



NEWSLETTER

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STATE OF THE ART

ACT NEWS

Compiled by Richard Morrison

HERITAGE BRANCH, WILDLIFE, HERITAGE AND MARINE (WHAM) DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENT, WATER, POPULATION AND COMMUNITIES (DSEWPAC)

Australian Heritage Council appointments – On 25 June 2013 Minister Burke re-appointed Professor Carmen Lawrence for a further three year terms as Chair and appointed three new members for three year terms. The new members are Dr John Ah Kit (Indigenous heritage expert), Ms Kate Clark (historic heritage expert) and Dr Jennifer Whinam (natural heritage expert). Biographies of the new appointees and the other members will be available on the Council's website <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/ahc/index.html>.

National Heritage Listing – The Minister, the Hon Mark Butler MP, signed an instrument to include Wurrurrwuy, Arnhem Land, NT, as the 99th place on the National Heritage List on 4 August 2013. The Wurrurrwuy entry was determined to have outstanding heritage significance to the nation for its Indigenous values. This related to stone pictures providing rare evidence of close Aboriginal interactions with Maccassans in Arnhem Land in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries, and having outstanding heritage value as a rare example of stones arranged to depict utilitarian and secular objects.

The Australia's Community Heritage website – This was launched on Tuesday 30 July 2013 and can be found at <http://www.communityheritage.net.au/>. The website provides a national, community-focused site for people to tell their stories, make announcements, promote their community group, and link and share information about their unique community heritage. This is the first time a website has been developed to collect stories of Australia's heritage of this nature and on this scale. The site already has 170+ community heritage stories about people, places and events from around Australia, which were loaded prior the launch. Part of the communication strategy for the project is to build awareness of the site and encourage participation from the Department's historic, natural and Indigenous stakeholders.

Australia House, London – The Minister for the Environment, Heritage and Water announced on Wednesday 28 July 2013 the inclusion of Australia House in London on the Australian Government's Commonwealth Heritage List.

Sanyo Maru shipwreck – Also on 28 July 2013 the Minister announced the protection of the only known wreck of a Japanese pearling mother-ship in Australian waters, which will be protected by a 200 hectare Protected Zone. It is located 60 kilometres off the Central Arnhem Land coast and was sunk on 1 July 1937. The wreck of the *Sanyo Maru* sits on its keel at a depth of 27 metres and is the only known shipwreck of its type in Australia.

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

Working with Indigenous collections in Canberra's national institutions: a behind the scenes look at their value, curation and use, 16-20 September 2013 – A five-day Advanced Professional Development short course providing an update of professional practice in working with communities, planning, development and use of Indigenous collections, benefiting from the experience of Australia's national cultural institutions.

Details of programme, how to enrol and pay can be found on the IPPHA website event calendar also at <http://ippha.anu.edu.au/events>. Enquiries: Dr Sandy Blair, email sandy.blair@anu.edu.au or ph 02 6125 5887.

CANBERRA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY (CAS)

ACT and Region Annual Australian Heritage Partnership Symposium 2013 – *A Centenary of Celebrating heritage - Accessing, presenting and interpreting heritage places and their collections in Canberra and the region* was held at ANU on 20 July 2013 and was a great success with about 70 attendees.

The programme, presentations and panel report are available at <http://www.cas.asn.au/index.php>. CAS advertises the following events:

How much rock art is there in Southeast Asia? – a lecture by Noel Tan, ANU doctoral candidate, Department of Archaeology and Natural History in the School of Culture, History and Language at the College of Asia and the Pacific, 7.00pm Wednesday 18th September (6.30pm for refreshments). Manning Clark Centre, Theatre 6, Bldg 26A, Union Court, ANU

Southeast Asia sits in the middle of three major rock-art producing regions – Australia, China and India – and yet the knowledge of Southeast Asian rock art is so poor that it is often mistaken that little or no rock art exists in this part of the world. Is there much rock art, if at all, in Southeast Asia? Where are they located? What can we learn from them? In this presentation, we take a whirlwind tour of Southeast Asian rock art, looking at sites in every country of Southeast Asia, covering timespans from the remote prehistoric past to the more recent present. The lecture is a quick survey of the diversity the rock art of Southeast Asia has to offer, as well as some of the interesting questions brought up in the images depicted and the distribution of sites.

Friends of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens extends two invitations to hear the 2013 AAIA visiting Professor, Professor Angelos Chaniotis from the Institute of Advanced Study in Princeton.

Monday 9th September, at 4.00pm, A seminar in the Humanities Conference Room, 1st floor, A. D. Hope Building, ANU; and

Ancient Greece after sunset: histories, archaeologies, and perceptions of the night

Tuesday 10th September, 8.00pm, in the Aegean Room, Hellenic Club Woden. A lecture on 'Hope, Fear, and Gratitude in Ancient Sanctuaries: Healing and Punishment and the Ancient Concept of God'.

If you have any queries, please contact tracyhennessey@hotmail.com

THE AUSTRALASIAN INSTITUTE FOR MARITIME ARCHAEOLOGY

Byzantine shipwrecks discovered on the south-western coast of Turkey – A public lecture by maritime archaeologist, Assistant Prof. A. Harun Özdaş, Dokuz Eylül University, Institute of Marine Science and Technology, Izmir, Turkey, 6 pm Friday 4th October, 2013, Theatre 2.02, Sir Roland Wilson Building, ANU Research School of Humanities.

Since the Aegean Sea connects the Mediterranean, the Marmara, and the Black Sea together, it has always had a central role in the history of maritime trade. Hundreds of safeguarded bays and natural harbours along the shoreline of the Aegean, which contains a great number of islands, provided a favourable environment for ancient seafaring. As the population of metropolitan cities increased, their basic needs required products from other settlements, and the shipment of those products by sea became preferred as the cheaper and faster route.

A survey of the region, found several shipwrecks. Most of the shipwrecks discovered and re-examined on the coast of the south west of Mediterranean can be dated between the 5th century AD and the 12th century AD, and several shipwrecks were recorded during the five-year survey. The results of this survey indicate that there was a great economical loss during the transportation of cargo in this region. The evidence also serves as an indicator for general trade routes.

Dr. Harun Ozdas is a Professor in Dokuz Eylül University, Institute of Marine Science and Technology, in Izmir Turkey. He completed his PhD in Hacettepe University, Ankara. Prior to working at Dokuz Eylül University, he worked in Bodrum Museum of Underwater Archaeology in Turkey. Dr Ozdas participated in several land and underwater surveys and excavations, such as the Black Sea Discoveries (Deep Black Sea) Institute of Exploration and National Geographic project. He has coordinated the underwater archaeological survey titled "Shipwrecks"

NSW NEWS

Compiled by Lydia Sivaraman

NEW SOUTH WALES ARCHAEOLOGY ON-LINE

Stage 2 of the NSW-AOL grey literature scanning project, directed by Dr Martin Gibbs, Dr Sarah Colley and managed by Annika Korsgaard, is nearing a close. Although a full report will be available for next newsletter, the collection of scanned pre-1995 historical archaeology reports is close to the 1000 mark. In this current stage we have worked with Elizabeth Roberts, librarian of the NSW Heritage Branch (Dept of Environment and Heritage) to include an additional 200 rare or otherwise hard to get reports from their collections. This also allowed the project to complete report collections for some specific important sites, such as First Government House. Once processed these will be available later this year through the main NSW-AOL website (<http://nswaol.library.usyd.edu.au/>). There are obviously many more reports from the pre-1995 period to be collected, but it is also hoped that future stages of NSW-AOL will be able to move towards post-1995 materials.

Stage 2 also saw us digitize two major image collections from the early period of historical archaeological research. First is Assoc. Prof. Ian Jack's vast collection of industrial archaeology photographs and slides from the Mudgee, Lithgow, and Evans Shires, numbering approximately 4500 images, which were scanned. Likewise Judy Birmingham has allowed us to scan a wonderful collection of 5500+ slides taken in the 1970s, 80s and 90s of numerous archaeological sites in NSW, and the rest of Australia. It is likely that these images will be housed and made available through the Australian Historical Archaeological Database (AHAD), although the long and difficult work of creating metadata to make these collections searchable will take some time.

The project also undertook the digitisation of images imbedded in excavation context sheets for the Kinchega Archaeological Project in western NSW (Director: Pim Allison, University of Leicester). S. Colley is collaborating with Dr Allison to produce future open-access digital archives from this important NSW historical archaeology collection, and make Kinchega data publicly accessible as part of NSW Archaeology Online Stage 3. It is hoped that development of this process may allow us to collect and preserve other excavation records.

For more information on the NSW-AOL project, the Australian Archaeological Association has included a short blog entry on its site: <http://www.australianarchaeology.com/2013/05/where-does-the-grey-literature-go-the-new-south-wales-archaeology-online-project-and-issues-of-digital-preservation-for-australian-archaeology/>

Martin Gibbs and Annika Korsgaard, University of Sydney.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN NSW

Past lives: convict stories through an archaeological lens

The archaeology of Australia's convict past is found in Sydney and Parramatta, and other parts of Greater Sydney and beyond. This talk presents the findings from various archaeological projects in Sydney and Parramatta as part of bringing together 20 years of research. Discussions will focus on the early landscape of the Sydney Domain and Parramatta; early convict potters and their products; convict infrastructure, such as the Macquarie-era dockyards and Parramatta convict hospital; as well as the lives of some Parramatta emancipated convicts and how they made good.

About the speaker: Dr Mary Casey has worked as an archaeological consultant since 1989 and has been a director of Casey & Lowe Archaeology & Heritage since 2002. She has directed more than 100 archaeological projects. She is an honorary Research Associate, Department of Prehistoric and Historical Archaeology, University of Sydney and a member of Archaeology of Sydney Research Group. Mary has research interests in early pottery, convicts, landscape archaeology on which she has published a number of papers.

Time: 6pm, Wednesday 11 September 2013
Place: Australian Museum, entry via William Street
Admission: \$30 (Australian Museum members \$20)

Bookings: 9320 6225 or online at <http://australianmuseum.net.au/event/Night-Talk-Past>

Tales of the lost Spanish colonies of the Solomon Islands

Few Australians realise that Spanish explorers mounted three expeditions to find the fabled Great Southern Land – in 1568, 1595 and 1606 – and along the way established colonies in the Solomon Islands. Join archaeologist Dr Martin Gibbs as he presents his recent work on the evidence of these failed settlements, including a ‘mystery’ Spanish site that may indicate the fate of Alvaro de Mendaña’s lost galleon, *Santa Isabel*.

About the speaker: Dr Martin Gibbs is Senior Lecturer in the Department of Archaeology at the University of Sydney. His current research interests include various projects looking at the archaeology of the convict systems of NSW (with Denis Gojak), Tasmania and Western Australia, as well as on the landscapes of early estates which used convict labour. Maritime archaeological interests include the cultural processes in wreck site formation, shipwreck survivor camps, frontier maritime industries (especially whaling and sealing) and maritime cultural landscapes. In addition to his Australian research Martin is currently investigating the archaeology of the 16th century failed Spanish colonisations of the Solomon Islands (with Dr David Roe). The particular focus is the archaeology of the Pamua (Makira) site, which may represent a failed settlement of the ‘lost’ 1595 colonising ship *Santa Isabel*. On the technical side, he is exploring the applications of remote sensing techniques (ground penetrating radar, magnetometer, resistivity meter) on Australian archaeological sites.

Time: 6pm, Wednesday 2 October 2013

Place: Australian Museum, entry via William Street, Sydney

Admission: \$30 (Australian Museum members \$20)

Bookings: 9320 6225 or online at <http://australianmuseum.net.au/event/Night-Talk-Tales>

Sydney Opera House – Archaeological Walking Tour

The walk will follow a route from the base of Macquarie Street down to the Opera House construction site to provide an overview of the current vehicle access and pedestrian safety (VAPS) project and the archaeological discoveries associated with it. The \$150 million project is the largest development project undertaken since the House opened in 1973. Archaeological excavation was carried out in conjunction with construction works. This resulted in the discovery of a number of interesting archaeological remains dating from the first historical phases of the site development. The location of the majority of the exposed archaeological relics coincided with the areas designated for deep excavation and therefore had to be removed. The solution for the preservation of the heritage values of the identified relics was found in the exciting 3D interpretive modelling.

About the speaker: Anita Yousif is a historical archaeologist and an Associate at Godden Mackay Logan. She studied at the Universities of Belgrade and Sydney, and her international work includes sites in Cyprus, Italy and Serbia. In Australia, Anita has excavated at Old Government House in Parramatta, the Carlton United Brewery in Ultimo, and the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne, among many notable sites.

Time: 10am, Saturday 19 October 2013

Place: Meeting at History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney

Difficulty: Low to moderate

Admission: \$12 (RAHS members \$10)
Bookings: 9247 8001 or history@rahs.org.au

The History of Australia's Prehistory

Billy Griffiths explores the history of the iconic archaeological site Madjedbebe (Malakunanja II) in Arnhem Land and reflects on what it reveals about when and how people first reached Australia. He talks about the repeat excavations of Madjedbebe in 1973, 1989 and 2012 in the context of the development of Australian archaeology, and he questions the divide between history and prehistory.

Alan Williams continues from Billy's talk by exploring how population and mobility of Aboriginal people developed over the last 50,000 years. Using the results of his PhD research and case-studies from the Sydney region, he explores the highs and lows of prehistoric populations through some of the most extreme climates humans have ever faced, including the Last Glacial Maximum and intensification of the El Nino Southern Oscillation.

About the speakers: Billy Griffiths is a Sydney-based writer and historian. He worked as the camp manager and cook for the re-excavation of Madjedbebe (Malakunanja II) in 2012. He is the author of *The China Breakthrough: Whitlam in the Middle Kingdom, 1971* (Monash University Publishing, 2012).

Alan Williams is an archaeologist and PhD student at the Australian National University, and manager of a team of archaeologists at Archaeological and Heritage Management Solutions Pty Ltd, one of the largest heritage consulting companies in Australia. He has over 15 academic publications and 100 consulting report to his name, with a focus in his research on the investigation of Aboriginal archaeology and climate change across Australia.

Time: 5.30 for 6pm, Tuesday 12 November 2013
Place: History House, 133 Macquarie Street, Sydney
Admission: \$12 (RAHS members \$10)
Bookings: 9247 8001 or history@rahs.org.au

NSW HERITAGE DIVISION NEWS

HMAS Sydney Mast, Bradley's Head

Tim Smith and Brad Duncan inspected the newly refurbished mast from *HMAS Sydney* at Bradley's Head. The mast has been given a complete maintenance overhaul as part of a redevelopment of the Bradleys Head regions by NSW Parks and Wildlife, and an opportunity arose to undertake a photographic inspection of the upper levels of the tower whilst the maintenance scaffolding was still in place.

The mast was used on board the former *HMAS Sydney* as a range finding tower, which helped to direct the fire of the ship's guns. Access to the tower was formerly either via ladders on the outside of the mast's tripod legs, or in times of war, through a ladder inside one of the tower's legs.

The Heritage Division would like to thank Ed Beebe (NSW Parks and Wildlife) and Paul Connett (Hyder) for organising the inspection.



Figure 1: Scaffolding around *HMAS Sydney Mast* (Photo: Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)



Figure 2: Armoured range firing spotters hut atop *HMAS Sydney Mast* (Photo: Brad Duncan, Heritage Division)

HMAS Australia / HMAS Voyager Multi-beam Survey

Brad Duncan and Tim Smith have previously been successful in applying for sea time research allocation aboard the National Marine National Facility research vessel *MV Southern Explorer* to undertake a multi-beam survey of the deep water wreck of the *HMAS Australia*. A recent opportunity has arisen during this trip to extend this time to search for the remains of the *HMAS Voyager*, a naval destroyer which was cut in half by the aircraft carrier *Melbourne* in 1964, with the loss of 82 lives. The survey, which will be undertaken in September 2013, will search for the two halves of the remains of the wreck, which probably lie in about 2000m of water. The survey has been planned to coincide with the centenary of the Royal Australian Navy and the forthcoming 50th anniversary of the loss of the *HMAS Voyager*.

The Heritage Division would like to thank the Australian National Marine Facility, and in particular Lisa Woodward and Don McKenzie for their kind assistance with organising the survey.

Hereward Cannon

On 23 March 2013, the Heritage Branch with the assistance of NSW Water Police raised a newly discovered bronze cannon from the wreck of the *Hereward* (1898) at Maroubra Beach [as previously reported in the June 2013 Newsletter – Ed.]. The cannon has been undergoing preliminary desalination at the Heritage Division Offices whilst conservation funding and advice has been sought.

The contract to conserve the cannon has now been awarded to the Conservation Laboratories of the Western Australian Museum. This museum has significant expertise in the conservation of cannons from Dutch and colonial shipwrecks in Australia and

internationally. A transport container for the cannon is being prepared and it is anticipated that the cannon will be ready for display within a year.



Figure 3: *Hereward* Cannon in initial phases of conservation
(Photo: Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)

Discovery and Inspection of new shipwreck *Colonist*

On 13 May 2013, wreck enthusiast Scott Willan reported that he and a small team of divers had discovered the wreck of the *Colonist*, a timber Scottish built schooner which sank after a collision in Sydney Harbour in 1890. As the wreck was located in the middle of the main channel between Bradley's Head and Garden Island, Scott and his team had dived in the early hours of the morning to avoid ferry traffic. Following conversations between (then) Acting Director Tim Smith and Sydney Ports Corporation Harbour Master Phillip Holiday, permission was given for Mr Willan's team to organise a subsequent inspection of the site during daylight hours, where they undertook a video inspection of the site. Mr Willan is continuing his analysis of past remote sensing survey data in an attempt to identify new wreck sites in and around Sydney Harbour.



Figure 4: Schooner *Colonist* in Sydney Harbour (Image from Wikipedia web site)

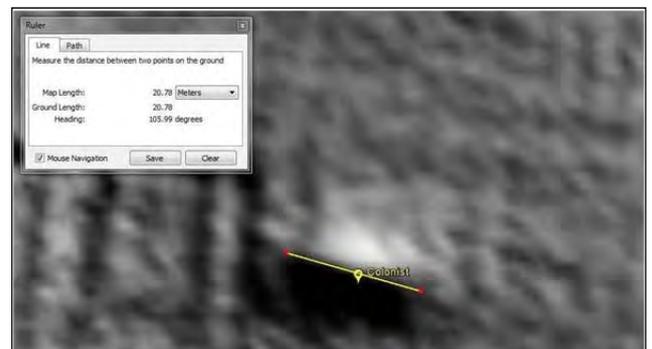


Figure 5: Side scan sonar data of the wreck site generated using Surfer program (Image: Scott Willan)



Figure 6: Bow of wreck site
(Photo: Scott Willan)

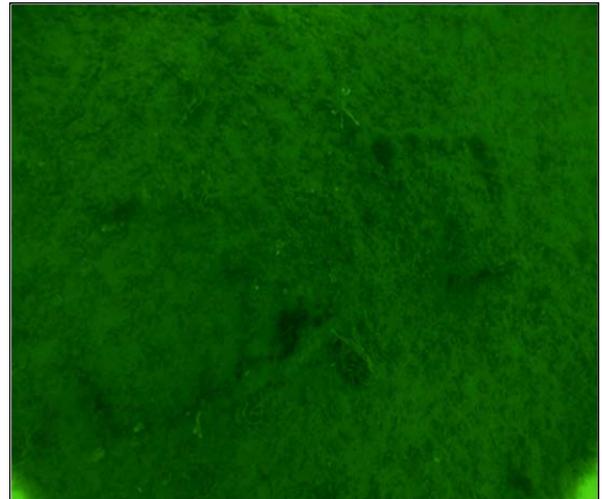


Figure 7: Possible chainplates on the
Colonist wreck site (Photo: Scott Willan)

Urunga/ Coffs Harbour Inspections

Following reports of the exposure of a previously reported wreck, Heritage Division Maritime Archaeologist Dr Brad Duncan undertook an inspection of the site in the Kalang River at Urunga on 2 July 2013. Although the wreck could not be re-located due to poor visibility associated with heavy rains the night before, a possible new wreck site of a former drogher was inspected and documented further downstream. Local residents have agreed to monitor the site and to inform Heritage Division when it is exposed again. Thanks to Derek Ridgley (Urunga Sailing Club) for providing the boat and assisting with the survey.

Woolgoolga Beach Maritime Heritage Site Inspections

Storms have continued to expose new sites along the Northern Rivers coastal region. David Greenhalgh (Marine Assessments, DPI) had reported that the remains for the former access ramp built to allow carts to collect goods from lighters bringing cargo ashore at Woolgoolga Beach (20km north of Coffs Harbour) had been exposed after recent gales. The structure was exposed after 5m of a 2m high dune was washed away along a length of the beach, and appears to be made of a vernacular concrete which has used local marine aggregates. The seaward end of the ramp has been washed away, but more of the ramp is likely to remain under the current dune. The structure lies close to the former site of the original pier built in this area by Pullen, an early local entrepreneur. The same storms have also revealed the pier piles from the former Woolgoolga Government Pier, which lie close inshore, along with the possible remains of a windlass from the *Buster*.



Figure 8: Government Pier, Woolgoolga Beach (Photo: South Solitary Marine Park Sign)



Figure 9: Woolgoolga Beach Pier piles (Photo: David Greenhalgh)



Figure 10: David Greenhalgh, Natalie Redman and Sean Hone inspect Pullen's Ramp site at Woolgoolga Beach. Note the extent of erosion along the dunes (Photo: Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)

Brad Duncan met with Natalie Redman and Sean Hone (Coffs Harbour City Council) and David Greenhalgh (Marine Assessments, DPI Coffs Harbour, Solitary Islands Marine Park) to discuss the effects of recent erosion on several heritage sites at Woolgoolga Beach. Recent storms have uncovered several sites including the former Government Pier, Pullen's Ramp and the *Buster* 1893 shipwreck (see below).



Figure 11: David Greenhalgh with the possible windlass on Woolgoolga Beach
(Photo: B.Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)

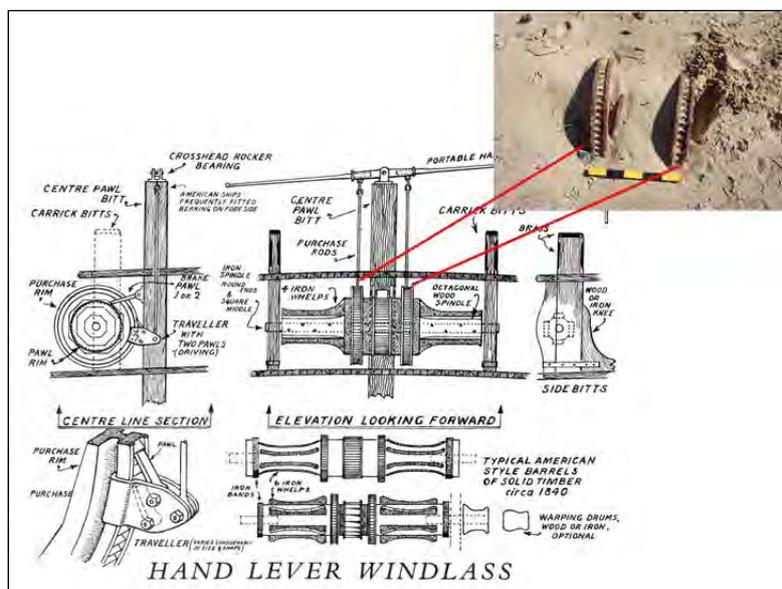


Figure 12: Schematic showing possible configuration of the windlass
(after Campbell 1974, China Tea Clippers)

Buster 1893 Shipwreck Collapsing

Brad Duncan visited the site of the *Buster* at Woolgoolga on 17 April 2013 following reports of flotsam from the state and Commonwealth protected wreck floating ashore, by staff of the Coffs Harbour Marine Parks. Large planks from the wreck have been detaching as the site becomes scoured out by strong seas. During another visit to the site in July 2013, the wreck sanded back up the day before the visit, suggesting that the erosion process is now cyclic and probably tied to Spring tide events.



Figure 13: Details showing scouring under the wreck, and sheathing starting to detach (Photo: Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)



Figure 14: Planks detaching from the wreck (Photo: Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)

Further investigations are underway to formulate a way of preventing and reversing erosion around the site. Expert advice has been sought from the Western Australian Maritime Museum as this is a unique scenario which has not previously been addressed Australia wide. Discussions are progressing to formulate a solution to timber loss from the wreck onto the adjacent beach. A project is planned to secure the planks to the wreck using an iron framework and bolts next time it is exposed by storms. Current input has been sought from the NSW Maritime Archaeological Advisory Panel in regards to the project methodology and conservation issues.



Figure 15: *Buster* wreck April 2013 showing extent of scouring (Photo: Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)



Figure 16: *Buster* wreck July 2013 showing sand movement back across the site (Photo: Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)

Archaeological Finds at Barangaroo Northern Cove

Heritage Division staff, Dr Siobhán Lavelle and Dr Brad Duncan, made a site visit to Barangaroo North on 14 May 2013. The Barangaroo North project is being delivered by Baulderstone under a major project approval MP10-0048. A substantial stone sea wall has been found during the archaeological work associated with the new northern cove. It appears to date from the 1850s and to be associated with Cuthbert's Shipyard. It is an item of State significance. Large sections of a sea wall were also exposed on the northern side of the new proposed cove. The excavation has also uncovered shipyards, from the 1820s and 1850s respectively, and the site was continuously occupied for

shipbuilding from the 1820s until 1875. Each shipyard contained a slipway, seawalls, land reclamation deposits and working surfaces. The excavation also revealed remnants of substantial wharf structures from the closing decades of the nineteenth century.



Figure 17: Seawall uncovered at North Barangaroo site
(Photo: Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)

For further information on the site see:

<http://www.barangaroo.com/media/103397/archaeological%20site%20open%20day%20june%202013.pdf>

Heritage Division would like to thank Justin McCarthy, Alan Hayes and Emily Bennet (Austral Archaeology), Michael Sebel, (Boulderstone) and the Barangaroo Delivery Authority for the tour and granting access to the site.

Hive 1835 shipwreck – archaeological survey of survivors' camp

In 1835, the convict transport ship *Hive* was wrecked in Wreck Bay (south of Jervis Bay) after being driven ashore in a gale. The Convict transport *Hive* is the only known wreck of a vessel carrying convicts on mainland Australia. Two other ships were wrecked while carrying convicts in Tasmania, being the *George III* and *Neva*, also during the year 1835. After the wreck occurred, some 300 people escaped the vessel (including passengers, soldiers, crew and 250 convicts). The survivors camped in the dunes behind the wreck, whilst some of the crew were aided by the local Indigenous people to make their way back to Sydney to raise the alarm. The survivors camped at this location for at least two weeks, raising the possibility that the remains of a substantial shipwreck survivors' camp might exist in this region.

Subsequent attempts to salvage the cargo of the vessel, which included £10,000 in specie, led to the wrecking of the salvage vessel *Blackbird* close by about a week later. It is likely that a salvage camp was also established to salvage the remains of both vessels and their cargoes.

The former NSW Heritage Branch has undertaken numerous fieldwork surveys from 1994 onwards searching for and identifying the extent of the wreck, and during this time several artifact scatters were identified which, due to their provenance in the sand hills directly behind the wreck's location, were tentatively identified as the shipwreck survivor camp. Although a few visits have been made to the site, no systematic surveys of this area had been previously undertaken.

Brad Duncan and Dr Martin Gibbs (University of Sydney) led a survey of the convict ship Survivors Camp in the sand dunes of Bherwerre Beach from 16-21 June 2013. A detailed survey was completed of the relics scatters which are thought to be remanent of the either the camp made by the crew after the fatal stranding, or the salvagers camp.



Figure 18: Gary Estcourt, Brad Duncan and Pam Forbes surveying the Hive shipwreck survivor camp (Photo: Tim Smith, NSW Heritage Division)



Figure 19: Bottle neck found at site (Photo: Gary Estcourt, NSW Heritage Division)



Figure 20: Dr Martin Gibbs calibrating the magnetometer at Huskisson (Photo: Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)



Figure 21: Pam Forbes and Greg Jackson during metal detector training (Photo: Brad Duncan, NSW Heritage Division)

The fieldwork mapped the site for the first time and investigated the extent of archaeological relics in this area. Several transect survey runs were made through often dense coastal heathland, and concentrations of relics were mapped using a high accuracy DGPS unit. A metal detector and magnetometer survey were also undertaken at the survivor camp and wreck site respectively, although problems with weather conditions cut the latter survey short. Results will be compiled in an expedition report and will assist the Booderee National Park in managing the sensitive site. The *Hive* shipwreck is listed on the State Heritage Register but the survivors' camp lies in Commonwealth land and is not yet listed.

Previous reports of investigations into the wreck are currently available at NSW Maritime Heritage Online: <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/publications/pubs/shipwrecks-hivereport.pdf>

<http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/MaritimeHeritage/researchcentre/wreckhive.htm>

The fieldwork organisers would like to thank University of Sydney volunteers Pam Forbes and Greg Jackson, and Tim Smith and Gary Estcourt (Heritage Division) for their assistance during the fieldwork. Thanks also goes to Booderee National Parks staff for granting access and Permits to survey the area, including Martin Fortesque and Matt Hudson.

Brad Duncan, State Maritime Archaeologist, NSW Heritage Division, Office of Environment and Heritage

NEW ZEALAND NEWS

Compiled by Rick McGovern-Wilson

MASONIC HOTEL, DEVONPORT

A team from Geometria has recently completed Stage 1 of a three-stage project investigating the archaeology of the Masonic Tavern in Devonport, Auckland. Stage 1 focused on the in-ground archaeology in the car park, where-as Stages 2 and 3 are more focused on the archaeology of two extant buildings; the main tavern building and a smaller building annexed to this known as the "Boarding House" with some in-ground investigation associated with these structures (Figure 1). Constructed in 1864, the tavern is located on the Devonport foreshore and is undergoing substantial redevelopment including the construction of apartments on the site and redevelopment of the tavern building itself, which is being changed to a mixed-use apartment and café set up. These works also include the relocation of one building and restoration of the tavern facade to its original 19th century configuration.

Archaeological investigations at the site first began in 2008 with an archaeological assessment that identified three previous buildings at the site, including the first European cottage, built in 1854, and two cottages that were built adjacent to the tavern in the 1870s. Other curtilage related to the early European settlement included a stable, shed complex and outhouses. Little was known of the Maori history of the site but the area has a long settlement history that continued up until 1863 when all the local Maori left the area overnight prior to the outbreak of war between the government and Waikato tribes.



Figure 1: Excavations underway at the Masonic Tavern following the removal of the 1870s cottages remains. The Boarding house is at left and the main tavern building centre right.

Evidence of the early European activity included significant remains of the two 1870s cottages and brick foundations of an earlier structure provisionally identified as relating to the 1854 cottage that was known to be removed from the site prior to the construction of the site prior to the construction of the tavern in 1864. Other features included wood lined rubbish pits, bottle dumps, paths, chimney bases, water and gas pipes, brick foundations and brick lined paths. A system of deep scoria filled soak holes, drains, cesspits and drainpipes was recorded and was associated with both the earlier buildings and the early drainage from the main tavern building. The artefact assemblage consists of a wide variety of expected artefacts from the European phase, and along with the pre-historic assemblage will provide a significant amount of new information on the history of the site and area in general.



Figure 2: Chimney bases, back door paved path and washhouse floor (far left).

A preliminary excavation was conducted in 2010 to investigate the archaeological potential of the site, which revealed remains of the 1870s cottages and an earlier underlying Maori occupation. The investigation also provided insight into the local geology. Further work at the site was delayed until April of this year when the project commenced with archaeological investigations preceding development works. The archaeological evidence confirmed the earliest phases of the site's development with a dense concentrated area of Maori occupation situated behind the original fore-dune. This occupation area featured a rich working floor where thousands of greywacke, basalt and obsidian flakes were recorded along with a large faunal assemblage, numerous bone and shell fishhooks and worked mammal bone. A large central stone lined fire pit and numerous postholes were also recorded.



Figure 3: Central stone-lined fire pit and posthole from the pre-historic occupation.

Given that there is still a considerable amount of work to do at the site it is hoped that this body of information will grow substantially following the completion of the archaeological investigations and from further research into the history of the site.

Russell Gibb

ARCHAEOLOGY FOR THE PEOPLE - THE RESTIEAUX SITE, HOUGHTON VALLEY, WELLINGTON

Introduction

In February 2012 a community archaeological project was undertaken in Houghton Valley, Wellington. Houghton Valley is in Wellington's southern suburbs, on the south coast.

The objectives of the work were somewhat different to most archaeological projects: the work was premised on the desire to investigate and excavate an historical rubbish pit, but the overall project had been created and inspired by a community engaging in investigating and discovering its own local history and identity.



The project came about through a conversation between Mary O'Keeffe, a consultant archaeologist based in Wellington, and Grant Corbishley, a PhD candidate in Media Arts through the University of New South Wales, Australia. Grant and Mary are both residents in Houghton Valley.

The title of Grant's thesis is: "Stewardship: an ethico-aesthetic response to an uncertain and unsustainable future in local communities". The topic focuses on two main parts:

- (a) to develop an archive that records local histories
- (b) to employ that knowledge to develop strategies that will assist Houghton Bay to adapt to an uncertain future.

As part of the background to this PhD, Grant undertook historical research on the history of the valley, researching and documenting its early history in the 19th century and growth through the 20th century. Grant utilised historic sources, including maps and photos, early documentary records, and has interviewed many "old timer" residents.

Grant was put in touch with Mary as part of this research context (the archaeologist is also a Houghton Bay resident), and the archaeologist assisted Grant with providing early survey plans of the valley. Grant noted he had located the probable site of a dairy farm in the valley which appeared to also have a rubbish pit; and the idea of systematically excavating the rubbish pit was born out of various conversations.

Historical context

Houghton Valley, on Wellington's south coast, is a long linear steeply rising valley running north from the coast; it is characterised by its narrowness and its steep valley sides. Today the valley floor is largely grassed open space. Its western slope is clad in regenerating bush and trees, and is a council reserve. The eastern slope is used for housing.

The valley and adjoining bay were named for Robert Houghton¹, master mariner and first signalman at the marine signal station on Mount Albert².

The valley has experienced various stages of use. As a suburb it was not part of the original 1840 plan of Wellington City, which at that time did not extend further south than Berhampore. The land of Houghton Valley had been roughly subdivided into large parcels by the mid-1840s as part of the Town District, seen in survey plans from the 1840s and 1850s.

Between 1840 and 1877 all land in the Houghton Bay valley was owned and farmed by Alexander Sutherland, as part of a larger block. Following Sutherland's death in 1877 the block was purchased by Messrs Mace and Johnson, and then passed to a syndicate known as "Melrose Properties". In 1879 an area of 400 acres (including Houghton Valley) was subdivided and sold at auction.

GREAT SPECIAL LAND SALE.

**THE MAGNIFICENT SUTHERLAND
E S T A T E,
FORMING
THE GRAND SUBURB OF MELROSE.**

T. KENNEDY MACDONALD & CO.
are favored with instructions from the
proprietors, Messrs. Henry Mace & Co., to
offer for sale, in the Hall of the Athenæum,
ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY,
The 17th and 18th March instant,
Commencing at 11 o'clock on the morning
of each day.

The whole of the **MAGNIFICENT ESTATE**
now known as the **SUBURB OF
MELROSE**, divided into **SEVEN
HUNDRED AND TWENTY-SIX
BUILDING ALLOTMENTS**,
ranging from **ONE-QUARTER OF AN
ACRE** each upwards, and which for
**EASINESS of ACCESS, MAGNI-
FICENCE of VIEW, and ADAPT-
ABILITY for HEALTHY AND
CHEAP BUILDING SITES** cannot
be **EQUALLED** by **ANY LAND
SUBURBAN to THE CITY OF
WELLINGTON.**

The Wellington City Tramways Company are
now commencing the active work of laying the
continuation of their valuable line of tramway
from the present station to past the **NEW-
TOWN HOTEL** and the new Recreation
Grounds, thus bringing **EVERY PUR-
CHASER IN MELROSE WITHIN FIF-
TEEN MINUTES' RIDE OF THE GENE-
RAL POST-OFFICE.**

Evening Post, 7 March 1879

¹ The name is often misspelt on early maps as "Haughton"

² Irvine-Smith, , 1949: 260

The land of Houghton Valley was subdivided by 1879 and streets had been planned. Further parcels of land in the valley and wider area were sold in 1885. By the 1880s the southern end of Wellington City was being referred to as Melrose. The road round the coast from Lyall Bay to Island Bay was built sometime after 1895.

The original bush clad hills and valley were cleared and grassed, and the area was farmed from the latter part of the 19th century, and houses were built on the adjoining ridge tops and in the valley from the 1900s. The valley was part of a sheep farm for 30-40 years, and apparently had much more thistles on it rather than bush.

A municipal rubbish tip operated in the valley from 1949 to 1971. On its closure the land was sealed with soil, and terraces were built on the new surface down the valley floor. The stream that ran down the valley was buried by the tip fill, and emptied onto the beach through a pipe. A school has operated in the upper part of the valley from 1931.

The Restieaux farm

Much information on the history of the valley and the family was gained by Grant interviewing current and former elderly residents of Houghton Valley³.

It is not known exactly when the Restieaux family came into the valley; anecdotal evidence suggests it was sometime between 1905 and 1910, and at this time the family rented land in the valley from Mrs Merry.

A report of fines for broken bylaws in the Evening Post of 21 September 1925 notes that Walter R Restieaux was fined ten shillings for wandering stock. Walter's death notice appeared in the Evening Post on 25 December 1930, noting he died "at his residence, Houghton Bay Rd". Sid Restieaux took over the family farm on his father's death.

Sid is remembered for having a herd of dairy cows; former valley residents interviewed for Grant's thesis can remember Sid shouting "Restieaux's milk" when the milk was delivered in Island Bay by horse and cart⁴. Certainly someone in the family was still supplying milk in 1935, as the Evening Post of 26 July 1935 lists Phoebe Restieaux (Walter's wife and Sid's mother) as being fined £3 for selling milk not up to the required standard.

Sid and his wife Merle, along with his mother Phoebe, sold all the cows and machinery in 1938 & moved across the road to live next to his brother Len in 169 Houghton Bay Rd.

Advertisements in the Evening Post⁵ list Mrs Restieaux of Houghton Bay selling a milk run and cows, and noting the milk run had been established for 25 years. The milk run and cows were auctioned on 22 August 1938⁶.

Sid is reported in the Evening Post of 17 December 1940 as having fallen from the third floor of a building in Victoria St, fracturing both ankles and a wrist; Sid was reported as being a window cleaner, so he appears to have ceased farming by this time.

³ Of note is Mildred Pfeffer who lived in the same street in the valley for 84 years.

⁴ Grant Corbishley, pers.comm., January 2013

⁵ 15 August, and 17 August 1938

⁶ Advertisement in the Evening Post of that date

The cottage was rented to other families; the Herd family stayed there for many years, up until the 1960s when it was abandoned and then burnt down by the Fire Dept & bulldozed into the tip. Former valley residents can remember playing in the abandoned cottage at this time.

Community involvement

As noted, one of the main objectives of the project was to engage the community in its own history. Therefore the archaeological excavation was the central focus of a wider programme of activities that took place over the weekend of 25-26 February 2012.

Two marquees were set up on the valley floor near the archaeological site, and remained in place over the weekend. These housed a variety of activities over the two days, including periodic talks from the archaeologist, tables where the recovered artefacts could be washed and displayed, a display from the Island Bay Historical Society, and an "Antiques Roadshow" session from Wellington antiques dealer Peter Wedde, where locals could bring their own treasures and have them appraised. A television monitor was set up in the marquee feeding images from a camera at the archaeological site, for people who felt unable to tackle the steep muddy slope up to see the site. A video camera was set up in the marquee to interview former valley residents or Restieaux family members, to capture their memories of life in the valley. The organising committee had also created a series of A1 size boards containing photographic images and text of the history of the valley; these were hung around the marquees.

The project was fortunate enough to experience perfect weather. Visitor numbers far exceeded expectations; it is estimated that between 300 and 400 people visited over the two days. Many people noted how they expected to visit for about 30 minutes or so but in fact stayed for several hours. There was a high level of engagement, excitement and enjoyment from many of the visitors; the organising committee thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

As artefacts were recovered from the dig site they were carried down the hill and laid out on tables for viewing. Periodically the archaeologist would come down the hill to talk about progress and what had been found.

Archaeological investigation

The archaeological investigation focussed on an historic rubbish deposit, presumed to be associated with the former Restieaux farm cottage.

The archaeological site was located on the sloping western side of Houghton Valley, approximately 10 metres above the valley floor. Whereas the site and wider area had previously been cleared grassed farmland, it has now reverted to secondary bush: the slopes are covered in thick Ngaio and other trees, with thick Tradescantia on the ground surface.

Grant Corbishley had located a WCC plan of the valley dating from about the mid 1940s, showing the location of the then planned municipal tip. Extant buildings and structures are shown on this plan, including the Restieaux cottage. This information was geo-referenced onto a contemporary aerial, and the cottage location established.

The site itself was an area thought to be a rubbish pit associated with the Restieaux dairy farm cottage. The farm cottage was considered in local memory to have been placed at this site because of the presence of a very active spring (Figure 1).



Figure 22: Restieaux cottage in the 1930s (Corbishley)

Prior to the investigation the rubbish pit was seen as a discrete area of artefacts scattered quite thickly on the ground surface. The artefacts appeared to be mainly glass bottles and vessels, and were located on a small terrace on the sloping valley surface. The thick surface covering of Tradescantia on the ground surface was partly obscuring the artefacts.

The main artefact deposit was a discrete area measuring approximately 3m². Artefacts were picked up by hand and bagged or rejected as they were revealed by removal of overlying material. As material was revealed and removed it became apparent that the artefacts were indeed densely packed in a discrete area. The rubbish pit area was systematically cleared by hand, with the investigation proceeding vertically over the whole area as material was bagged or rejected. No particular stratigraphy or layering was observed. The archaeologist estimated that about 60-70% of the artefactual material was glass.

Further removal of artefactual material revealed concrete walls of a structure: it became apparent this was a concrete tank, measuring approx. 1.5m x 1.5m. This tank was almost certainly used as a water storage tank.

What was thought to be a random rubbish pit was in fact based over and within the water tank: it is assumed that as reticulated water became available to the cottage, the then unwanted water tank became a deposit for inorganic rubbish. As the concrete tank itself had become full of both rubbish and organic tree detritus over time, the top of the tank was buried and the artefacts poked through the overlying organic slope wash.

The tank was square in shape, and its down-slope edge was higher than the two sides (the rear edge was not revealed due to the large mass of overburden covering it).

The tank was made of concrete that had been cast on site: it was rough in nature and used pebbles and other material as fill. It had been cast in at least two sections, seen by a horizontal seam along the downslope face of the structure; the two sections were on a different vertical plane (Figure 2).



Figure 23: Down slope face showing casting seam

The water tank appears to be one of the stages of water collection used by the family: their first source would have been the spring, then they would have used the tank, and then piped water would have been installed. Older valley residents report the cottage having a well: whether this was a literal shaft in the ground or they were remembering the concrete water collection tank is not clear.

Artefacts

The artefact recovery and analysis methodology and strategy were determined by the nature of the project and the inherent limitations of time and personnel.

Because of the “community” nature of the archaeological project and the limitations implicit in that (most notably time limitations), only a partial assemblage was gathered for analysis, and much artefacts all material present was discarded. Selections were made at two times:

Firstly, during the actual archaeological recovery, where only whole or diagnostic material was selected to be removed from site. The type and nature of the material left on site was noted, but no analysis of it was undertaken;

Secondly, during cataloguing, where again only diagnostic pieces were individually recorded or photographed (some “groups” of objects or material types were catalogued and photographed).

"Diagnostic" material was considered to be elements that could tell a story about their function or origin, so ceramics with a pattern or a back stamp, items intact enough so form

or function could be reasonably established (although where numerous examples were present only a representative sample of that type of item was retained), or unusual or untypical items. Because of this partial collection strategy, the final assemblage is very much just a representative sample of what was on site, rather than every element. Because it is only a partial assemblage, no analysis such as MNE or MNV has been undertaken, as these results would be meaningless in the context of absence of a total assemblage.

Ages for ceramics were assigned from Godden (1964). The assemblage was categorised by material and by function. The material categories are:

- HVR1 patterned ceramics
- HVR2 plain ceramics
- HVR3 leather
- HVR4 domestic bone – sheep, pig, cow
- HVR5 glass
- HVR6 metal

The function categories are:

- Personal – items of clothing, or items applied to the body or used for recreation
- Domestic – food remains
- Houseware – items associated with preparation, storage or cooking of food, or with domestic functioning and activities
- Architectural – items associated with house material

A summary of the types of items found, by material and function, can be seen in Table 1:

Function	Material	Item
Personal	Leather	Shoes
	Metal	Face cream tins, cameras, toy cars, glasses, blade razors, cutthroat razor, trophy cup, torches, slug guns, bike lamps, picture frame
	Plastic	False teeth, toy car, harmonica
	Glass	Medicinal/personal care containers/bottles
Domestic	Bones	Sheep, pig, cow bones
Houseware	Ceramic	Plates, cups vessels
	Glass	Food/drink containers, alcohol bottles, houseware containers, vases
	Ceramic	Ornaments
	Metal	Pots, pans, milk jugs, file, soap container, food tins,

		car parts
Architectural	Metal	Door knobs, door lock

Table 1: Summary of Restieaux artefact assemblage

Restieaux artefact assemblage

Ceramics

As noted, only a partial assemblage of ceramics was collected, being items with a pattern or makers mark for identification, or of a particular shape or function that was of some interest. Items gathered include dinner plates, side plates, saucers, cups, mixing bowls, egg cups, and ornaments.

Some ceramic items were dateable through their patterns. The vast majority of patterns date from the period between the 1920s and the 1950s. The vast majority of ceramics appeared utilitarian in material and design. Ceramics were either plain white and unadorned, or of patterns commonly available in New Zealand in the 20th Century. The oldest ceramic items (and the oldest dateable items from the site) date to the mid to late 1800s.

The first was a ceramic jug dating to 1892 or after (reference HVR1fff), decorated with a blue underglazed transfer print Asian pattern. Its base had the transfer print “MING T. G. G. & CO ENGLAND” (this company is T G Green & Co). The date was derived from Godden (1964).



Figure 24: 1892 jug

The second ceramic item dates from the 1890s. It is a broken large platter (reference HVR1s), which is white with a blue underglazed pattern of a flow blue floral pattern, with a scalloped edge with gold line. Its rear has the print “OVANDO ALFRED MEAKIN ENGLAND ROYAL SEMI PORCELAIN⁷”.

The third item is a ceramic lid (reference HVR1jj). It is handpainted and underglazed in a floral pattern with gold detailing, in rococo style. It dates to the mid to late 1800s.

⁷ Ovando pattern is now highly collectable

An item of note is a broken side plate by famous ceramicist Clarice Cliff⁸; unlike her better known highly coloured and decorated work this plate is plain white with an incised impressed edge.

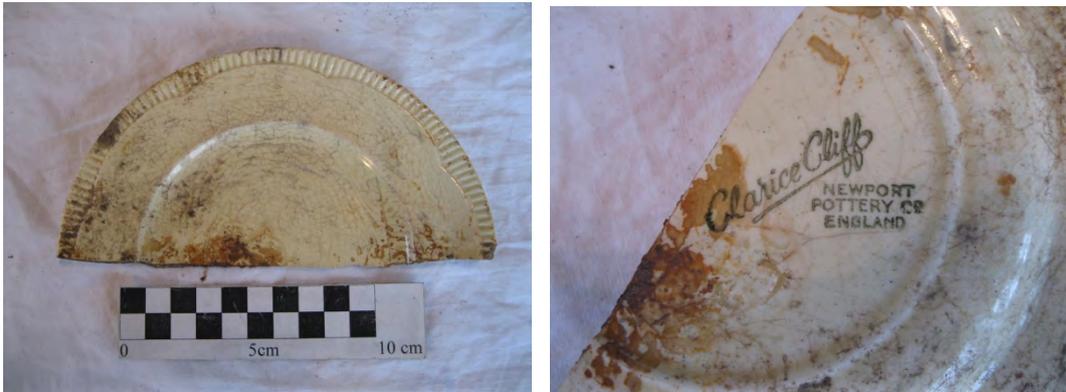


Figure 4: Obverse and reverse of Clarice Cliff plate

Ceramics makers represented in the assemblage include Johnson Brothers, Meakin, Wilkinson, McNay and sons, Thomas Forrester, Swinnerton, Allertons, Barlows, Grindley, and Wade Heath. The most commonly found producers were Meakin and Johnson Brothers. One identified New Zealand maker was present, being Crown Lynn.

The vast majority of the ceramics present were plates and tea cups. There was a mixture of plain glazed white ware, and some rather lovely decorative patterns, including florals, abstracts, and applied colours or gold bands.

The ceramics assemblage appeared to represent the homeware of a family of modest means. The vast majority of patterns, makers and object types are utilitarian and functional. However, in marked contrast are the three items from the 19th century.

Glass

Like the ceramics, only a partial collection of glass was made, of whole bottles and diagnostic examples of shapes, types and functions.

Identified bottles were of four functions: alcohol, food, household or medicinal/personal use.

Identified types were:

Alcohol

- Brown beer
- ABC brown beer
- Brown sherry
- Green rum, hip flask shape
- Brown W & A Gilbey whiskey

Food

- Brown sauce
- Green food
- Clear Schweppes
- Clear milk bottles
- Clear tomato sauce

⁸ Cliff was an English ceramic industrial artist active from 1922 to 1963. Her work is now highly popular and collectable.

Green beer
Clear brandy, hip flask shape
Green Tanqueray gin

Large clear Coke
Small clear Coke
Clear Kia Ora soft drink
Clear vinegar
Clear Star aerated water
Clear Lea & Perrins sauce

Household

Brown with "Janola" impressed on neck
Clear preserving jars
Cut glass decorative bowls

Medicinal/personal

Brown Bonningtons Irish Moss
Brown Tonkins Linseed Emulsion
Clear Brylcream jar

Metal

A large number of metal objects of various types and functions were recovered. They include items for personal use, architectural items and items for household use.

Household metal objects include cooking pots and pans, tall narrow milk jugs, a rasping file (probably for horses' hooves), a soap container, and food tins.

Personal metal objects included a wide range of functional, decorative and recreational objects, including face cream tins, cameras, toy cars, seeing glasses, blade razors, a cutthroat razor, a small trophy cup (no lettering was decipherable), torches, slug guns, a soft metal ornate picture frame, and bicycle lamps.

Architectural metal items included door knobs and a door lock.

Leather

Leather items recovered were all shoes or shoe inners or parts. Shoes present included both men's and women's shoes, and were both every-day functional shoes and more ornate dressy shoes.

Bones

Bones recovered were all of domestic species that would have been eaten; some bones showed butchery cut marks. Species presented include beef and sheep. It is interesting to note the bones are predominantly sheep; the dairy cows were being milked for income, not eaten.

Plastic

The plastic items are largely of a personal nature, including toys, and the upper from a set of false teeth

Personal items

Some of the personal items recovered from the site are of a particularly intimate nature, expressing aspects of the lives of the cottage dwellers, including gender and ages. There are two sets of glasses, a toy car, a toy harmonica, cameras, three razors and one cut-throat razor and a small trophy. The upper from a set of false teeth was recovered; they are in good condition and from the teeth not present (no wisdom molars) they appear to be the dentures of a late teenager. In a time of high sugar consumption and painful (and expensive) dentistry it was common practice in New Zealand in the first half of the twentieth century for teenagers or young adults to deliberately have their teeth removed and replaced with dentures. This was often referred to as the Kiwi 21st birthday present⁹.

Conclusions

As a purely archaeological investigation, the archaeologist acknowledges that many aspects of this work left much to be desired in terms of professional archaeological standards. However this failing must be weighed against the other objective, of community engagement. On this basis the project was a resounding success: meaningful data was obtained, more information about the wider history of the valley was gathered, and the community enthusiastically participated in an exciting weekend that has created a strong community network and community friendships.

An interesting and useful artefact assemblage has been gathered and analysed, that represents the everyday objects of a family of modest means. The vast majority of objects are utilitarian and functional, appearing to represent a "no frills" marginal farming life. With the exception of one fish tin, there were no food tins present, suggesting all food consumed was home grown, and either fresh or preserved

There is a notable absence on the site of material dating from and in use from the 19th century. The vast majority of artefacts appear to date from the 20th century, and are starkly utilitarian in nature. The few items that predate 1900 appear to be precious high status family treasures or heirlooms.

Even the ceramics on the whole were commonly available patterns or brands, and were functional rather than decorative. In stark contrast to this, however are two ceramic items dating from the 1890s being a jug and a platter, which are notable both for their age and their ornate pattern. It is speculated that these could have been family "treasures" passed down through generations.

Whilst this excavation focused on the rubbish deposit, the actual location of the cottage is still not known. Investigations of the hillside in the vicinity of the rubbish pit revealed other features: concrete steps and remains of a concrete path; a miner's croft north of the rubbish pit which may date back to the mid to late 19th century, an earth water dam (still functioning), an early 20th century house site north of the rubbish pit from where a whale bone rib was recovered, and further artefacts widely scattered across the extensive hill slope.

The archaeological dig was both a celebration and a context. It provided a means by which a community could gather and engage with each other as well as the dig, and it provided a context in which individual people could re-identify as part of a community and think about

⁹ Gavin McLean, historian Ministry of Culture and Heritage, pers. comm.

this community context. The dig is part of a wider suite of local activity, including the community garden and several other projects, all playing their part in the regeneration of community. The dig provided a broader opportunity for engagement and sharing of ideas and memories.

Historical research clearly highlights that there was an active community in Houghton Valley in the 1930s which decayed due to a range of impacts, such as the car and television. In recent times a new community with a local vision is emerging in the valley, and the dig was both a manifestation and a consolidation of this.

The dig's popularity and success exceeded the expectations of the organisers; it is taken to be a validation of the desire for community networks and friendships, and for local guardianship of one's "own patch". Many locals are now asking "when's the next one?"

Acknowledgements

Thanks to Norm and Grant who developed the original idea far beyond anyone's expectation. The organising committee of the Restieaux weekend was: Grant and Norm, with Miranda, Ken, Alistair, Lucy, Jenny, Dave, Sandy, John, Louis, Heather, Kate, Ross, Shar, Estelle, Caroline, James, Pat and Jacob. Everyone gave so much time and expertise and enthusiasm.

Thanks to Kate, Bec, Norm and Grant with artefact sorting and analysis.

Particular thanks to Grant, whose research first kicked the idea off, and who has done, and continues to do, so much for Houghton Valley.

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Mary O'Keefe, Heritage Solutions, Wellington

MORRIN HOMESTEAD, MT WELLINGTON, AUCKLAND

The former Morrin Homestead at 6–10 Homestead Drive, Mt Wellington, Auckland, has recently been demolished due to its dilapidated state. Assessment and research into the

property and recording of the homestead building was undertaken prior to demolition works and further archaeological investigation was carried out during the course of demolition.

The first European owner was John Kerr, who was issued the Crown Grant in 1853, and was advertising a villa residence for sale on the property from 1867. The most notable former occupant of the site is Thomas Morrin, a businessman, property developer and horse racing enthusiast, who developed the property from the late 1880s into an estate known as Wellington Park. The property is also significant as it is located on the northern slopes of Maungarei / Mt Wellington, the whole of which is a pa and scheduled as an archaeological landscape relating to past Maori occupation. Morrin went bankrupt in 1904 and fled the country in 1905, with the property passing to Auckland Savings Bank. The next long-term owner was Maurice Harding, a retired farmer, who died in 1936 leaving the property to the trustees of Wesley College. A preparatory school for Wesley College opened on the estate in 1941 and closed in 1951. After this date the property was acquired by the Education Department and the homestead and other buildings were run as an educational institution until 1980.



Figure 25. View of the south-east corner of the house at the start of demolition work showing the exposed basalt masonry wall along the front, the converted bungalow style upper storey and roofline, one of two main chimneys, and a bay window on the eastern corner likely inserted into the basalt wall during Morrin's occupation in the 1890s

Prior to demolition the homestead building was in a derelict state and had suffered from vandalism and the removal of many of the internal fittings, including all of the internal floor joists and floorboards. The building had also, at some stage in the early 20th century, been converted to a bungalow style and the front of the house clad in stucco plaster. Additional historic research and inspection of the exterior of the building prior to demolition had concluded that the original residence built by John Kerr in the 1860s was likely incorporated into the structure known as Morrin Homestead. Demolition confirmed that all of the main part of the house was originally a 19th century structure, with a combination of kauri timber and basalt masonry construction. The front wall of the house and part of the eastern corner

and cellar was constructed of dressed basalt blocks, brought to course in walls up to 900 mm thick. The original steep gabled roofline would have sprung directly from the top of the basalt wall and marks where the original roof had been visible on the chimney once the later roofing material had been removed. Decorative cast iron columns along the front veranda were found to be marked by the Sydney foundry of P.N. Russell and Co, who operated from 1855 to 1875. Apart from minor additions and alterations, such as two bay windows, one on the eastern corner and one on the north side, it appears that all of the main part of the homestead was constructed by Kerr at some time in the 1860s, and not by Morrin around 1890 as previously thought. The conversion of the building into a bungalow style is likely to have occurred after 1936 when the property was passed to the trustees of Wesley College and the homestead converted into a school.

Jaden Harris and Matthew Campbell, CFG Heritage Ltd

THE FORMER CAMBRIDGE RSA

The former Cambridge RSA building was recently demolished. The building was initially constructed in 1877 and had been designed by Richard Keals for the Cambridge Farmers Club to function as their club rooms. In 1881 it was bought by Thomas Wells, later Mayor of Cambridge, who converted it to his private residence, 'Oakleigh.' The building has been extended and modified several times over its 136 year lifespan and had changed function from a scientific institution, to a residential building, finally becoming the home of the town's RSA. At this time it was considerably modified, essentially gutted to become a booze barn.

Surveyed recording work and building archaeological investigation was undertaken prior to and during demolition, with the assistance of the contractors. Despite its modifications the building retained a considerable amount of information about its original form and layout which had not previously been recognised. It was possible to identify surviving original features, such as decorative board and batten ceilings, the phasing of changes to the structure and surviving elements of the original decorative finishes.

The most significant findings were the identification of the room arrangement within the original 1877 building. Research into historic documents indicated that there had originally been five rooms within the building. These consisted of a library, a smoking room, two committee rooms and a lecture room. The archaeological investigation of the building exposed traces of the internal walls which had been removed, allowing the original floor plan and use of the five rooms to be determined.



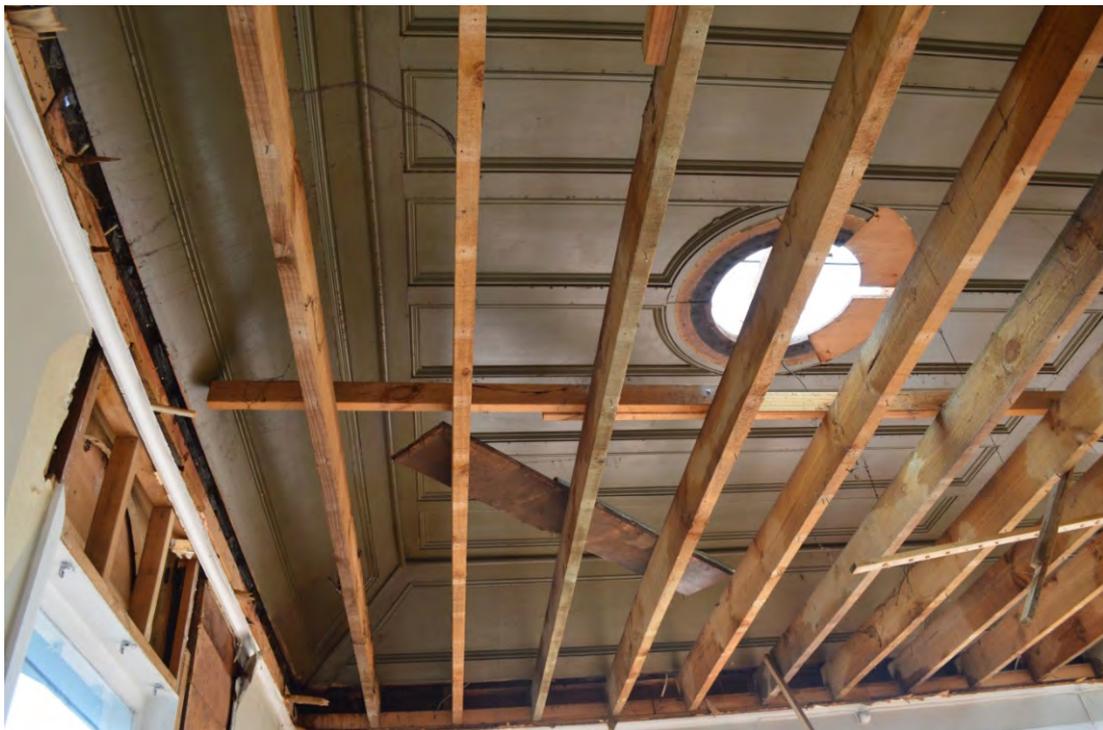
Empire Street frontage of the former RSA prior to demolition, showing the 20th century extensions and 1890s bay window



The former RSA prior to demolition from the corner of Alpha and Empire Streets, showing a 20th century extension built in the 1970s and a portion of original building with decorative parapet roof



A portion of the 1877 ceiling during demolition, showing the painted ceiling boards and indications of removed partition walls



A portion of the decorative 1877 board and batten ceiling during demolition, showing the painted ceiling boards and indications of a removed ceiling ventilator and joists for a 20th century dropped ceiling

Wesley Maguire and Matthew Campbell, CFG Heritage

DECONSTRUCTIONS AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RECORDING OF THE BEDGGOOD COTTAGE AT WAIMATE NORTH, NORTHLAND, NEW ZEALAND

The Bedggood Cottage was constructed in the late 1840s. The first historic record found in the archives of the Church Missionary Society indicate that it was built in 1848, however the Bedggood family history suggests that an existing barn building was converted into a cottage around this time, following the destruction of the first Bedggood homestead during the Northern War.

The cottage, which formed part of the complex of buildings around the Te Waimate Mission Station, was acquired by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust (NZHPT) in 1979. When the building was acquired it was already in a poor state and a portion of the eastern gable end had already collapsed. By 2013 the building was acknowledged as a hazard to public safety and it was recognised that the collapse of the building would lead to a loss of valuable archaeological information about the building, its inhabitants and local methods of construction. The decision was taken to deconstruct the building under archaeological supervision and an archaeological authority (2013/741) was obtained. Archaeological recording and surveying of the building was undertaken by Heritage Survey Consultants in June 2013.

The recording of the structure was carried out in accordance with NZHPT building recording guidelines (NZHPT 2006, *Archaeological Guidelines Series No. 1: Guidelines for the Investigation and Recording of Buildings and Standing Structures*) and was targeted to record the building at Level 2 building recording. The method used to achieve this was the application of photogrammetry to record plane surfaces of the building and the use of a total station, with a reflectorless setting, to provide control for the photogrammetry. The total station was also used to record the three dimensional location of the structural elements of the building and the internal wall framing. Extensive digital photography and written descriptions were also undertaken to record information about the building. The results of the photogrammetry and survey will be used to create a series of measured drawings, depicting the elevations and plans of the building.

Preliminary results of the archaeological investigation of the building indicate that the cross-gable form of the Bedggood Cottage roof is a modification to the original roof line. The original form of the roof was a pitched roof with gables to the east and west ends. It is likely that the modification to the roof occurred during the 1860, based on the style of the roof and the type of nails used in this portion of the structure.

There is a suggestion that there may be some truth in the family history of the cottage being converted from a barn. Principally the external walls show mortise and tenon joints in the top and bottom plates to secure the vertical studs. These studs were still in place except in the centre of the front door and in the centre of the surviving windows on the ground floor. In these openings empty mortises in the top and bottom plates were visible, indicating that the studs were removed to permit the insertion of openings.

The sub floor structure of the building also suggested modification. The bearers supporting the floor structure were not integrated into the structure and differed from the timbers used for the bottom plates of the walls. The bearers were roughly squared sections of puriri logs which retained sections of waney edges. The floor joists which were supported by the bearers were also not resting on the bottom plates of the exterior walls. The joists were instead butted against the bottom plates and were not secured to them in any way.

In addition there were small portions of split stone found on the ground beneath the building. Only one fragment was still in-situ, lying flush with the ground surface, but it is possible that these sections of flat stone represented a previous floor of the building as this type of flat stone was not observed anywhere else on the property and was not used anywhere within the structure.

No in-ground excavation of the site was conducted and following the deconstruction the site was capped with a layer of geotextile and imported topsoil. The footprint of the building has been reseeded with grass and will be reopened to the public. Further analysis and interpretation of the findings is currently underway and will be included in the final archaeological report within the next twelve months.



The Bedggood Cottage before archaeological recording was commenced, looking south west. The building had been encapsulated with corrugated iron by NZHPT to keep the building secure and weathertight



The Bedggood Cottage during deconstruction, looking south, showing the remains of the front door at centre



Detail shot of the top plate on the south wall, showing the notched ends of the ceiling joists which had held the rafters and the mortise holes in the top plate.



Detail shot of the subfloor structure, showing the interaction of the floor joists with the southern sole plate and stone foundation piles.

Wesley Maguire, Heritage Survey Consultants

NORTHERN TERRITORY NEWS

Compiled by Malcolm Connolly

OLD OWEN SPRINGS HOMESTEAD COMPLEX

The Northern Territory Heritage Branch (Department of Lands Planning and the Environment) and Parks and Wildlife Commission excavated the Old Owen Springs Homestead cellar in July 2013. The cellar was part of the first pastoralist homestead constructed in the area in the late 1800s. The cellar was totally abandoned prior to 1937 and filled with local soil and waste materials. The excavation team completed the first stage of the excavations on 26 July 2013 removing approximately 10 cubic metres of soil and large numbers of pre-1930s artefacts (Fig. 1). The archaeological investigations aimed to describe its construction and use in more detail and in particular, who constructed the cellar and when, and will it tell us more about life in Central Australia between the 1880s and the early 1900s. The Northern Territory Government would like to thank Kerrie Grant for helping us coordinate the excavations, and thanks to all the volunteers, especially archaeologists, Delyna Baxter, and Dr Robin Gregory.



Archaeological team excavating the cellar at Old Owen Springs Homestead (Northern Territory Department of Lands Planning and the Environment).

Malcolm Connolly

SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWS

Compiled by Adam Paterson

[Adam reports that there's nothing for this issue. He has also indicated that he will be stepping down at the AGM as SA State Rep, due to the pressing need to get his PhD finished (I know that feeling). I'd like to acknowledge the sterling job that he has done, and thank him on behalf of the ASHA Committee. If any of our members in SA want to take up the role, please get in touch and I'll talk you through the requirements – Ed.]

VICTORIA NEWS

[Andrea reports that nobody has sent her anything to report on – Ed.]

WESTERN AUSTRALIA NEWS

Compiled by Gaye Nayton

WANSLEA, COTTESLOE, PERTH

Wanslea is located at 80 Railway Street, Cottesloe, Perth. It is listed on the Western Australian State Register of Heritage Places (Place No. 598) and is classified by the National Trust of Australia (WA). The place principally contains a 1905 two-storey red brick orphanage building, adjoining 1941 timber/weatherboard kitchen/dining and 1943 timber recreation hall, 1958 two storey cream brick staff quarters, date unknown (possibly 1940s) weatherboard/asbestos former staff quarters and a 1960s asbestos laundry.

The orphanage was built in 1905 by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and extended in 1919. By 1940 the number of children had reduced and the building was taken over by the Red Cross as the Lady Mitchell Convalescent Home nursing returned servicemen and POWs. The State Government purchased the site and in 1947 the Women's Australian National Service (WANS) organisation established a 'home for the children of sick mothers' that operated until 1984. They became known as the 'Wanslea group', and during this period the property was called *Wanslea*. From 1984 until the present Wanslea has accommodated cancer support groups and community childcare.

Lotterywest has provided a substantial grant for infrastructure upgrade and conservation of the buildings to enable the site's use as a community facility. On completion of the works the place will become the Cottesloe Wellness Centre, accommodating a diverse range of cancer support and assistance groups.

During the upgrade and infrastructure works, AHMS has been monitoring the works for any archaeological material, on behalf of the National Trust of Australia (WA). To date material found includes a combination of domestic items and discarded construction material related to the building of Wanslea and its associated structures. This includes what appears to be randomly discarded and accumulated materials underneath and around the buildings, and purposefully discarded materials in the form of ash-pits or dumps outdoors.

Historical records suggest that an air-raid shelter was built to the rear of Wanslea by the army in 1942-43. Very little is known about the shelter, and no physical evidence of it has been found during the works to date.

The first contract of infrastructure, services, retaining and ground works has been completed. The major contract for conservation, new additions, adaptive reuse works, car parks, pedestrian/driveway access and landscaping has commenced, with completion programmed for June 2014. During the construction works, archaeological monitoring will continue.

The 1940s former dining and recreation hall has been leased to the Department of Education for use as an Early Childhood Centre in conjunction with the adjoining primary school. Works funded by the Department of Education are currently in progress to completely upgrade and conserve these buildings for the opening of the 2014 school year.

Sam Bolton, AHMS Perth

COSSACK DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IS ON AGAIN

In 2006/2007 the heritage community in Australia in one voice protested Western Australian government plans to sell the heritage listed townsite of Cossack for a housing development. Together we saved the town from government driven development but unfortunately we have the job to do again. Plans are currently with Mr Eric Lumsden, Director General at the Department of Planning, to create a village development within the historic archaeological site.

Background: Cossack

Settlement in the northwest of Western Australia began in 1863 when the first historic period settlers landed at Cossack. Cossack was the first, and for twenty years, the only port for the northern area of Western Australia. Therefore historic colonisation of the northwest was funnelled through this place. Historical information on the port and the embryonic frontier town that supported it is scarce and incomplete; archaeology is our main avenue of studying how the colonists adapted to the new challenges of the northwest coastal conditions. Cossack, as a more complete archaeological site than Roebourne, is also our main source of information on how frontier conditions shaped and changed the northwest colonial society in ways not documented in historical information.

Cossack was also the birthplace of the northwest pearl shell industry and contains early phases of the industry not found in the later and better-known Broome. The whole system in Cossack was different to Broome with different pearling masters, races of workers, methods of gathering shell and very different social and physical controls utilised by the tiny white population to contain the much larger Aboriginal and Asian diver population. Historical sources tell us little about this early industry; the only information we have about the hundreds of Aboriginal and Asian divers is the number working in the fleet and an impression from historical sources that they were controlled by force. As the port and lay up centre for this industry the richest archaeological deposits are contained in Cossack archaeological site, particularly the Cossack Chinatown, the first Chinatown in Western Australia.

The archaeology and built heritage of the Cossack Townsite is permanently registered under the *Heritage of Western Australia Act* 1990. It is one of the few registered places which explicitly list the archaeology of the place as a major aspect of the heritage significance of the place. The statement of significance for permanent registration of the Cossack Townsite precinct states amongst other things that:

“... the precinct is a nationally significant archaeological site that has the potential to contribute to a wider cultural understanding of the cultural heritage of the State through use as a research site; ...”

HCWA Register of Heritage Place 21/04/2006.

Only one major excavation, of 123 square metres of the 493,284 square metre town site, has been undertaken to date. This recovered over 8,000 diagnostic artefacts and a sequence of material from the 1870s, 1880s, 1890s and the 1920s. The visual surface material has, however, been surveyed and established that this wealth of archaeology extends for over one kilometre. Despite the lack of excavation, studies undertaken at Cossack have already produced the first international academic book on the historical

archaeology of Western Australia, two Ph.D. theses, a master thesis, three honour's theses and also a number of professional journal articles and conference papers.

Background: Development proposal

In 2005 the state government, through former Minister for Housing Works, and Heritage, Fran Logan, announced plans to 'revive' the state heritage listed townsite of Cossack through commercial and residential land development and tourism. In 2006 the Cossack Master Plan went out for public comment. It proposed to develop for housing all the historic lots within Cossack except for a core of central lots containing the seven surviving stone built buildings, all built during the dying phases of the township, and the area of the Cossack Chinatown at the edge of the town near the cemetery. Almost immediately after this announcement most of the private lots in Cossack were pegged out and put on the market at highly inflated prices. These unserviced lots, with no firm development approval, were advertised for sale at prices in excess of most Perth house prices of the time.

This Cossack Master Plan proposal launched a massive 'Save Cossack' campaign. Neither the government nor their consultants expected the strength of community feeling against the proposal with the result that their list of stakeholders grew to 366 individuals and organizations from all over Australia. Protesters included all the major archaeological associations in Australia, historical and heritage associations, the National Trust and individuals who either lived in the Pilbara or who had visited the town as a tourist. The consultants identified the impact to archaeology, heritage and tourism as the three main concerns of these stakeholders.

In the middle of the extended public consultation period a '100 year' cyclone event hit the townsite, flooding half of the town. The revised Cossack Master Plan drawn up and put out for a short period of public comment proposed to restrain development to land above the 100 years flood level. To maintain the level of development the revised plan proposed to obliterate the historic layout of half the town site lying between the town centre and Chinatown. In this area high density cul-de-sac development based on the small lot/large house model was proposed. This revised plan also brought a storm of protest. Any changes to the revised plan arising out of the public comment were not made public either before or after the plan went to parliament where it was shelved by the then Labour government but not rejected.

It appears since the liberal government has regained government the state government, Shire of Roebourne and the handful of private owners of Cossack lots have been quietly working again on plans to develop Cossack. The Shire of Roebourne Strategic Community Plan for 2011-2021 states "While the town currently serves as a tourist destination plans are in place to re-create it as a small lifestyle community" (Shire of Roebourne 2001:16). In July 2011 the Pilbara News run an article stating landowners "have stepped up their fight for permission to develop" lots within the town, with the Shire president quoted as saying "The shire is committed to breathing life back into Cossack... A master plan, which will eventually guide development of the historical settlement, is nearing completion.... This process is being facilitated by the State".

The Situation Now

The Master Plan spoken about in 2011 is now with the Director General, Department of Planning. The Director General sent it to the National Trust (WA) for comment. The

National Trust sent their response to the proposal to ASHA to inform them and ask them to again raise their concerns regarding the project.

The current proposal is to land swap with private owners to consolidate them within one section of the town site. This section of the town site is then proposed to be developed into a “living village” or “regional development node”. The chosen location for this development is the Cossack Chinatown area. The National Trust states “It is the opinion of the National Trust that Cossack’s outstanding heritage significance has simply been overlooked in most of the reports recommending development [since the 1990s]. It is quite extraordinary such specialist advice, by both a range of consultants and government agencies in relation to trying to convert Cossack into a development node, is so fundamentally flawed”. The development of “Any area within the wider precinct would more than likely cause irreversible loss of heritage values. That, combined with native title issues, should have been clearly articulated in all plans. It appears they have not.....Any private land owner development on this important national heritage site could be detrimental to the economic, social and environmental values of this place” (National Trust (WA) 10 June 2013). Instead the National Trust recommends the “State Government:

- Compulsorily acquire the private land;
- Consolidate the land tenures into a major Cossack reserve which reflects the national significance of this site;
- Allocate a once off capital investment to address the existing backlog of capital works for this site and prepare an overarching management plan; and
- Consider an appropriate specialist body to manage this place in partnership with the Ngarluma people and the Shire of Roebourne.” (National Trust (WA) 10 June 2013).

How you can help

Please take pen to paper and write to Mr Eric Lumsden, Director General at the Department of Planning, 140 William Street WA 6000. Protest this proposal and support the National Trust’s sensible solution to this constant threat to the archaeology of Cossack. You may wish, as I did, to point out that this economically unsound proposition will be made much worse once the cost of archaeological clearing the massive amounts of archaeology across these sites is actually factored into the proposal.

Gaye Nayton

GOOD HERITAGE BUILDING CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION REQUIRES ARCHAEOLOGY

Recent archaeological investigations carried out on Perth City’s second oldest building, St John’s Pro-Cathedral (St John’s), by archaeologist and Catholic priest, Fr Robert Cross, has demonstrated the “not to be missed” contribution archaeology can bring to the understanding and decision making for the conservation and restoration of heritage buildings.

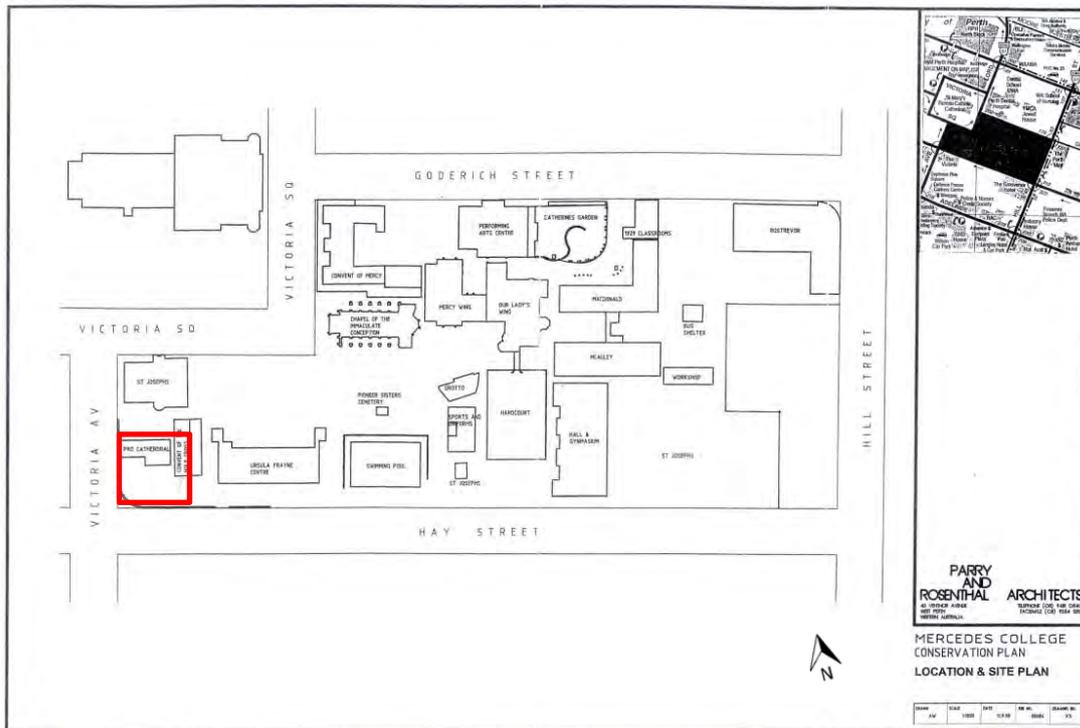


Figure 1: Location and Site Plan (Hart et al 1999)



Figure 2: This photo dates to 1868 and shows the Pro-Cathedral (circled). To the east is the Mercy Convent of the Holy Cross and the “School House” (Collection of Cathedral Presbytery, Perth). To the north is the 1865 built Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary (St Mary’s)

St John’s was the first Catholic Church built in the Swan River Colony, with work commencing on 27 December 1843 under the leadership of Fr John Brady (he became Perth’s first Bishop in 1845) (Bourke 1979: 9). It was sufficiently complete to be used as a place of worship and the colony’s first Catholic school in February 1844 (the first teachers were Fr John Joostens and catechist Mr Patrick O’Reilly).

The archaeology of St John’s consisted of three elements. Two 50cm x 50cm squares were excavated of the internal sub-floor deposit to test for artefacts, one near the front entrance and the other along the north wall. Both squares produced 19th century artefacts. The

second element of the archaeology was carried out on the building itself, noting the fabric changes to its structure and fabric through time. The third element was the excavation of a trench along the south side wall, which was to be dug for the installation of an air drain to manage rising damp.



Figure 3: St John's Pro-Cathedral Test Pit number two of sub-floor archaeology deposit (SJP-2)

The archaeology of the building was informative in respect to identifying the first stage of the building's construction and associated early Western Australian colonial building techniques and materials, changes through time to the location and size of windows and door ways, changes through time of the roofing (cladding materials and design), identification of earliest render and render wash colour. In a model of how conservation and restoration decisions should be made, all these discoveries made a major contribution to conservation and restoration decisions at regular on-site meetings between the owner, archaeologist, conservation architect and heritage builders.

In identifying the original mortar render, both *in-situ* and in the archaeological deposit along the south wall, the original mortar mix of the building's external render could be determined. This was important as the major conservation issue of the building was rising damp, which had been exacerbated by previous poor conservation decisions which had included Portland cement in repair renders along with acrylic paints which prevented the walls of the building from expiring rising and falling damp. The original colour of the wash of the external walls of St John's was also identified both on *in situ* mortar and even more definitively on mortar pieces found in the archaeological deposit. Based on this evidence, it was decided to wash the walls with a colour that matched the original colour as close as possible. Interestingly, this colour is very similar to the wash colour on many of the early Rottneest Island buildings which date to around the same time.

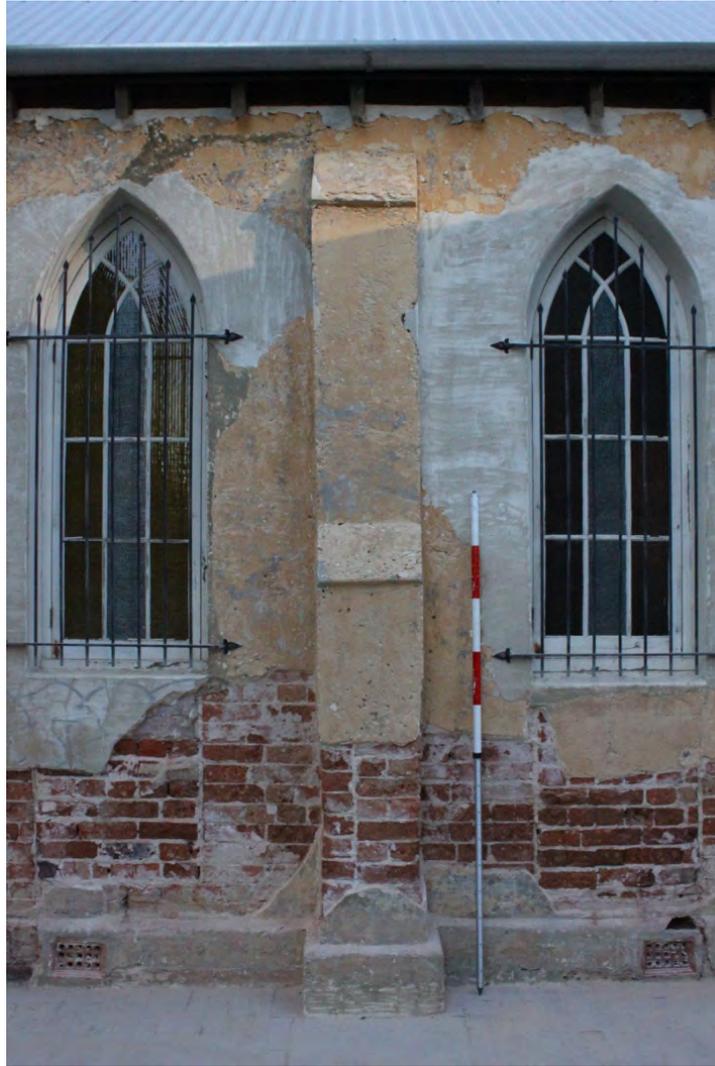


Figure 4: South wall of St John's showing brick infill of original window cuts and use of Portland cement (below left window and around right window) in previous conservation works. Note also the inappropriate coloured glass in the mullioned windows and the faded ochre coloured original wash on *in situ* portions of original render on the buttress and elsewhere

The south wall excavation also revealed large quantities of broken window glass, much of which was 19th century flat clear glass, with only a few shards of coloured glass present in the archaeological deposit. Based on this evidence, it was decided to replace St John's mullioned windows' coloured rippled "shower screen" type glass, installed in ill-informed 1980s conservation works, with clear glass, treated by heat to replicate the type of visual distortions typical of 19th century flat clear glass.



Figure 5: A piece of the mortar render with ochre coloured wash



Figure 6: South wall excavation.

In removing deteriorated render, it was discovered that the original windows were almost the full height of the walls. Given this, the decision was made to remove recent brick infill and reinstate the windows to their original proportion and positions (the eastern window on the south wall had been moved a little to the east during previous conservation works). When these modern bricks were removed, the original window wood frames were found *in situ*. These were archaeologically recorded and recovered, and illustrate early colonial wood work and window joinery techniques.



Figure 7: Original *in situ* window frame in south wall of St John's



Figure 8: Original St John's window frame after removal illustrating colonial joinery techniques

Future conservation and restoration work will pick up on other archaeological observations, including extending the eaves of the building further out and replacing the current corrugated iron with wooden shingles.

The archaeological work carried out on St John's Pro-Cathedral is a case study of the unique contribution archaeology and archaeologists can bring to conservation and restoration decisions and is a lesson in best practice for heritage building owners, all heritage and conservation practitioners and heritage legislation makers.

I would like to acknowledge the support I received to do the archaeology on St John's Pro-Cathedral by the Archdiocese of Perth's Property Manager, Mrs Theresa Carroll, and her willingness to bring me into the circle of conservation and restoration decision making, together with conservation architect Christopher Patterson (Palassis Architects) and heritage builders, Colgan Industries. I would also like to thank Ms Monica Podesta for her

assistance undertaken as part of her degree requirements for Deakin University's Cultural Heritage Masters programme, and fellow archaeologist, Ms Vivien Lengkeek, who assisted with the south wall excavation.



Figure 9: St John's Pro-Cathedral 18 August 2013 as current conservation and restoration works near completion

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Fr R Cross, BA (Hons) and Masters in History and Ecclesiastical Cultural Heritage

QUEENSLAND NEWS

Compiled by Cameron Harvey

[Cam reports there doesn't seem to be much happening in Queensland at present, so no report – Ed.]

DIGITAL RECONSTRUCTION OF POINT PUER BOYS' PRISON, TASMANIA



Point Puer Summary

Point Puer is the site of the first dedicated juvenile detention centre in the British Empire, housing 3000 boys aged 10-17, between 1834 and 1848. It is part of the World Heritage-listed Port Arthur Historic Sites, and is located on a narrow peninsula across Carnarvon Bay from the main Port Arthur site. Point Puer is managed by the Port Arthur Historic Site Management Authority (PAHSMA) which conducts guided tours of the site. The surface features associated with the Point Puer Boys' Prison largely consist of the stone footings of various buildings and structures, a historic quarry, and landscape features such as ditches, depressions and cleared areas.



Figure 1: Surface remains of what was part of a busy industrial complex at Point Puer in the 1830-40s.

Can Digital Technology Help?

Like many such sites, it can be difficult for visitors to interpret what the site looked like, or how it operated as the Boys' Prison from the few remaining surface features. Hence the beginning of an innovation collaboration between Flinders University and PAHSMA to investigate if digital technology can be used to build a fuller picture of this significant historic site. In a technologically savvy world, where information and entertainment is found at the

click of a mouse button or the swipe of a smart phone, is it time for the heritage sector to better embrace the 'digital age'?

Raiding the Archives

The convict system has left us with a mass of historic information including maps, building plans, sketches and reports on the inner workings of the Point Puer Boys' Prison. This includes the highly detailed work of the convict architect Henry Laing who drew plans, sections, elevations and even the interiors of many buildings on the Tasman Peninsula. From these plans we can determine the construction materials of buildings and fine details such as the size of window panes. Previous field surveys provided additional information on the location and identification of above-ground features. These resources were collated and entered into GIS software, creating a two dimensional spatial record displaying not just the static location of buildings, but the development of the site over time.

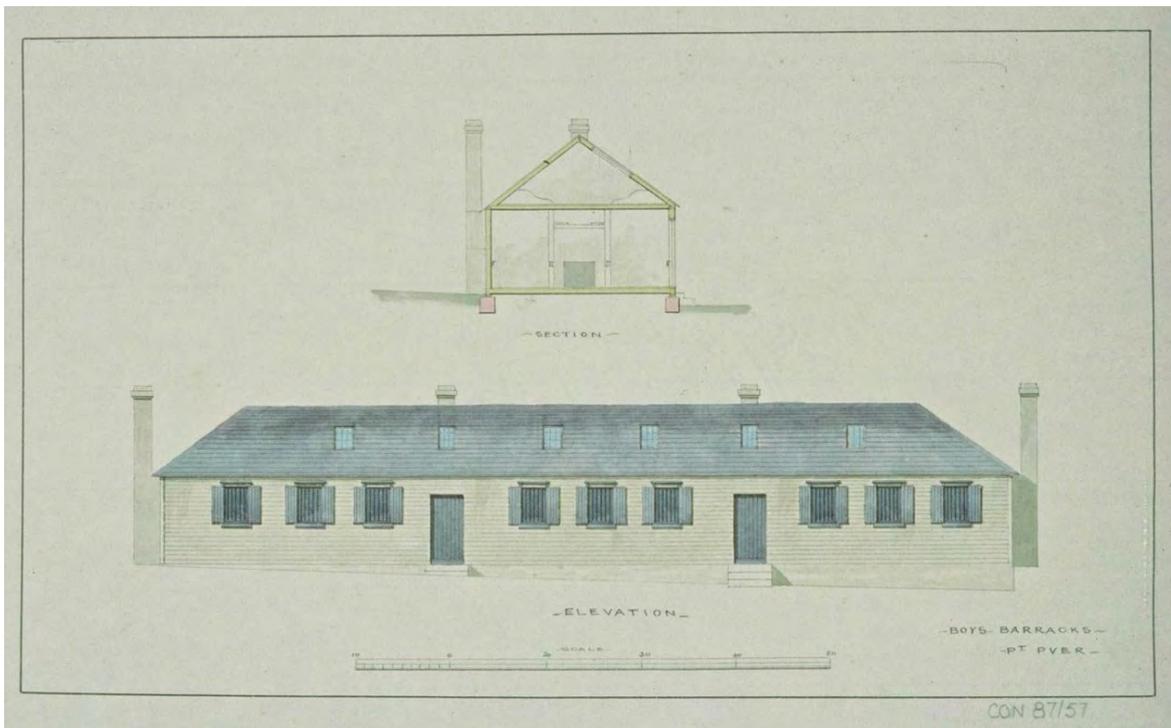


Figure 2: Henry Laing's 1836 plan for the Boys' Barracks at Point Puer (Archives Office of Tasmania).

Virtual Archaeology

Laing's architectural plans were turned into virtual buildings using the 3D modeling program *Trimble Sketchup*. Each detailed plan was recreated from a series of simple geometric shapes; starting with a box for the outline of a building, a roof, chimneys, windows and doors. Finally textures that were created from photos (weatherboard panels, stone walls and doors) were draped over these simple shapes to create a realistic representation of each of the buildings. A total of 23 buildings and features were constructed in this way and combined to produce the final model.

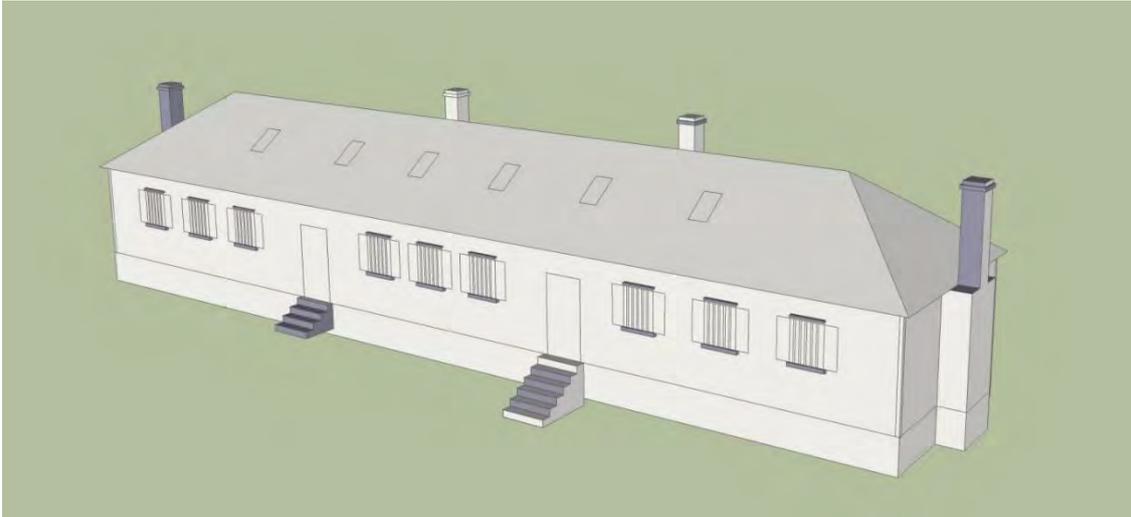


Figure 3: Basic shapes used to produce a 3D representation of the barracks, prior to adding textures.



Figure 4: The above barracks brought back to life in a digital environment.

New Opportunities

The digital reconstruction of Point Puer represents a management, interpretation and educational tool for PAHSMA staff. The software allows pictures from the model to be extracted and fly-throughs to be recorded, allowing us to virtually walk amongst the buildings. The model can also be exported to other software packages such as *Google Earth* where the user can take control of the interactive experience. The humble smartphone or tablet can now be used as a portable interpretation device, where information from the virtual and real worlds can be combined. This approach can bring sites with limited buildings and above-ground features to life for the visitor. It also represents a real advance for site managers who can use such models to develop research into landscape and site development.



Figure 5. Interpretation can be improved by combining information from the real and virtual worlds on a mobile device.

This project represents the combination of a significant historical site with cutting edge digital technology, demonstrating how information can be taken out of the archives and displayed in a way that is both informative and accessible to managers, students and tourists alike.

For further detail of the project's methods and results, please contact: john.stephenson@dpiwwe.tas.gov.au.

John Stephenson, Data & Geospatial Coordinator, Heritage Tasmania

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

ASHA 2013 CONFERENCE – ARCHAEOLOGICAL NARRATIVES, IN AND OF THE CITY.

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

Registrations are now open for the 2013 ASHA conference to be held at NSW in the Former Kings School (Heritage Division Offices - 3 Marist Place, Parramatta) from 5-6 October 2013. Workshops will be held on 4 October. Parramatta is Australia's second oldest city, part of the World Heritage Convict Sites Listing and home to a significant Aboriginal and Historical archaeological resource which is increasingly threatened by fast paced urban development. The Conference dinner will be held at Lachlan's Restaurant, Old Government House, Parramatta Park on Sunday 6 October.

The conference theme is designed to highlight the archaeology of urban places and returns the conference to its roots with a focus on all aspects of archaeological practice. We particularly encourage Sessions and Papers that consider the results of archaeological

investigations of urban sites and what these narratives can tell us about the development of the environments we live in, including people, places, and technology.

Friday: October 4th, 2013 from 3 - 5pm

Free Workshops (for Registered Conference Attendees only)

1. Writing Articles for Publication - Convenor: Dr Iain Stuart.
2. FAIMS Technical Workshop - Convenor: Dr Penny Crook

Free Tours (For Registered Conference Attendees Only)

Parramatta Archaeological Sites Walking Tour – Dr Siobhan Lavelle

Saturday – Sunday: October 5th – 6th, 2013

Conference Sessions:

1. **Archaeological Narratives – Stories in the City and of the City** - *Convenor: Dr Martin Gibbs*
2. **Industrial Archaeology in the City** - *Convenors: Dr Iain Stuart and Dr Geraldine Mate*
3. **The Archaeology of Standing Buildings** - *Convenor: Denis Gojak*
4. **Dirty Stories – Archaeological Narratives of Colonial Sites and Landscapes, 1788 - 1850s** - *Convenor – Dr Mary Casey*
5. **Maritime Cultural Landscapes** - *Convenors – Abi Cryerhall & Dr Brad Duncan*
6. **Look what I found** - *Convenor: Katrina Stankowski*

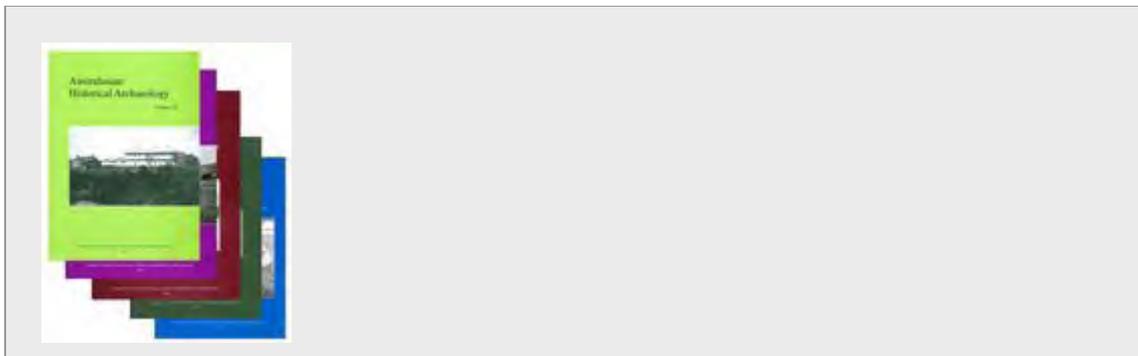
Panel and Forum Discussion

The Role and Value of Research Archaeology in Australia - Convenors: Natalie Vinton and Dr Mary Casey

Further details of all sessions are available at the [2013 Conference web site](#)

Hurry, numbers are limited to the first 110 people!

ASHA CONFERENCE SPECIAL BOOKSALE



ASHA Conference Special

To coincide with the upcoming ASHA Conference members can purchase back-sets of *Australasian Historical Archaeology* for only \$AUD 50.00* includes postage & handling (while stocks last).

These sets include Vols: 3-6; 8-11; 20-30.

This offer is open to all ASHA members. You do not have to be attending the conference to take advantage of this great special!

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

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

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