Elizabeth Pemberton of the University of Melbourne, will be conducting a third season of excavations at Viewbank 13 January - 7 February. A call for

volunteers appears on the next page of this newsletter. This season plans to extend the excavation of the slit trench in the tip, uncover more of the homestead plan and, if time, investigate possible locations of the outbuildings.

#### Consultants

Dr Roger Luebbers is currently investigating the archaeological side of Clunes township in the gold region. A new sewage treatment works is being constructed and will partially disturb a number of sites which he recorded earlier in the year.

Dr Vincent Clark, Andrea Murphy, Jeremy Smith and Sharon Lane have been involved in surveying a section of the Calder highway between Kyneton and Ravenswood as part of a proposed freeway extension of the Calder Highway. This area was part of the Mount Alexander Diggings and therefore is rich in archaeological and historic heritage relating to the gold rushes in Victoria. It is thus a very important and sensitive heritage region. Heritage Victoria will be making recommendations regarding further heritage work on the basis of the report.

Sarah Myers is undertaking a short monitoring program at Cohen Place in Chinatown in Melbourne. The site appears to have been occupied from the 1870s until 1970s.

Mike Pearson is currently undertaking the heritage work as part of an EES for a goldmining project at Stawell.

#### Cultural Heritage Group

Biosis Research Pty. Ltd. purchased du Cros and Associates in July this year, creating the Cultural Heritage Group and is led by David Rhodes. Biosis Research has extensive experience in flora and fauna management.

The Cultural Heritage Group have been engaged in a range of cultural heritage projects primarily in Victoria and in New South Wales in addition to undertaking a

variety of combined natural and cultural assessments. Examples of these are the natural and cultural heritage studies for the Southern Fertiliser Plant, flora, fauna and archaeology surveys at Caroline Springs and along the Berwick-Pakenham corridor.

Some of the major projects currently under way include a statewide assessment of Aboriginal historic places for Aboriginal Affairs Victoria (David Rhodes and Lucy Amorosi). Taryn Debney is involved with the finalisation of the EES for Yallourn Energy's Maryvale Open Cut Expansion and has been supervising site excavations for VicRoads on the Calder and Goulburn Valley highways. The results of a 12-month archaeological and historical assessment at the site of the former South Melbourne Gasworks is being coordinated by Oona Nicolson, whilst Helen Cekalovic has been clocking up the kilometres with fieldwork in New South Wales and the far corners of Victoria.

#### **Australian Institute Of Professional Archaeologists (AIPA)**

The immediate aims of the AIPA Council are as follows:

- to establish a term of office for Council and a protocol for future elections;
- clarify the roles of the Executive Committee and other Council Members;
- recommend membership categories and entry criteria for the Institute;
- establish a process for forming the Membership Committee; and
- prepare a brief identifying the terms of reference for applying for membership.

Additionally, the AIPA Council has identified the following tasks as priorities:

- endorse recommendations for accepting membership applications;
- establish policy for newsletter content;
- develop Codes of Conduct (the draft code of ethics has been adopted);
- recommend a draft Constitution for adoption by the membership;
- identify and endorse professional development initiatives;
- conduct surveys of the membership to profile professional needs;
- conduct workshops;
- sponsor seminars;
- represent the interests of professional archaeology in appropriate forums; and
- maintain regular communication with the membership.

The following AIPA members were elected to the AIPA Council at the election held on 29 July 1998:

Andrea Murphy, David Rhodes, Dr Susan Lawrence (La Trobe University), Assoc. Prof. Tony Sagona (University of Melbourne), Vicky Clayton and Peter Davies. Tom Richards (Aboriginal Affairs Victoria) and Dr Leah McKenzie (Heritage Victoria) have been appointed to serve on Council as state agency representatives. The Council also includes the Executive Committee: Dr Roger Luebbers, Jane Harrington, Mike McIntyre, Andrew Long and Sarah Myers.

The Council is encouraging participation in AIPA from all parts of the archaeological community.

Please do not hesitate to direct any queries or comments to any of the Council members or directly to the President, Roger Luebbers, on (03) 9848 7363 or e-mail: [raluebbers@onaustralia.com.au](mailto:raluebbers@onaustralia.com.au)

#### **Viewbank Homestead**

##### *Call for Volunteers*

Heritage Victoria, in partnership with The University of Melbourne, will be conducting a third season of excavation at the Viewbank Homestead, Banyule Road, Viewbank, between Wednesday 13 January and Sunday 7 February 1999.

Viewbank Homestead is situated on a steep hill near the junction of the Yarra and Plenty rivers, in Heidelberg. The site consists of an extensive garden with exotic trees, terracing, driveways, and building foundations. Most of these are expected to date from 1840 to 1883, the period of ownership of Mr James Williamson and Dr. Robert Martin and Lucy Martin. When Dr Martin died in 1874 the farm declined and the family moved away.

With the appearance of a train line through Heidelberg in 1888 the area became a favourite painting ground for the Heidelberg School of painters. In later years the site became derelict and vacant until it was torn down sometime in the 1920s, and the farm was sold to the Bartram family.

The archaeological and historical significance of the site has been recognized by the Heritage Council of Victoria, who have placed it in the Victorian Heritage Register H1396.

Two earlier seasons of excavation were conducted in 1996 and 1997. They concentrated on excavating the main

homestead to reveal the plan and the architectural phases of the site.

The excavation will be conducted under the following conditions:

*Minimum Requirement:*

4 full days commitment during the excavation period.

*Dates of excavation:*

Wed 13 January 1999 - Sun 17 January 1999  
Wed 20 January 1999 - Sun 24 January 1999  
Wed 27 January 1999 - Sun 31 January 1999  
Wed 3 February 1999 - Sun 7 February 1999

If you are interested in being a volunteer at Viewbank, please contact:

Heritage Victoria  
Level 22 Nauru House  
80 Collins Street  
Melbourne VIC 3000

fax: 9655 9720  
ph: 9655 6519

or contact Dr Leah McKenzie at:  
leah.mckenzie@doi.vic.gov.au

*Leah McKenzie*  
*Heritage Victoria*

## **New Zealand**

Neville Ritchie reported that he recently attended "Old and New Migrations and Culture Change", a conference organised by the "Association for the Study of the Chinese and their descendants in Australasia and the Pacific Islands". The conference was held in the Otago Museum, Dunedin, N.Z. and follows two earlier conferences both held in Australia. Another is planned in about two years time, tentatively in Brisbane. Neville was specifically contracted to lead the conference field trip - a tour around Chinese sites in Central Otago. The conference is an excellent forum for meeting and exchanging ideas and information with people who have a very real and personal interest in the history of overseas Chinese communities, the archaeology of Chinese sites, and the long term preservation of Chinese graves and headstones.

Neville also reported that he is one of six authors (four Chinese/ two European) who are collaborating to produce a 300-page *Illustrated History of the Chinese in New Zealand*. The project has begun now, with the

intention of having the manuscript to the printers by the end of 1999. Neville, along with prominent N.Z. Chinese historian Dr Jim Ng of Dunedin, will write the section on "the Chinese in N.Z. from first arrivals until c.1900". The other authors will cover the later periods.

## **Battle to save the East Pirongia redoubt near Hamilton, N.Z.**

The Waikato War (1863-64) was the key campaign of the nineteenth century "land wars" between Maori and Europeans in N.Z. Several of the sites associated with the first part of the campaign are protected in historic reserves in the lower Waikato Valley, but at present there are no interpreted historic reserves to tell the second part of the story, i.e. General Cameron's advance up the Waipa River from January 1864, the occupation of Rangiaowhia and Te Awamutu, and the ultimate engagement at Orakau over three days in March-April 1864. The only site in public ownership associated with the second phase of the campaign, viz.

The East Pirongia redoubt site has recently been threatened with destruction by the local authority, the Waipa District Council, who are in the course of creating a new subdivision at Pirongia. Although the Council was prepared to pay for some archaeological investigations, at the end of the day they expected to sell the two sections occupied by the redoubt site. However, it is pleasing to report that, following the archaeological work, the local community has expressed considerable opposition to selling the redoubt site (aided and abetted by the principal investigator, Warren Gumbley, Dept of Conservation and NZHPT archaeologists, members of the NZAA, and N.Z. members of ASHA) and, at the time of writing, it looks as though the Council will withdraw the sections from sale, and begin a dialogue to see the redoubt site preserved for future generations.

*Neville Ritchie*  
*Department of Conservation NZ*

## **South Australia**

### **Flinders University**

In June 1998 a joint team of staff and students from Flinders University, together with Terry Arnott of the State Heritage Branch, conducted four days fieldwork on remote Flinders Island off Eyre Peninsula in South Australia. The pre-disturbance survey work was in support of Cherrie de Lieuen's honours thesis research which examines the lives of

Indigenous Australian women abducted by sealers and whalers in the early nineteenth century. A sealer named William Bryant (or Bryan) was resident on Flinders Island from about 1826 until his death in 1849, together with two women whom he had abducted - Fanny, a Tasmanian woman and Charlotte, a woman from near the mouth of the Murray River. A building structure constructed of the local pink granite and reputed to be "Bryant's hut" was recorded. Further building remains in the area of "Bryant's Bay" were photographed and recorded. It is clear that at least two, and probably three, building phases are evident at Bryant's Bay. The first consists of the buildings constructed of the local pink granite in the northern part of the site which are probably associated with the "whaling station" which was present on the island in the late 1840s. Ceramic material found around these buildings included fragments of feather-edged blue plates and black jasperware. The second phase is the buildings made from local limestone in the southern end of the site which may be associated with the pastoral settlement on the island during the second half of the nineteenth century. Finally, there is a single composite construction (limestone and granite) building which still stands two metres high in part which was probably built by the salvage party for the Kaparra (1942) wreck site.

An exhibition in the Kelly Morris room at Flinders University called Archaeology at Flinders took place between 7 and 18 September. Put together by students in the ARCH 2301 The Museum topic the exhibition focused on the teaching and research interests of the Archaeology staff and students at Flinders University. The exhibition was mounted in conjunction with a simulated archaeology "dig-box" which was installed and then excavated by students in ARCH 2002 Australian Archaeology B. The exhibition and "dig-box" drew more than several hundred school students from local high schools to find out more about archaeology.

### **Trial Bay**

Between 14 and 21 November 1998 a team of staff from Heritage SA, consultants Parry Kostoglou and Peter Bell, and volunteer Justin McCarthy, as well as staff and students from Flinders University undertook a remote sensing and pre-disturbance survey at what is believed to be the site of the Trial Bay whaling station on Eyre Peninsula, SA. Poor weather conditions and high sand levels on the beach prevented the location and examination of one of two whaling vessels known to have been wrecked in the Bay. Test excavation on land revealed part of a tryworks floor in one 3m x

1m test trench and a considerable amount of copper alloy sheathing and nails believed to have been salvaged from one of the wrecks in the second 4m x 1m test trench.

*Mark Staniforth & Nathan Richards*  
Archaeology  
Flinders University

### **Queensland**

Wallin and Grimwade Heritage Services are completing archaeological recording of the single lane Annan River bridge, near Cooktown. Gordon Grimwade and Geoff Ginn have developed a management options paper for the heritage listed bridge. It has long been considered significant because of its plate girder and screw pile foundations. The latter were innovative, even in 1885 - 1889. Research shows they are even more significant than first thought. The geo-technical report was apparently the figment of imagination. Suggestions that the riverbed were sandy proved incorrect. The auger tips had to be filed off and the piers sank in more conventional fashion because of bedrock. Underwater video recording has shown the bridge to be in delicate health. The favoured plan is to remove the centre spans to reduce potential loss during floods. Removing those spans promises to be an archaeological challenge. Crocodiles inhabit the area!! Gordon would be interested to hear from anyone who would like the challenge of fending off the crocs or, more importantly, has information on other screw pile structures (Contact: P.O. Box 9, Yungaburra, Qld. 4872).

*Gordon Grimwade*  
Wallin and Grimwade Heritage Services

### **New South Wales**

The most consistent contributors of news to the Newsletter have been Godden Mackay (now including new director David Logan as *Godden Mackay Logan*). However this does not mean that nothing else has been happening in New South Wales as anyone who has read the daily papers, or watched T.V. will be aware. This year the ABC Program *Quantum* took a look at Dana Mider's excavation at Fort Denison, and Ted Higginbotham's excavation at the Cadia Cemetery near Orange. The Cadia Cemetery Project took about 4 months with the team (including some ex-Prince of Wales team members) experiencing weather conditions ranging from the high 30s to below freezing while they painstakingly excavated over a

hundred burials. Casey and Lowe Associates have had a fraught and hectic year which has not been helped by Tony Lowe's health problems which seem to be on the mend. The Conservatorium of Music site has generated quite a lot of media attention (much of it inaccurate). Interest has been excited by the discovery of 1820s roads, and drains (and more drains!) made of convict bricks inciting intervention by the National Trust and the recent placing of a Green Ban on further work, excluding archaeological. Mary Casey has indicated that she will write something about the saga in a forthcoming Newsletter.

The Lecture Series began this year at a pleasant venue at Glebe Library with a discussion on the value of excavating late nineteenth/ early twentieth century sites. Although this session was well attended subsequent sessions seem to have generated little interest. It has been suggested that the talks given at the Rocks Visitors Centre by Wayne Johnson (archaeology in Newcastle) and Roland Fletcher (archaeology of WWII) were poorly attended because the venue is difficult to access and the weather was awful. The latest venue, Humanist House in Chippendale has the advantage of proximity to Sydney University and is self-contained, but again attendance at the talks given by Susan Lawrence (Whaling Stations and archaeology), and Catriona Angus (the issues of fabric and artefact conservation) was disappointing. The venue for 1999 is yet to be finalised, but the program should include Richard Mackay on the Destitute Childrens' Cemetery at Prince of Wales Hospital, Randwick, Parry Kostoglou who was very entertaining at the Conference with his sealers' tales, Anne Waugh of the Dept. Public Works Heritage Division on culture change and continuity in the Indonesian Islands.

There has been a suggestion that the Lecture Series either be suspended, or disbanded. These sessions are an opportunity for members to get together, discuss business, gossip and generally socialise, as well as for new members (particularly the increasing numbers of students) to meet long term members and find out the realities of a career in archaeology. Any suggestions for improvements, offers to lecture, or help are welcome (see back page for contact details). It is important that YOU support the Lecture Series.

*Jennie Lindbergh*

Siobhan Lavelle has been working on the finalisation of the Stage I Conservation Plan for the Great North Road, including completion of fieldwork at the Hunter Valley

end (Wollombi - Broke - Warkworth - Maitland). Several additional precincts with early road features and relics have been located during this work.

She has also been working on a study of all remaining timber truss bridges in NSW being undertaken by McMillan, Britton and Kell for the NSW Roads and Traffic Authority.

*Siobhan Lavelle*

## CONFERENCE NOTES

---

### **International Conference for the Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology**

*Conference Announcement & Call for Papers*

18-23 September 1999

Australian National Maritime Museum,  
Darling Harbour, Sydney.

Further information is available from:

David Nutley  
NSW Heritage Office  
Locked Bag 5020  
Sydney NSW 2124

ph. 02 9635 6155  
fax 02 9891 4488

e-mail: [nutleyd@heritage.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nutleyd@heritage.nsw.gov.au)

### **1999 SHA Conference on Historical And Underwater Archaeology**

5-10 January

Salt Lake City - Utah, USA  
Salt Lake Hilton Hotel,  
150 West 500 South  
Salt Lake City, Utah, USA  
Tel: 801-532-3344

Conference guest room rates will be \$89 US plus tax.

The conference chair is Michael R. Polk. He may be reached at:

Sagebrush Archaeological Consultants, 3670 Quincy Avenue Suite 203, Ogden, UT 84403, USA; Tel: 801-394-0013. Fax: 801-394-0032, E-mail: [sageb@aol.com](mailto:sageb@aol.com).

Information about the conference can be found at:

<http://www.sha.org/meet99.htm>

*Conference Sessions:*

- Archaeological Perspectives of Historic Trails
- The Transcontinental Railroad and Other Rail Transportation
- Mail Service - mule driven stages, the Pony Express and early Air Mail
- Transcontinental Communications - from the Telegraph to the Telephone
- Historic Archaeology of the Northern Spanish/Mexican Frontier
- Mining - Coal, Silver, Gold, and Copper
- Archaeological Perspectives on Historic Landscapes
- Archaeology of Expansion Era Roads: 1870-1940 Perspectives on the Archaeology of Mormon Settlements
- Hard Rock Mining vs Soft Rock Mining Industrialization in the Intermountain West
- Fur Trapping and Mountain Men
- The Military in the West - Reality vs Myth
- Archaeological Perspectives on 19th and early 20th Century Environment and Health
- Archaeology of Ranching and Farming Reality vs Myth
- Development of Roads in the Intermountain West - Trails to Interstates
- Early Exploration of the West and South west Urban Archaeology Sites in Western North American
- Archaeology of Ethnic Communities
- Archaeological Perspectives of the Oregon/California Trail
- Underwater Archaeology of the Western Seacoast and Its Rivers
- GIS Applications for Underwater Archaeology
- Regional Approach to Underwater Archaeology
- Underwater Archaeology in the 21st Century
- Anthropological Theory in Underwater Archaeology
- 18th Century Shipwreck Archaeology

**Workshops**

In response to popular demand, the SHA has organized five workshops to be held on Wednesday, January 6, at the Salt Lake Hilton. The topics include Chinese and Japanese artifacts, beads, archaeological illustration, grantsmanship, and historic landscapes. Experts on a variety of topics have been asked to share their knowledge with you in a small-group setting where plenty of time has been set aside for hands-on experience with artifacts, or for learning a new skill or about a timely, interdisciplinary topic.

In addition to the SHA-organized workshops, there will be a full-day workshop on industrial archaeology on Wednesday, January 6, presented by the Heritage Resources Management program at the University of Nevada, Reno (UNR). Two days will be set aside on Monday and Tuesday January 11-12 for a workshop presented by the National Preservation Institute (NPI) on federal cultural resource law and the historical archaeologist.

**Digging In The Dirt: Excavation In A New Millennium**

Call for papers to be presented at a session on excavation methodology at the fifth annual meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists, Bournemouth UK, 14-19 September 1999.

Members of the EAA should already be aware that there are great differences in the way archaeologists excavate in different countries. This stands in stark contrast to such "hard" sciences as biology, chemistry or physics. Is this a problem?

Considering how much of the archaeology we do today is strictly interpretative - the gender studies, the post-processional and other syntheses of data already available, etc. - it probably is: how many of our theoretical and interpretative models are based on poorly collected data (i.e. poorly excavated sites)?

Another major trend is towards increasingly fragmented excavation projects: instead of excavating a whole site for research purposes, someone watches the installation of a sewer line and documents their observations. Without standardised excavation methods and documentation techniques, how can data gathered from one such "keyhole" excavation be combined with that from any other project on the same site?

In this session we will take the opportunity this "end/turn of the century/millennium" offers, to look seriously at the dirty business of

excavation. We can look back at how we have excavated in the past, and perhaps begin a discussion archaeologists excavate their sites in different countries, and perhaps learn from one another.

Topics to be examined will/could include stratigraphy, soil descriptions, documentation systems, excavation methods, the relationship between documentation and excavation, surveying and remote sensing.

<http://csweb.bournemouth.ac.uk/consci/ea99/>

Session organizer: Geoff Carver  
gcarver@t-online.de  
<http://home.t-online.de/home/gzarver/gzarver@t-online.de>

## **ARCHAEOLOGY ON THE WEB**

---

### **Australia and New Zealand**

#### **Flinders University**

AWSANZ Archaeology of Whaling in Southern Australia and New Zealand at:

<http://adminwww.flinders.edu.au/AWSANZ/AWSANZHome.html>

#### **Heritage Council of Victoria**

The Heritage Council site includes information on archaeology, buildings, gardens, maritime archaeology and other heritage places. It is regularly updated. There is a tree poster for those who can answer a quiz.

<http://www.heritage.vic.gov.au>

#### **University of Sydney**

Archaeology at The University of Sydney has a Home Page on the world wide web. The address is:

<http://felix.antiquity.arts.su.edu.au/>

#### **Varman's Ceramics Resource**

Robert Varman has established a web resource for eighteenth- and nineteenth-century ceramics. It includes numerous photographic representations and text. The website also contains information about the archaeology of Norfolk Island. Its address is:

<http://www.geocities.com/Paris/LeftBank/659/scc18.html>

### **New Zealand Archaeological Association**

The NZAA site includes information on the organisation, publications, heritage management policy, directories of NZAA members and consultants and, of particular interest to historical archaeologists, aerial photographs of sites in New Zealand. The address is:

<http://c14.sci.waikato.ac.nz/nzaa/>

### **International Web Pages**

#### **Archaeology Channel**

Commercial archaeology products such as books, equipment, software, consulting firms in the US and fieldwork opportunities.

<http://archaeologic.com/>

#### **ARGE**

ARGE is an ordered collection of hypertext links pointing to current archaeological communication and information resources across Europe. Using the buttons below, these links can be accessed by country, by subject, by period, or by a database search.

Database searching and text only access are provided on an experimental basis, while multilingual access and searching is currently being studied.

ARGE, currently serving nearly 1,300 links from 38 countries, is maintained by Sara Champion and Martijn van Leusen. New links are actively sought out, visited, and evaluated before being posted in our new links section. Visitors are encouraged to write in with comments, additions, and corrections.

ARGE is a European Archaeological Heritage Web service.

<http://odur.let.rug.nl/arge/>

#### **SHA Society for Historical Archaeology**

The Society for Historical Archaeology (SHA) web page includes information about membership, journals, publications, historical archaeology bibliographies and careers.

<http://www.sha.org/>

## RESEARCH NOTES

---

### La Trobe University Honours Theses

#### **Spatial Analysis of the Kelly and Lucas Whaling Station, Bruny Island, Tasmania.**

The focus of this honours thesis is the investigation of the different activity areas at the Kelly and Lucas Whaling Station, especially with the use of spatial analysis of the recovered artefacts. The cultural and non-cultural formation processes that were operating on the site were defined. The non-cultural processes have not affected the spatial integrity of artefacts from the whaling period, and hence, any observed patterns in them are a reflection of the whalers' behaviour at the station. Refuse distinctions were made to link spatial analysis of the artefacts with occupied activity. The intrasite spatial analysis method used was simple artefact distributional pattern analysis, using a GIS program. The artefacts' relationship to architectural features, the artefacts themselves, and historical information, were used to determine activity areas at the site. The spatial analysis shows where on the site these activities were taking place, and which areas were for multifunctional and monofunctional activities. The site was divided into five distinct activity areas.

*Andrea Clark*

#### **Trypots And Teacups: Representations Of The Van Dieman's Land Whalemens.**

This thesis examines the lives of the Van Diemen's Land Whalemens, particularly the shore-based whalers. Central to the issues discussed is the notion of respectability: the whalers were outsiders to Hobart Town society and outside the bounds of respectability. The concepts of centre and periphery, as discussed by Edward Shils, provides a framework for this examination of the lives of the whalemens. They were on the periphery, while at the centre was a network of institutions and values espoused by the elite members of the society, who determined the standards by which the behaviour and the values of all those within their sphere of influence were and are judged. The discussion is 'anchored' by a consideration of those who operated James Kelly and Thomas Lucas' station at Adventure Bay on Bruny Island. Here we can see the authority of the centre as it sought to impose prevailing concepts of respectability and order on the whalemens and to reshape the world of the whalemens into the image of the centre.

and we can also see the complex responses of the whalemens themselves.

*John Buttress*

### University of Otago Honours Theses

#### **Amorphous Lumps: The Metal Assemblage from Facile Harbour, Dusky Sound, New Zealand.**

Metal artefacts are invariably ignored during the analysis of historical assemblages in both New Zealand and abroad. It was not possible to simply forget about the metal objects recovered from the late eighteenth-century settlement in Facile Harbour: they were the only class of remains recovered in significant quantities. A detailed analysis of these remains was undertaken, examining as many variables as possible for each category of artefact and drawing on historical information to aid interpretation. This successfully demonstrated the quantities of information that can be obtained from a metal assemblage. When subjected to a spatial analysis, these metal artefacts revealed the differential use of distinct areas of the site and thereby provided new information about the eighteenth century occupation of Facile Harbour.

*Katharine Watson*

## ASHA NEWS

---

### President's Report

ASHA is a remarkable society, with members around the world, although most, of course, are concentrated in Australia and New Zealand. It is run by a changing body of volunteers who together make up the Committee. Keeping in touch with the membership is the principal task of the Secretary, for whom it is almost a full-time job, as the magnificent Rowan Ward knows all too well. The members communicate among themselves through the *Newsletter*, state representatives and its editors. The Journal is run by the Editor, with assistance from the Editorial Committee. The Editors edit, the Committee commits, the Treasurer treasures. As this doesn't leave much for the President to do (other than carrying slide projectors and stuffing envelopes), I thought I should follow the lead given by previous presidents, particularly Judy Birmingham and Graham Connah, in making sure that government authorities acknowledge the importance of ASHA as a professional group with specialised interests and expertise.

To that end I represented ASHA at three meetings sponsored by the Australian government, all held in the national capital in 1998. The meetings varied in scope and immediate usefulness, but all provided a useful forum for making the point that archaeology has something to offer, especially to studies of material culture, past and present. At the first meeting, held in May, we devised a draft resolution on studies of rural heritage, building on the arguments made by Graham Connah and Isobel McBryde. The ministers whom we were advising seemed happy to support this - though they did point out somewhat wryly that they might not be able to implement the resolution if they were not re-elected at the federal elections of October 1998. As the government was re-elected, I hope the ministers will soon invite us back. The follow-up document I wrote on this topic was inserted into the June issue of the *Newsletter* (Volume 28.2).

The second meeting, in July, was much more informal and I was technically a gatecrasher, since it was a gathering of historians planning the celebration of the centenary of the creation of the Commonwealth of Australia by Federation in 1901. This meeting inspired the application we have out in for \$30,000 to publish a book in 2001, provisionally entitled *Common Wealth: the lifestyle of Australians at the time of Federation* (details were published in the *Newsletter*). There was some difficulty in finding referees, since they could not be participants in the project, and we naturally hope that all archaeologists, Australian or otherwise, will wish to contribute. In the end, however, two highly-regarded Australian historians wrote us wonderful references and we have some hopes of success. Watch this space, as we are to be informed about the application's outcome in January 1999.

Anybody who wishes to know more about Federation should obtain a copy of the work by Brendan O'Keefe and ASHA member Michael Pearson. Commissioned by the Australian Heritage Commission, *Federation: a National Survey of Heritage Places* (ISBN 0 7306 8650 7) gives both a brief history of the federation movement and its outcomes and also a method for analysing Federation-related places. Two case studies are presented: surveys of Corowa/Wahgunyah, New South Wales and the Western Australian Gold fields. I think you will be surprised by the range and quantity of places with relevance to Federation and you will find it is worth thinking about them in your own locality.

The third meeting, in August, was the vast National Heritage Convention, on which Richard Mackay reported in the last *Newsletter*. The official report, *Key Outcomes*, is now available from the Australian Heritage Commission. An underlying theme which seemed to me of considerable interest was the conflation of 'natural' and 'cultural' heritage. This stems ultimately from an acceptance of indigenous views of the land as being in itself part of culture, a concept antithetical to the traditional western view that nature is passive and only culture ('man') is active. The relevance to archaeology is that it enables us to move from thinking of the 'site' as an artefact bounded in space and time towards a view of the 'site' as one event in a continuum of natural and cultural change.

The ASHA Conference held in Sydney in October explored some of these issues in a variety of ways and also drew attention to changing social interpretations of material culture and the artefact. The interconnectedness of archaeology with other disciplines was well brought out by a number of speakers who used both text and image to give wider context to the archaeological remains. The Conference also served to launch *The Archaeology of Whaling and Sealing in Southern Australia and New Zealand* edited by Susan Lawrence and Mark Staniforth and published jointly with our colleagues in the Australian Institute for Maritime Archaeology, with the assistance of a \$4000 grant from the Ian Potter Foundation. We are grateful to Bob Kirk and the Brolga Press for the care and rapidity with which they produced this beautiful volume.

At the conference we held elections and I am grateful to the Society for re-electing me as president, a function I shall carry out to the best of my ability for the next year. It is a great pleasure to have the opportunity to thank again three outgoing members of the committee, Ilma Powell, Mary Casey and Tony Lowe, all of whom have worked tirelessly for ASHA, and to welcome two new members, Anna Wong and Paul Rheinberger.

*Aedeen Cremin*

#### **ASHA Conference 1998**

The ASHA Committee would like to thank all those who attended the 1998 ASHA Conference in Sydney at the beginning of October -

Caitlin Allen, Penelope Allison, Damaris Bairstow, Lorraine Banks, Michael Bennett, Judy Birmingham, Susan Briggs, Angela Brkic, Kay Brown, Anne Cannon, Heather

Clarey, Victoria Clayton, Sarah Colley, Graham Connah, Simon Coote, Cosmos Coroneos, Jacqueline Craig, Aedeon Cremin, Penny Crook, Jennifer Curl, Noeleen Curran, Peter Davies, Denise Donlon, Claire Everett, Adam Ford, Ross Gam, Karen Gaynor-Sperring, Denis Gojak, Rachelle Graves, Tania Hardy-Smith, Dianne Harlow, Jane Harrington, Kathryn Henderson, Meredith Hutton, Tracy Ireland, Chris Jacomb, Wayne Johnson, Matthew Kelly, Martin Kemp, Ruth Kerr, Kathryn King, Parry Kostoglou, Rita Kusevskis-Hayes, Susan Lawrence, Estelle Lazer, Jennie Lindbergh, Richard Mackay, Sally May, Rick McGovern-Wilson, Samantha McKay, Terry Moore, Richard Morrison, Rod Mountford, Wayne Mullen, Oona Nicolson, Mac North, Tim Owen, David Pearson, Nigel Prickett, Kath Prickett, Paul Rheinberger, Nathan Richards, Neville Ritchie, Brian Rough, Julia Searle, Lindsay Smith, Jean Smith, Fiona Starr, Eve Stenning, Iain Stuart, Emma Thompson, Catherine Tucker, Gary Vines, Rowan Ward, Andrew Wilson, Anna Wong and Sylvia Yates.

Papers were given by:

*Penelope Allison and Michael Barry*, The Kinchega Archaeological Research Project -1998 Field Campaign.

*Lorraine Banks*, Caring and Conserving: a community initiative to address the management complexities of a 240 km long convict relic.

*Judy Birmingham*, New Light on a Central Australian Mission: written perceptions, observed behaviours.

*Simon Coote*, Flour Mills of the Fleurieu Peninsula: a landscape approach

*Cos Coroneos*, Digging the Terrestrial Way Under the Water: the excavation of the City of Launceston.

*Peter Davies*, Henry's Mill: the archaeology of a forest settlement.

*Denise Donlon*, The Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum Cemetery: physical anthropology and setting directions and standards.

*Shaunnagh Dorsett*, Native Title and Shipwrecks.

*Denis Gojak*, Growing up Australian: finding archaeology about cultural transformations.

*Carl Hughes*, A Forensic Scientist's View of Death and Exhumation.

*Tracy Ireland*, Stakeholder Consultation and Liaison for the Excavation of the Randwick Destitute Children's Asylum Cemetery.

*Tracy Ireland and Matthew Kelly*, Wasteland, Common, Park: the development of a European social landscape in Sydney.

*Terry Moore*, It's the Pits: investigating brickmaking at Lake Innes.

*Susan Piddock*, Rescue archaeology and the Destitute Asylum of Adelaide, South Australia - the future?

*Nigel Prickett*, Eighty-two and Rising.  
*Paul Rheinberger*, Lake Innes House Revisited: the end of the beginning.

*Nathan Richards*, Ships in the Mud: some maritime archaeology from Port Adelaide, South Australia.

*Neville Ritchie*, In-ground ore roasting kilns on the Hauraki Goldfield, Coromandel Peninsula, New Zealand.

*Fiona Starr*, Convicting Artefacts: Norfolk Island archaeology and museum representation.

*Iain Stuart*, Thoughts on the Analysis of F Human Skeletal Remains.

*Gary Vines*, Digging at the Tip.

*Andrew Wilson*, Place, Space and Time: GIS applications in historical archaeology.

*Anna Wong*, The Plight of Sanitation in NSW 1788-1857: traces of sanitation, urban planning and social reform in the archaeological record.

#### 1998/99 ASHA Committee

President: Aedeon Cremin  
 Vice Presidents: Susan Lawrence  
 Neville Ritchie  
 Treasurer: Geoff Svenson  
 Secretary: Rowan Ward  
 Committee: Graham Connah  
 Noeleen Curran  
 Jennie Lindbergh  
 Leah McKenzie  
 Terrence Moore  
 Paul Rheinberger  
 Andrew Wilson  
 Anna Wong

## ASHA in Victoria

Professor Tim Murray  
"A History without Words..."

10 December 1998  
6.30 p.m.  
Lecture Theatre, Martin Building  
La Trobe University.

The lecture will be followed by dinner in Brunswick Street.

## PUBLICATIONS

---

D. Harris and R. Wuchatsch, *Westgarthtown*, Heritage Victoria, Melbourne, 1998. Available from the Victorian Government book shops, \$5.00.

Westgarthtown was a German settlement in the Dandenong's. The book comprises a history of the settlement, along with a guidebook focusing on the most significant places in the settlement.

S. Lawrence and M. Staniforth (eds.), *The Archaeology of Whaling in Southern Australia and New Zealand*, ASHA and AIMA, 1998. Available from ASHA and AIMA, \$40 members.

### Historic Environment

*Call for papers and reviewers.*

Historic Environment is the journal produced by Australia ICOMOS. Traditionally each edition is organised around a theme with the intention of incorporating articles from different heritage professions. The following broad themes have been identified for upcoming Historic Environment editions: Transport, Cultural Tourism, Indigenous Heritage, Interiors, and Gardens. The topics of Federation and Sports have been identified for publication in 2000. The Editorial Committee are keen to encourage submissions and are seeking papers that may pertain to any of the above themes.

We have also established a review section in the journal and would be grateful to receive copies of new publications for review (or

suggestions for publications to follow up) or to hear from individuals who would like to review future publications.

Queries, submissions and requests for review or contribution guidelines can be sent to The Editor, Historic Environment, Australia ICOMOS, PO Box 254, Curtin, ACT 2605, or directed to Jane Harrington, ph. (03) 9372 5632 or email:

[jane.harrington@bigpond.com](mailto:jane.harrington@bigpond.com)

## FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS

---

The ASHA Newsletter is produced quarterly with the assistance of guest editors. The 1999 guest editors are:

March	Ross Gam (NSW)
June	Rick McGovern-Wilson (NZ)
September	Vacant
December	Susan Lawrence (VIC)

In order to facilitate a more efficient newsletter production, all contributions should be forwarded to the e-mail address of your state rep by the second week of the month prior to circulation. See the last page of the *Newsletter* for contact details.

The guest editors are asked to finalise the newsletter in the third week of the month prior to circulation. Final copy must reach the General Editor, Noeleen Curran at [Noeleen.Curran@bigpond.com](mailto:Noeleen.Curran@bigpond.com), by the final week of the month prior to circulation.

This is your newsletter and your contributions are vital. Please check deadlines diligently. Your efficiency will be greatly appreciated. I look forward to your forthcoming news of events.

Thank you to the guest editors for 1998. Merry Christmas to all for the festive season from the ASHA Committee.

*General Editor*  
*ASHA Newsletter*

## ASHA PUBLICATIONS

---

### *Australasian Historical Archaeology*

	Members	Non-members
Volume I	<i>out of print</i>	
Volumes 2- 13	\$10.00 each	\$12.00 each
Volume 14 (1996)	\$18.00	\$22.00
Volume 15 (1997)	\$18.00	\$22.00

### Major Publications

Birmingham, J., D. Baird, & A. Wilson (eds) <i>Archaeology and Colonisation: Australia in the World Context, Papers from the Seventh Annual ASHA Conference.</i>	\$26.00
Birmingham, J. <i>Wybalenna: The Archaeology of Cultural Accommodation in Nineteenth Century Tasmania.</i>	\$36.00
Lawrence, S. & M. Staniforth (eds) <i>The Archaeology of Whaling in Southern Australia and New Zealand.</i>	\$40.00
Rogers, B. <i>Nineteenth Century Salt Manufacturing Sites in Tasmania.</i>	\$12.50

### Occasional Papers

Maureen Byme, <i>Ross Bridge, Tasmania.</i>	\$6.00 each
Eleanor Crosby: <i>Survey and excavations at Fort Dundas, Melville Island, NT.</i>	
Marjorie Graham: <i>Printed Ceramics in Australia.</i>	
R. V. J. Varman: <i>The Marseilles or French Pattern Tile in Australia.</i>	

**Postage and packing in Australia:**  
Journals - Occasional Papers add \$4.00 per item  
Major publications add \$6.50 per item

**Postage and packing overseas (surface mail):**  
Journals - Occasional Papers add \$5.00 per item  
Major publications add \$15.00 per item

## ASHA CONTACTS

---

ACT	Richard Morrison c/AHC, GPO Box 1567, Canberra 2601	ph: 02 6217 2133 fax: 02 6217 2095 e-mail: rmorrison@ahc.gov.au
NSW	Jennie Lindbergh 23 Thomas Street, Darlington, NSW, 2008	ph: 02 9698 2417 e-mail: Jennie.Geoff@bigpond.com
NZ	Neville Ritchie Dept of Conservation, Private Bag 3072, Hamilton, NZ	ph: 0011 64 838 3363 e-mail: NRitchie@doc.govt.nz
NT		
QLD	Gordon Grimwade PO Box 9, Yungaburra, QLD, 4872	ph: 07 4095 3737 fax: 07 4095 2117 e-mail: gordongrimwade@internorth.com.au
SA	Mark Staniforth School of Cultural Studies, Flinders University PO Box 2100, Adelaide, SA 5001	ph: 08 8201 5195 fax: 08 8201 3845 e-mail: Mark.Staniforth@flinders.edu.au
TAS	Angela McGowan Parks and Wildlife Service, GPO Box 44A, Hobart, 7000	ph: 03 6233 2424 e-mail: angjem@delm.tas.gov.au
VIC	Fiona Weaver 24 The Avenue, Belmont, Vic., 3216	ph: 03 5243 1462
WA	Myra Stanbury WA Museum, Cliff St, Fremantle, WA, 6160	ph: 08 9335 8211 fax: 08 9430 5120 e-mail: myra.stanbury@museum.wa.gov.au

Editor this issue: *Leah McKenzie*

General Editor: *Noeleen Curran*