



NEWSLETTER

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STATE OF THE ART

ACT NEWS

Compiled by Richard Morrison

HERITAGE BRANCH, DEPARTMENT OF THE ENVIRONMENT (CWTH)

Call for Nominations for National Heritage List (NHL) - The Hon Greg Hunt MP, the Minister for the Environment invites people to nominate places for inclusion in the NHL for the assessment period 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016.

The NHL contains places in the Australian jurisdiction found to be of outstanding heritage value to the nation. The Australian jurisdiction includes Australia, the External Territories, the exclusive economic zone and the continental shelf.

- Nominations must be received by the Department of the Environment by 6 February 2015. Late nominations will be ineligible.
- Nominations for the NHL must be made on the official form, available from the Nominations Manager, whose address is given below, or by emailing heritage@environment.gov.au.

Minister Hunt has identified deserts and benevolent institutions as places of particular interest for consideration for the 2015-16 assessment period.

NHL additions - Since the last newsletter Minister Hunt has added three places to the NHL:

- Moree Baths and Swimming Pool, NSW
- Murtoa No 1 Grain Store, Vic
- Koonalda Cave, Vic

For further information on the listing of these places see <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage>

Abolition of the Standing Council on Environment and Water (SCEW) – In 2011 the Council of Australian Governments (COAG) ministerial councils were reduced in number and the most senior Australian governments' body responsible for heritage policy, a ministerial council, the Environment Protection and Heritage Council, established in 2001, was abolished and replaced with another ministerial council, SCEW, but with much broader responsibilities. The recently announced implementation of the Australian Government's 'smaller government policy, in a 'Committee Clean-up' included the abolition of COAG SCEW. This leaves all Australian government heritage (and environment) agencies without access to a senior level body, as it has had for thirteen years, making it very difficult in the future for nationally useful and consistent heritage policy to be agreed and introduced nationwide.

AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY (ANU)

Springbank Archaeological Project – An ACT Heritage \$17,000 grant has funded a community-based project, under the direction of ANU lecturer Dr Duncan Wright, to investigate Springbank Island at West Basin in Lake Burley Griffin. The first stage was a recently undertaken geophysical survey, using ground penetrating radar. An archaeological excavation is to follow early in 2015, focussing on any evidence found of Indigenous presence and early European settlement.

Driving the project is the need to provide ANU undergraduate students with field experience but community members, descendants of the occupants of an 1831 homestead formerly on the island and the area's Indigenous community will also be involved.

Further information can be found at:

<https://www.facebook.com/Springbankdig?pnref=lhc.recent>

<http://www.canberratimes.com.au/act-news/springbank-island-archaeology-project-could-uncover-cultural-goldmine-20141102-11f1cf.html>

Material supplied by Richard Morrison

NSW NEWS

Compiled by Lydia Sivaraman

Nothing provided for this report [Ed.]

NEW ZEALAND NEWS

Compiled by Rick McGovern-Wilson

MASONIC TAVERN BOARDING HOUSE RELOCATION AND CONSERVATION

Continuing excavations at the Masonic Tavern in Devonport, Auckland has seen the relocation of a 1870s Boarding House to another part of the site as part of the site development works. The Boarding House was originally a standalone building that in more recent times had become annexed to the main tavern building and was the subject of fierce debate as to its origins and historic modification. Recently stripped of its linings, the exposed substructure revealed the damage caused by a 1907 fire and a subsequent repair to the building where the roof was separated at the top plate and raised approximately a metre to give more height to the upper floor. Adaptive reuse of the original material included sections of the original top plate timbers used to form stud extensions, burnt floor timbers reused as scrim board linings and roof boards. The original Boarding House is being conserved, adapted and extended to form a new apartment at the rear of the Masonic Tavern site. Further information on the excavations can be found at www.geometria.co.nz/excavation.html#project1



Figure 1: The remaining section of the Boarding House being lifted to its new foundation



Figure 2: Section of west wall showing exposed tenon joint from the original roof plate and extended kauri stud supporting raised roof.

NEW PLYMOUTH DISTRICT COUNCIL WAAHI TAPU AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITE REVIEW

The New Plymouth District Council (NPDC) has moved towards the next phase of the Waahi Tapu and Archaeological Site Review - a long-term programme of consultation, surveys and assessments to reassess the record of archaeological sites and waahi tapu sites of significance to Maori in the district – with the public notification of the first region of sites to undergo a proposed District Plan change confirming the location and extent of these sites. The aim of the project has been to identify all the previously recorded sites, update the position and condition reporting of the sites, and if possible define an observable extent of each site to better reflect the archaeological and cultural record. A significant number of new sites have also been identified during the research.

With the public notification of the plan change local residents, Iwi, affected parties, heritage professionals and other interested parties have the opportunity to present submissions in relation to the project, or to specific sites. This is the first of a series of notified changes that will roll out through 2015 to cover all the sites located throughout the district. Further information on the plan change can be found at <http://www.newplymouthnz.com/CouncilDocuments/PlansAndStrategies/DistrictPlan/PlanChangesandPrivatePlanChanges>

Material supplied by Russell Gibb, Geometria

CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE ARCHAEOLOGY

The team at Underground Overground Archaeology remain busy with earthquake work. Archaeological discoveries in Christchurch of late include two 19th century wells, one with artefacts, the other without, and both within the footprint of substantial late 20th century buildings. The former was recorded by Kimberley Bone and the latter by Peter Mitchell. Significant archaeological deposits have been found in close proximity to another late 20th century building, where Kirsa Webb, Kimberley Bone, Georgia Kerby, Peter Mitchell, Matt Carter and Megan Hickey have been excavating and recording the collapsed floor of an early 1860s building. This building was home to a variety of businesses during the 19th century, and stood until at least 1904. The remains exposed thus far consist of timber floorboards (tentatively identified as kauri), bearers and stone piles, as well as a barrel found buried under the floor and numerous bottle fragments (but few other artefacts).

Elsewhere in the city, Kirsa Webb, Luke Tremlett and Matt Carter have been recording the 19th century components of the Christchurch Club – while part of the oldest part of the complex (which was designed by Benjamin Mountfort in the 1850s) has been retained, another part has been demolished. Little below ground archaeological material has been found, but the buildings archaeology has been interesting, particularly the range of ventilation found in the billiards and smoking rooms.

Drainage-related archaeological features continue to be a major theme on SCIRT (Stronger Christchurch Infrastructure Team) projects, with numerous pre-1900 drains recorded in the central city. Work recording 19th century stone retaining walls in Lyttelton is also continuing.

Material supplied by Kat Watson

NORTHERN TERRITORY NEWS

Compiled by Malcolm Connolly

Malcolm reports that “there’s nothing happening in the NT” [Ed.]

SOUTH AUSTRALIA NEWS

Compiled by Cameron Hartnell

Nothing to report for this issue [Ed.]

VICTORIA NEWS

Compiled by Andrea Murphy

Nothing provided for this report [Ed.]

WESTERN AUSTRALIA NEWS

Compiled by Jillian Barteaux

Nothing provided for this report [Ed.]

QUEENSLAND NEWS

Compiled by Paddy Waterson

Nothing to report for this issue [Ed.]

TASMANIA NEWS

Compiled by Annita Waghorn

SECRET OR SANITARY? WHEN A TUNNEL IS REALLY A DRAIN.

Archaeologists tend to be very prosaic creatures. Ask them about an object or a site and they’re likely to err on the side of cautious functionality rather than wax lyrical about possible secret or mysterious uses. Such was the case when archaeologists from Flinders

University (Heather Burke and Chantal Wight) investigated a brick 'tunnel' under Burnett Street in New Norfolk in November. Uncovered during council drainage works in 2008 and 2011, the various community theories about their function included:

- A tunnel from Willow Court invalid hospital and asylum (built in 1827), to the Derwent River that allowed convicts and the mentally ill to be brought up to the asylum in secret.
- A tunnel from Willow Court to the Bush Inn (built In 1825) that prevented soldiers from being seen drunk in public (or at least, not once they left the hotel ...).
- A tunnel between the Star and Garter Hotel (built in 1829) and the Bush Inn.
- A brick drain or sewer between Willow Court and the river.
- (New Norfolk News 2011)



Sadly for the more exotic explanations, once entered, the 'tunnel' clearly proved to be the last option on the list: a brick sewer, measuring 90cm in internal height and 70cm internal width, with a semi-circular arched roof (Figure 1). The bricks are handmade, with the impressed broad arrow mark (Figure 2), so it is no doubt the 'great sewer' (*The Mercury* 1915) that connected the New Norfolk invalid hospital and asylum (now known as Willow Court) to the Derwent River described in *The Mercury* in 1929: 'The drain, which runs ... a distance of a quarter of a mile, is really a large bricked-in tunnel about 15ft. in diameter, with a gradual slope from the hospital to the river. It is probable that the tunnel was built over 100 years ago by convict labour when the hospital was set aside for Invalid prisoners'. The 'hundred years ago' is probably about right, too – pending further research at the Tasmanian archives we have assumed that the sewer would have been built when the hospital expanded to house over 170 people between 1832 and 1834.



References

The Mercury 11 February 1915 New Norfolk, p. 2. Retrieved 15 December 2014 from <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/10403172>.

The Mercury 2 November, 1929 Mental Hospital sewer, p. 10. Retrieved 8 September 2014 from <http://trove.nla.gov.au/ndp/del/article/29140062>.

New Norfolk News 12 November, 2011 Tunnel, sewer or drain? Retrieved 15 December 2014 from <http://www.newsnn.net/2011/11/tunnel-sewer-or-drain.html>.

FLINDERS UNIVERSITY HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY FIELD SCHOOL, FEBRUARY 2015

The FU Historical Archaeology Field School will be run at the site of Willow Court, in New Norfolk, Tasmania, in 2015. Built originally as a convict invalid hospital in 1827, Willow Court is the site of Australia's oldest, continuously used mental hospital, which operated from 1829 until 2000.

The 2015 field school is being organised in conjunction with the Derwent Valley Council, the Friends of Frescati House, the Friends of Willow Court and the New Norfolk Heritage and Information Centre. Community concern over the fate of the buildings was the impetus for archaeological involvement in the site and community participation will be a strong facet of the field school. Details about accommodation and other requirements can be found at: http://www.flinders.edu.au/ehl/archaeology/fieldwork/field-schools/historical-archaeology/historical_home.cfm

Material supplied by Heather Burke, Flinders University

ASHA CONFERENCE 2014

OFFICERS' REPORTS

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2013 – 2014 [MARY CASEY]

Overview

This has been a busy year for ASHA with the Committee working on a new website and logo, providing submissions on statutory reviews and proposal and identifying directions for the society.

New Logo & Website

Logo

The new logo is being presented at the ASHA's annual meeting. We are quite excited by this new logo, which represent elements of Historical Archaeology with the *Batavia* portico, a pot from Little Lon, a cog wheel and a trowel.

Website

The previous web hosting company was unable to provide the services the society needed and also had corrupted our membership data. Our requirement for a program to manage the membership and to provide adequate E-shop facilities means that this is a complicated process. We spoke to other archaeological and heritage societies and again we still had slightly different requirements. Penny obtained 3 quotes for the webpage and in the end only one of them was able to provide the services that the Society needed to manage our footprint on the web for the next 5 years. This work is currently in progress and should be finished by early 2015.

The propose of this revamp is to present ASHA differently to the world, as a professionally managed organisation representing the interests of Historical Archaeologists across Australia as well as advocating for the the discipline and its practice. In this time of government cutbacks and development at any cost we have to be able to maintain our presence in the world and make it represent our key issues and present the best side of Historical Archaeology as well as provide a place where the public can go to obtain information about Historical Archaeology.

Survey of the Membership

A web survey of Society members has been issued to all current members. We encourage all members to respond to this survey. While it offers the Committee a chance to see what members would like on the webpage it also allows us to compare historical data with the previous survey. There are also a few questions about the nature of the membership which assists us with understanding who our members are.

Government Submissions

The society made two submissions to government reviews. I wrote a submission on the Draft Australian Heritage Strategy with the assistance of Richard Morrison. The writing of this submission was much easier because of the presentations at a forum organised at the

Sydney Historical Archaeology Practitioners (SHAP) 2014 where the strategy was workshopped and issues identified. I thank Richard Morrison for his contribution to this submission.

Cameron Harvey made a submission on the Review of the Queensland Heritage Act on behalf of ASHA. This was a detailed and comprehensive online submission. I thank Cameron for his important contribution.

Presentation & SHAP 2015

At SHAP 2014 I gave a presentation as ASHA President on 'Archaeology & Ethics'. I will present a version of this paper at the Historical Archaeology Forum following the AGM. Also ASHA has agreed to host SHAP 2015 at the Big Dig Centre the week before Archaeology Week. I hope we can develop some ideas raised in the Forum as well as provide an opportunity to catch up with friends and members.

Artefact Workshop

Anita Yousif has organised an artefact workshop at the offices of Casey & Lowe. This is the first one we are organising in Sydney. The workshop is being given by Robyn Stocks (misc, early bricks), Jeanne Harris (ceramic & glass) and Melanie Fillios (animal bone). We are happy to support other states if they would like to do something similar. A few members from Queensland are coming down to Sydney for the workshop. Due to members interest we are hoping to hold another one next year. This is a great opportunity for members to develop their artefact knowledge and cataloguing skills. Such workshops are part of ASHA commitment to providing opportunities for members to improve their skills.

Journal

Access

Brad Duncan and Penny Crook have now uploaded all outstanding volumes of AHA for members up to 2012 and up to 2008 for public access.

Production

The 2013 Journal came out on time and the 2014 Journal has already been distributed. I congratulate the Editors. I also note that once the upgrading of the webpage is completed the presentation of the Journal may be subject to a revamp.

Newsletter & State Representatives

Rick McGovern Wilson has been Newsletter Editor for a number of years. He has been a hard core supporter of ASHA and historical archaeology. Rick is retiring and Aleisha Buckler as agreed to be the new Newsletter Editor. As part of updating and reviewing ASHA and our publications we will be reviewing the Newsletter. We would appreciate any suggestions or offers of help.

We have had a rollover of some of these positions this year. We have had new appointments SA and WA and currently need a new representative for Queensland.

ASHA Awards

Martin Gibbs is now managing the ASHA awards. I thank Susan Lawrence for her contribution through establishing the awards and managing them. We are also in the process of reviewing the awards and may make some changes.

Lecturer in HA at University of Sydney

With the appointment of Professor Martin Gibbs to UNE there is currently no filled position in HA at the University of Sydney. Kylie Seretis, Senior Manager, Policy & Strategy, Heritage Division, Office of Environment and I had a meeting with Professor Barbara Caine, Head of School, to discuss the importance of the teaching of HA at the University of Sydney where it has now been taught for 40 years. Professor Caine acknowledged that it was one of the few subjects they taught which had vocational opportunities for students. In the short term the university will be advertising a 3-year position in HA.

Heritage Roundtable in NSW

During the last year I attended four Heritage Roundtable meetings in NSW. This is a new briefing system established by the current government in NSW, initially with Robyn Parker as Minister for Heritage Minister and now Rob Stokes as the new Minister. While I am not yet certain of the usefulness of this gathering of heritage groups we at least have some opportunities to have a voice with the Minister and the Department which is a good thing. We also have a means of communicating with various other societies and this is certainly a good thing. Topics discussed include:

- The Heritage Division will be focusing on locally significant heritage where I raised the issue of the gap in many locally heritage Local Environmental Plans of industrial and rural heritage.
- Outlined two major projects the Bays Precinct and Parramatta North Urban Renewal (PNUR). The PNUR site contains State and Nationally significant archaeology. I note I have a conflict of interest on this project.
- Management of Parkland Trusts which includes the Royal Botanic Gardens and Parramatta Park, the latter is on the World Heritage list for convict sites.
- Planning reforms (now defunct) and how they intersect with heritage.

2015 & 2016 Conferences

Some preliminary planning is underway for a joint conference in Victoria with AIMA in 2015. Also we were hoping to find someone from New Zealand to host the 2016 conference. Can people please discuss this with me either at or after the AGM.

Future Strategies

As a consultant I am aware that with each change of government, each amendment in legislation we typically find less opportunity for archaeology. There is more pressure to prove why historical archaeology is important and why should anyone pay for it. ASHA needs to be in the forefront of this argument, we cannot expect individuals to keep making the case for us, we need to be the ones out defending archaeology and making our case. My key suggestions for making our case are outlined below and will form key aspects of subsequent discussion.

Publication of Public Books on Historical Archaeology in each State

An idea that came out of last year's conference in Sydney was that while research was a key outcome for archaeology we could still tell important stories even when we had not written a major research report. Following discussions with Professor Martin Gibbs who was already proposing a book on the archaeology of Sydney I proposed that we make it a public book as part of telling our stories. We intend to start with Sydney, NSW, and with Melbourne, Victoria. The focus in NSW will be on State significant archaeology but will also include some locally significant sites as long as the stories are fascinating. Each set of editors will need to find their own funding but we want to publish them as an ASHA public series. For the other states can interested author approach me to discuss this project and how they might be involved.

Best Practice

Once of my concerns and one of the frequent discussions I have with people is how do we help make it easier for everyone to do good archaeology. One of the strategies is that we need to set standards so shoddy work can be shown to be unacceptable. This issue has become greater since the Global Financial Crisis. I see establishing best practice guidelines as one of the ways we can assist in identifying what is best practice. These need to be undertaken in consultation with State heritage bodies.

SECRETARY'S REPORT 2013 – 2014 [PENNY CROOK]

Overview

It has been a busy year with many changes. We have faced some significant and unexpected technical difficulties, in addition to experimentation with a range of new digital services for recording keeping, and much exploration of new services for the website. Through all this, membership is slowly increasing, but there is room for much more growth.

Society Business

Committee Handover

A new Executive Committee was appointed at the 2013 AGM. All executive officers have formally handed over their duties to incoming officers, shortly after the AGM.

The former Secretary, Linda Terry, was very helpful in answering questions well into the New Year.

As part of change of Secretary, I also took over as Public Officer.

Committee Meetings

The General Committee held meetings via teleconference in December, March, June and October.

From June, we trialled and have continued to subscribe to an online conference service called GoToMeeting which supports both web conference and phone dial in. This both reduces and fixes the cost of teleconferences to \$624 per annum, compared to the estimated \$1200–1400 we would have spent with teleconferences with the current geographical distribution of the committee.

Minutes of these meetings are held by the Secretary.

The Executive Committee made some use of the GoToMeetings service, and otherwise conducted business via phone, email and the occasional meeting in person.

New email groups list established for the Committee and Executive to improve the efficiency of email discussions amongst both groups.

General Correspondence

The Secretary remains the primary point of contact for the Society. Most correspondence is received via email and while chiefly concerned with member enquiries, but we are contacted from members of the public. These enquiries range from advice getting work in the industry, to questions about identifying historic objects. We also remain on the mailing list for associated societies, and government agencies who contact us seeking feedback on policies and plans distributed for public comment.

Traditional mail is redirected from a post box in North Parramatta. There are occasionally delays in, and we still receive from misdirected mail, but it otherwise working well.

ASHA continues to receive information from various other societies reporting on their news and upcoming events, including two regular newsletters The Argyle Bulletin from the Goulburn and District Historical Society and Federation of Australian Historical Societies e-Bulletin.

Member Communication

We continue to use two primary messages to communicate with members: direct and personal mail using MailChimp, the free email marketing software set up by our website providers last year, and broadcast mail over the ASHA discussion list. MailChimp enables us to track whether mail is received and opened but we have had some significant problems with synchronisation (see discussion below regarding 'Online Membership Management') and now prepare email lists manually before each mail out.

Office of Fair Trading

The return for 2012–2013 was lodged as required, along with notification of the new Public Officer.

Administration

Admin Officer

A new Administrative Officer, Anna Foroozani, was appointed in June. Following a notice in late March, we were overwhelmed with over 40 candidates and were spoilt for choice. Anna's primary duties are to sort the mail and process memberships, and will assist with the transfer to the new website. She has been appointed on a one year contract, working an average of 4 hours per work, up to a total cost of \$6,000 per annum (including entitlements).

Recording Keeping

An archive of the Society's key documents from 2006 onwards is held by the Secretary. An electronic archive of the Secretary's correspondence and key documents is also held by the Secretary who takes responsibility for regular backups.

From 2015, we will move this electronic archive into an online cloud-based drive, and are currently trialling Google drive (\$50 per user per annum). This will enable greater access to policy documents for the whole Committee and allow for direct collaboration on working documents. While the platform is and will be subject to access controls, security will be a key concern in the record transfer, and no sensitive files (eg those with passwords) will be shared.

Weekly backups of the ASHA membership and customer database has been made since we experienced data loss (see 'Online Membership Management' below).

ASHA's email accounts continue to be maintained and backed up to independent and secure servers.

Online Membership Management

In 2013–2014, we have experienced two critical errors with the management of our membership database on our website, currently hosted by The WebShowroom (TWS).

One, owing to a synchronisation problem with an external newsletter service, MailChimp, meant the records of our membership were corrupted. The names of hundreds of members were overwritten, and the membership grouping of several hundred more members was duplicated across numerous records. This situation was worsened by the fact that over the years hundreds of duplicate records for members had been retained in the system. While few members were directly affected, this crippled our capacity to track membership numbers and took many days of work to repair. It was not possible to correct the whole database (over 1000 individuals), and only records for 2013–2014 members were re-mediated.

Two, owing to a series outage affecting all TWS websites, member and order records on our database were permanently lost. While only one member was affected, this was of significant concern, not only because we rely on the TWS's backup system and it clearly flawed, but because we were not notified by TWS that data has been lost during the outage. The missing records were discovered only because the order happened to include payment by cheque and a copy of the order was posted in the by the member.

In both these cases, we were afforded minimal support by the TWS. They would not assist with the MailChimp error because it was an external service, albeit one that they had set up, and a request for a quote for TWS to restore to a previous backup, or correct the errors using our own backup, we unanswered. MailChimp would not assist because the error occurred in the setting up of the synchronisation, not the synchronisation itself.

Support from TWS has been mixed in the past, and given these complications, and other frustrations with the website, the decision was made to find a new host. (See Web Managers report)

In other developments, we have reintroduced the facility to pay online via direct debit, as requested by members in previous years, and this facility will also be available in the new website.

Membership

Renewal reminders were sent to 2012–2013 members in June 2013 by the previous Secretary. Secondary reminders were sent in March 2014.

Overall, membership is up from last year, but well below the peak of 2007–08.

As has been reported in previous years, the number of Corporate members is low. Many Corporate members are managed by library subscription services, and two of these have been put in administration in recent years (DA Information Services and recently SWETS). In most cases, the members have been transferred to other providers (eg EBSCO). With EBSCO and SWETS there has been ongoing confusion about the period of renewal for memberships.

We have added two new Life Members in 2013–14 and sadly lost one: Gaye Nayton, who was also WA State Representative at the time of her passing on 5 December 2013. (We recently lost another life member, Jim Kerr, who passed away in October 2014).

Membership for 2014–2015 is looking strong. An automated membership renewal reminder was set to be sent in June 2014 but was not issued. A direct renewal reminder was issued in August and a follow up in October. As of 20 November 2014 there are 198 members of the society (excluding Free Deposit).

Table 1: 2013–14 Membership Renewals, by Category.

Membership Type	2010–2011	2011–2012	2012–2013	2013–2014
Individual	120	147	152	173
Household	7	9	11	8
Corporate	30	21	20	18
Student	26	31	32	35
Pensioner/Unwaged	11	15	12	12
Individual (OS)	2	2	4	5
Corporate (OS)	8	4	6	5
Student (OS)	0	1	0	0
Subtotal Financial Members	204	230	241	256
Life	20	23	23	24
Copyright Deposit/Reciprocal	5	5	6	6
Subtotal Non-Financial Members	25	28	29	30
Total Members	229	258	270	286

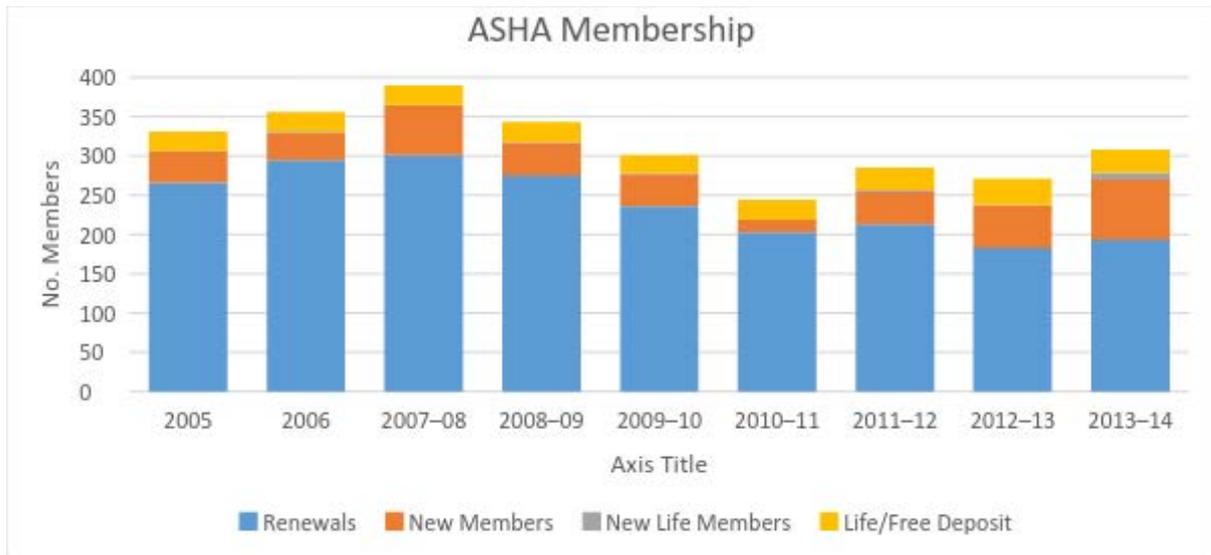
Table 2: Annual Trends

	Renewals	New Members*	New Life Members	Total Financial	Total members
2005	266	40	0	306	331
2006	295	35	1	331	356
2007–08	301	63	1	365	390
2008–09	275	42	1	384	409
2009–10	236	41	1	255	278
2010–11	203	16	0	204	229
2011–12	213	42	2	230	258
2012–13	183	54	1	237	270
2013–14	193	77^	2	256	286

* This figure includes new members, members rejoining after a break and existing members who created new (duplicate) accounts.

^ For 2013–14, there are many duplicate accounts.

Figure 1: Annual Trends



TREASURER'S REPORT 2013 – 2014 [KATRINA STANKOWSKI]

Overview

ASHA is in a healthy financial position at the end of the 2013–2014 financial year with net assets of \$113,538.61; however this reflects ongoing cash revenue sources such as copyright royalties and profit from the 2013 conference rather than revenue from membership fees which was almost half of the 2012–2013 years revenue. The finances

reflect this fact and, as a result, for the 2013–2014 financial year ASHA was in surplus by only \$1,826.37.

Copyright royalties for usage and downloads of ASHA journals and publications totalled \$3234.87. Like membership subscriptions, this figure is down on the previous financial year. Other income was generated from conference revenue (\$7,310 from the Sydney conference), interest from investment accounts (\$393.21) and sales of publication and journal back issues (\$1,060).

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure Operating A/C			
RECEIPTS	2013–2014	2012–2013	2011–2012
Sales of publications (inc back issues)	1,060.00	1,000.00	54.48
Subscriptions	14,262.60	25,078.68	18,199.02
Grant Funding	0.00	0.00	0.00
Conference Revenue	7,310.00	4,149.67	16,607.32
Investment A/C Interest	393.21	1,355.92	1,458.78
Copyright royalties	3234.87	4,543.19	10,307.84
TOTAL RECEIPTS	26,260.68	36,127.46	46,627.44
EXPENDITURE	2013-2014	2012-2013	2011-2012
Stationery	N/A	359.00	0.00
Publication - Journal	15,062.30	22,731.10	10,797.60
Publication - Other	0.00	0.00	0.00
Merchant Fees	349.36	552.99	412.94
Postage General	1,270.35	608.65	304.70
Journal Postage	1,077.50	1,985.80	1,215.35
Teleconferences	947.43	411.27	0.00
Internet/Web Page Hosting	1,463.00	1,383.84	725.40
PO Box	1,031.80	948.00	542.17
Insurance	650.00	580.00	0.00
Audit	0.00	713.50	0.00
Conference Advance	2,000.00	2,000.00	6,106.77
Awards	200.00	200.00	200.00
Bank Charges	23.00	2.00	34.00
Paypal Fees	275.57	426.40	222.78
Sundry expenses	84.00	0.00	146.00
Admin Officer	N/A	N/A	N/A
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	24,434.31	32,902.55	20,707.71
Unpresented Cheques	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Less Unpresented Cheques	24,434.31	32,902.55	20,707.71
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	1,826.37	3,224.91	25,919.73

The major expense for the financial year was the production (\$15,062.30) and postage (\$1,077.50) for the 2014 ASHA Journal. This cost was down on the previous year's total for the production of the 2013 and 2012 journals in the last financial year, but is approximately \$4000 higher than the cost of producing the journal in 2011. Other expenses related to the administration of the website, credit card and PayPal processing facilities, insurance and postal services.

Bank Reconciliation		<i>As at 30 June 2014</i>
Operating A/C		
Credits (Deposits)		71,018.85
Debits (Withdrawals)		84,831.54
Overall transactions		13,812.69
Opening balance		63,576.95
Balance		49,602.26
Less unrepresented cheques		0.00
Closing balance		49,602.20
Actual closing balance		49,602.26
Discrepancy		0.00

Balance Sheet)		<i>As at 30 June 2014</i>		
Current Assets	2014	2013	2012	
Current Assets per Cash Books				
– Bendigo Bank Operating A/C	49,602.26	63,576.95	77,124.05	
– Bendigo Bank Card A/C	N/A	248.70	248.70	
– Investment A/C (1)	N/A	14,364.57	13,660.24	
– Investment A/C (2)	N/A	13,289.33	12,637.74	
– Conference A/C	2,029.14	N/A	N/A	
– Gold Term Deposit	60,393.21	N/A	N/A	
– PayPal A/C	1,514.00	16,549.61	2684.27	
Total current assets	113,538.61	108,029.16	106,355.00	
Current Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Net Assets	113,538.61	108,029.16	106,355.00	

A new bank account was set up with the Bendigo Bank for use by ASHA conference organizers with a deposit of \$2,050 to cover the conference start up costs and the monthly \$3.00 associated with running the account. The account is held by ASHA but is separate to the main operating and investment account. The ASHA Treasurer and several members of the organising committee are signatories on this account. This account has been set up to incorporating the facility for online conference registration and payments to be made via the ASHA website when the website is upgraded in 2014.

In addition, the two term deposit accounts were consolidated with revenue from the main account into a single Gold Term Deposit account which will generate substantial interest for

ASHA over the coming years. This particular Term Deposit also allows ASHA to withdraw up to ¼ of the account balance at any time should the need arise without affecting the account.

PayPal Account Reconciliation	
<i>As at 30 June 2014</i>	
PayPal A/C	
Credits (Deposits)	9,130.00
Debits (Withdrawals/Fees)	275.57
Overall transactions	8,854.43
Opening balance	16,607.87
Closing balance	1,514.43
Actual account balance	1,514.43
Discrepancy	0.00

PUBLICATIONS REPORT 2013 – 2014 [PETER DAVIES]

In the past 12 months ASHA has published two volumes in the Monograph Series, in association with Sydney University Press:

An Archaeology of Institutional Confinement: The Hyde Park Barracks, 1848-1886, by Peter Davies, Penny Crook and Tim Murray (monograph 4)

Good Taste, Fashion, Luxury: A Genteel Melbourne Family and their Rubbish, by Sarah Hayes (monograph 5)

The *Studies in Australasian Historical Archaeology* series is designed to make the results of high quality research in historical archaeology available to archaeologists, other researchers, students and the public. Our publishing arrangement with Sydney University Press has several distinct advantages to ASHA. The books are available as print-on-demand from the SUP website for a very reasonable cost; authors get ERA credit; and ASHA avoids paying for a print run that make take years to earn out.

In terms of back issues of *Australasian Historical Archaeology*, ASHA promoted a sale of back sets in late 2013 that succeeded in placing more than 230 volumes in the hands of members. We still have 1300 journal volumes in storage at La Trobe University in Melbourne (volumes 3, 5, 6, 8-11, 20-31), along with copies of earlier monographs published by ASHA.

Please note also that I will be standing down from my role as an editor of the Monograph Series at the 2014 AGM. Dr Angela Middleton, of Otago University, has kindly agreed to stand for the position, to work with Professor Martin Gibbs in developing further this important ASHA initiative.

EDITORS' REPORT 2013 – 2014 [JON PRANGNELL, LINDA TERRY, PETER DAVIES: EDITORS, AUSTRALASIAN HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY]

Volume 32 of the journal was published and distributed in November 2014. It contains six journal articles covering topics from New Zealand, Tasmania, Victoria, South Australia and

Queensland. It also contains three research reports, all of them from Queensland. In addition there are five book reviews and 15 thesis abstracts.

Eleven papers were submitted to Volume 32 of the journal. Two were rejected by the editors prior to being sent out for review. One required major changes and has yet to be re-submitted. The editors will of course follow up on this paper. One paper was published that was submitted in a previous year. Two papers are currently under review for next year's journal.

The editors would like to thank all the reviewers for the efforts. Finding appropriate reviewers who will undertake the reviews within the requested timeframe continues to be an issue. A number of members of the Editorial Board have declined to review papers when requested and a large amount of the editors' time is taken up in following up tardy reviewers.

The editors have worked very hard to ensure the timely publication and quality of the 2014 journal. The editors can be assisted in these pursuits by the membership of the Society choosing the journal for the publication of their research and consulting output, through the submission of quality papers, and through a willingness to act as reviewers.

During 2014 the editors made a submission to the ASHA Executive to change the size of the journal from A4 to B5 in an attempt to modernize the look of the journal. Comment was sought from the members of the Editorial Board and the ASHA Committee. The idea was not widely supported and therefore no change has been made. The editors, however, continue to work to improve both the quality and the appearance of the journal.

WEB EDITORS' REPORT 2013 – 2014 [BRAD DUNCAN]

During 2014, the Executive Committee discussed the issue and has agreed that the old website is well past its use by date. The Executive Committee have approved the Web site editor to seek quotation from several website providers with a view to replacing the old web site. After initial consultation with the Executive to identify key features recommended for a new web site, we have sought quotes from three commercial suppliers, Brand Manager, Go4 and 360. Sample of numerous potential suitable web sites have been considered to highlight what types of features might be included in our new web site. This task has been driven predominantly by Penny Crook, with assistance by Brad Duncan. Penny's expertise in designing the administrative side of the original ASHA web site have been critical in identifying essential back end features of the new site,

After consultations with all three commercial suppliers, initial feedback indicated that Go4 may have been the best option. However, our initial proposal to use the Member Mouse option in conjunction with their proposed platform could not proceed due to an incompatibility between these software options, and therefore could not adequately handle membership management requirements of ASHA. Therefore Brand Manager was approached again to discuss their proposal. Their proposal has been approved and they are moving forward to work on the new website. A scoping is planned and will be completed prior to the 2014 AGM.

Concurrent with this process, the Executive have also recognised the need to rebrand the current ASHA logo and corporate style to present a more striking and modern look. Quotes have been received from The Brand Manager to undertake this process. To date, Brand Manager have provided several options for the new ASHA logo and ASHA committee is

providing feedback to them to evolve it into a suitable design. A scoping meeting was held by Brand Manager in October with Mary Casey, Martin Gibbs, and Penny Crook to ascertain the needs and projected scope of ASHA for the next 5-10 years, which provided vital information that would be used to rebrand the site. The new ASHA logo and brand will be completed shortly after the 2014 AGM. The new logo will provide a fresh new look for ASHA, and will be integrated with the new web site.

Once the new website design is completed, ASHA will be seeking input from all members to provide new information for new web pages in order to keep the site dynamic and interesting. It has also been proposed that there be two main Web Editors be created to managing the ongoing and expanding running of the web site.

I would also like to announce that I am stepping down from the role of Web Editor due to my other professional and personal commitments. I have enjoyed my time in this role, and hope that ASHA can find a new enthusiastic person required to actively contribute to this role. I would like to thanks the Executive Committee for their support during my years in this role, and I would particularly like to thank Penny Crook, who has essentially taken over this role during the web site redesign phase and tender process (due to her far superior knowledge of this side of the site than mine), despite her very busy schedule. Thanks Penny, we could not have done this without you.

ASHA AWARDS 2014

R. Ian Jack Award for Best Honours Thesis

Caitlin Dircks, Archaeology, University of Sydney

Authority, Acquisition and Adaptation: Nineteenth century artefacts of personal consumption from the Prisoner Barracks at Port Arthur.

This dissertation analyses assemblages excavated by the late Maureen Byrne from the site of the first prisoner barracks complex at Port Arthur, constructed c.1833. It examines the changing nature of consumption by different convict and non-convict groups occupying the complex and is an example of how an older assemblage can be productively re-analysed to address new and relevant questions.

Judy Birmingham Award for Best Heritage Report

Casey & Lowe Pty Limited

Archaeological Investigation – Darling Quarter

<http://www.caseyandlowe.com.au/sitedw.htm>

Excavations at Darling Quarter were undertaken by Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd between October 2008 and April 2009 for clients Lend Lease Development. The Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority is the owner of the site. The site on the edges of what was Cockle Bay included a range of early 19th century flour mills, slaughterhouses, foundries, timber yards and other industries, including wharfs and harbor structures and reclamation areas. The archaeological remains included evidence of these activities, as well as worker housing and many other buildings, as well as associated artefacts.

Martin Davies Award for Best Public Archaeology Initiative

Sarah Colley & Martin Gibbs

New South Wales Archaeology On-Line

<http://nswaol.library.usyd.edu.au>

The NSW Archaeology Online Project was initiated in 2009 to create open access online archives of important reports and information about historical archaeology and heritage in NSW which for various reasons has been previously hard to access, is undervalued and otherwise at risk of being lost. Over 1000 pre-1995 reports have been scanned and are freely available for download. Stage 2 added nearly 9000 images taken by Ian Jack and Judy Birmingham from the 1960s-1990s for historical and industrial archaeological research and consultancy projects. The photographic collection is accessible through the Federated Archaeological Information Management System (FAIMS) repository.

2014 ASHA/AAA Conference Award - Best Student Paper on Social Archaeology/CHM (Maritime/Historical Archaeology)

What you Lookin' at? An Archaeological Analysis of Graffiti and Inscription at Fremantle Prison Western Australia

B'geella Romano, University of Western Australia

This paper explored the relationship between space and people and graffiti within the former Fremantle Prison, presenting an archaeological analysis of how these inscriptions as an indicator of how inmates and other prison inhabitants experienced and negotiated confinement. It addressed how graffiti was used by prisoners as a means of expression and messaging and determined what the spatial positioning of graffiti within the cells and other areas tells us about public and private space within the prison. Employing an archaeological perspective allowed graffiti to be viewed as 'text as material culture' and as a primary evidence of inmate's and other's experience and negotiation of confinement.

CONFERENCE REPORT

With over 500 attendees and 300+ papers and events stretched out from the 29th November till the 4th December the 37 AAA/ASHA Conference in Cairns the was a big one. The event marked the third time that the two societies had held a joint conference.

Heading the organising team were Sean Ulm (AAA) and Geraldine Mate (ASHA) and you would have to say that the team did an excellent job with only minor niggles. Such a large Conference with competing interests (e.g. you couldn't have both the AAA and ASHA AGM's on at the same time) and parallel sessions is incredibly difficult to organise and the organisers deserve full credit for its success.

The rest of this report is really a personal account of some aspects as observed by someone who has attended and organised a few conference. Indeed my first ever conferences was the legendary "Holier than Thou" Kiola AAA No 1 and it was interesting to think who was there with me 37 years ago and at Cairns. I recall Jim Allen, Jeanette Hope and Denise Gaughwin of those that now would be considered historical archaeologists.

AAA has now grown beyond the simple conference of the early days and to some extent the ‘big conferences’ overshadow the individual identity of historical archaeology in favour of particular conference session themes. Perhaps this is not such a bad thing as ASHA President Dr Mary Casey mentioned in her opening address archaeologists need to move out of their silos and explore other areas the practice of archaeology.

The Conference was structured with a morning Flagship Session and then after Morning Tea broke up into paralleled sessions for the rest of the day. Lunch Time was taken up by a variety of meetings and a Career Advice workshop and of course lunch. There was also an extensive Poster Session on the Wednesday afternoon.

Historic Archaeological Sessions were

- Flagship Session 2: Archaeologies of the Unfree
- Environmental Change since 1788
- Archaeological Investigation of Institutional Frameworks in an Australasian Context
- Archaeology and Heritage of the Recent Past
- Archaeology of the Asian Diaspora
- Forum: Current Issues in Historical Archaeology
- Landscapes of Change: Rethinking the Role of Documents in Landscape Interpretation
- Remotely Senses Landscapes in the Twenty-First Century
- Building a Digital Ecosystem: Notes from the Field
- Visualising Archaeology: On the Use of Image and Vision in Archaeology

The AAA Annual General Meeting brought news of some grave issues which the Association had to grapple with. Firstly like ASHA and AIMA they suffered from a corruption of their member’s database and then were impacted by a malicious bot. Secondly AAA suffered from a growth of members but fall in revenue largely because of the growth in concessional members who’s fees did not cover costs as a consequence AAA members are facing steep fee increases. On the positive side *Australian Archaeology* continued to thrive hitting some seriously good metrics in the last years. AAA is considering offers to “sell off the journal” to one of the publishing houses and failed in the AGM to come up with a replacement editorial team for the retiring editors.

ASHA’s AGM was much less exciting although we had to report on membership problems and the failure of our “hosts” to support us resulting in the Society changing web hosting but bringing the opportunity to revamp the Societies’ look. A number of alternatives were discussed in the AGM. The Journal continued to improve and membership might be looking up once the scrambled figures were unscrambled.

Some quite productive discussion was had on the need for greater community engagement as well as membership building measures (particularly with students) and this extended into the session on *Current Issues in Historical Archaeology*.

The Conference Field Tour I went on was expertly lead by Gordon Grimwade and it covered the Skyrail to Kuranda and a walk through Kuranda (with a good look at the railway

station at Kuranda with its remnant signals and safeworking). We re-joined the bus and drove through the hinterland to Atherton via the site of a WWII Hospital and a relic Igloo Hut. At Atherton we lunched at the Atherton Chinatown and regional Chinese temple which was expertly interpreted to us by Gordon Grimwade. Following a full "light lunch" we visited Great Northern Mine, Herberton and the Yungaburra Timber Mill ending at Lake Barrine and the twin kauri trees. After a winding descent which threatened to remind us all of lunch, we arrived at the coast and returned to Cairns.

I did miss the usual New Zealand contingent of historical archaeologists, Gretel Boswijk being the only New Zealand representative – although Harry Allen attended. It is not clear why there wasn't the usual presence of Kiwi's.

I also wonder whether the conference format really gets in the way of actually presenting anything meaningful. Effectively each speaker has 15 minutes and by the time the preliminaries are done there is little time to present actual data or ideas. A few of the people I talked to felt that there was a need for a better format to encourage more critical discussion.

Finally there was the ever present development of digital recording techniques be they UAV's, point clouds, remote sensing or FAIMS. There were little enthusiastic sessions all over the place and commercial displays of equipment in the foyer. There is no doubt that this is a technological approach that is rapidly developing although I would like to see a few more well thought out workflows demonstrated and emphasis on practical applications (especially questions of archiving the data obtained).

Overall I felt the Conference to be a great success.

Dr Iain Stuart, JCIS Consultants

AGM MINUTES

The draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting are usually printed in the December issue of the Newsletter. With the Conference, and therefore AGM, being later than usual this year, the Minutes are not yet available. They will be printed in the March issue.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND NOTICES

NEW EDITOR FOR THE NEWSLETTER

After 7 years in the role of Newsletter Editor, I have decided to step down. I'm no longer working in the heritage sector and I just feel that I'm not doing the role the justice it deserves. I have thoroughly enjoyed working with many State Reps over the years, sometimes resorting to pleading or cajoling to get material, but most have been really good at coming through with the goods. I especially want to thank Richard Morrison (ACT) who, I don't think, ever failed to deliver – a feat in itself that should be recognised – and Annita Waghorn (Tasmania). In New Zealand, where I also filled the role as State Rep, Russell Gibb, Kat Watson and Mat Campbell were all regular suppliers of information.

I want to welcome Aleisha Buckler to the role of Editor. Aleisha is currently a PhD candidate at The University of Queensland. I hope you all continue to give her the same

level of support that I received. Remember; the Newsletter will only ever be as good as the material that the Editor receives.

All the best

Rick McGovern-Wilson

THE NEW ASHA LOGO

For the first 34 years of ASHA, the society had no official logo. The ‘outgoing’ logo design, featuring the Southern Cross and a trowel, has served the society since around 2004, when it formally adopted at the AGM. It was designed by Paul Rheinberger, who served on the ASHA committee from 1995 to 2008.

The new logo has been professionally designed by the company BrandManager. Through an extended process of consultation with the executive and the committee, BrandManager came up with a design concept which incorporated four symbols related to our society. These elements could be combined in various ways, and with different colour schemes.

After some consultation at the AGM, four design variants and two colour schemes were put to a web poll for society members. The poll included questions regarding the design of the logo, the colour scheme and space for further comments. In total 76 members voted, with 32 leaving further comments.

In response to the question, ‘Choose your preferred design (ignore colour)’, the results were:



A



B



C



D

Design Preference	# responses	%
Design A	45	59
Design B	9	12

Design C	2	3
Design D	13	17
I do not support any of these designs	7	9
Total number of responses	76	

In response to the question 'Choose your preferred colour scheme (ignore design)', the results were:

Option 1



Option 2



Design Preference	# responses	%
Option 1	39	51
Option 2	31	41
I do not support any of these colour schemes	6	8
Total number of responses	76	

As a result of this vote, the new ASHA logo has been chosen as:



Each design element represents an aspect of historical archaeology in Australian and New Zealand:



A cog or gear

This represents industrialisation on a range of scales. It could be from a large industrial machine, representing industrial archaeology, or it could be from a much smaller clock or watch, representing the importance of timekeeping in the development of the modern capitalist world.



A pot

This is the profile of a mid 19th-century pot from the Little Lonsdale site in Melbourne. It represents the role of artefacts in historical archaeology.



The Batavia Portico

The Batavia Portico is a pre-fabricated sandstone façade recovered from the shipwreck of the *Batavia* (1629) off the coast of Western Australia. It represents maritime archaeology and architecture.



An archaeologist's trowel

This represents archaeological method.

The new logo will begin appearing on material from ASHA soon. It will also feature on the new society website which is currently under development. Hopefully it will serve the society well into the coming years.

References

'President's Report', *ASHA Newsletter* 32:4 (2002), p. 14

'President's Report', *ASHA Newsletter* 34:4 (2004), p. 18

'Some Thanks To Retiring ASHA Office Bearers', *ASHA Newsletter* 38:3 (2008), p. 22

'Batavia', Collection Highlights, Western Australian Museum

<http://museum.wa.gov.au/research/collections/batavia/maritime-shipwrecks/batavia>

[accessed 22/12/2014]

Nick Pitt, for ASHA Committee

NEW ASHA MONOGRAPH

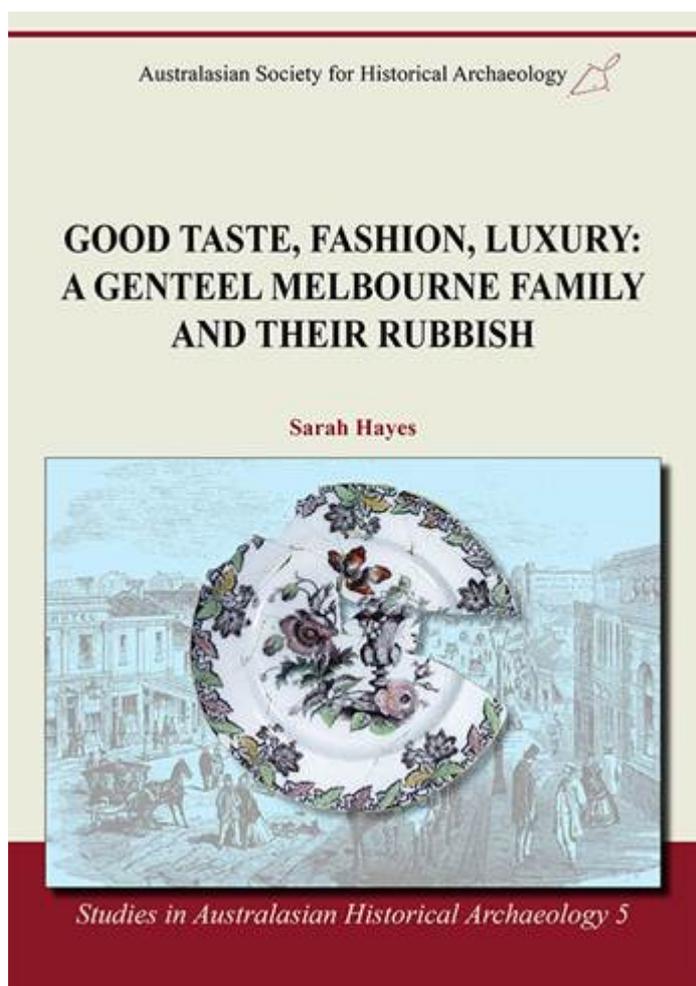
ASHA is pleased to announce the publication of *Good Taste, Fashion, Luxury: A genteel Melbourne family and their rubbish* by Sarah Hayes, volume 5 in *Studies in Australasian Historical Archaeology*.

Published by Sydney University Press in association with the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology, 2014; xi, 100 pages, b/w & col. Illus, pb; ISBN 9781743324172; \$40 +pp, available from <https://sup-estore.sydney.edu.au>

Abstract

Melbourne grew during the 19th century from its fledgling roots into a global metropolitan centre, and was home to many people from a range of social and cultural backgrounds. The Martin family arrived in Melbourne in 1839 and soon established themselves at the genteel Viewbank estate near Heidelberg. They were typical of the early, middle-class immigrants to Melbourne who brought their gentility and privilege with them to the colony. The Martins spent many years at Viewbank, and the physical remains they left behind provide a valuable case study for examining class negotiation in the colony through historical archaeology. In this important study, material culture is used to understand the unique way in which the Martin family used gentility to establish and maintain their class position.

Sarah Hayes is a research fellow in the Department of Archaeology, Environment and Community Planning at La Trobe University in Melbourne.



OBITUARY FOR JAMES SEMPLE KERR

Vale James Semple Kerr (1932 - 2014)

James Semple ('Jim') Kerr, (6 July 1932 - 15 October 2014) AM, was a pioneering heritage administrator, architectural historian and heritage practitioner. Jim influenced cultural heritage management practice in Australia over a long time; an immeasurable contribution, through key roles in heritage organisations, through involvement in drafting key doctrinal material for Australia ICOMOS to his magnum opus: The Conservation Plan. Reflecting on the scope of this contribution, perhaps readers who are professional practitioners might contemplate how often each has cited him in submissions or reports and conversely, how often Kerr cited each of you?

Jim was born William James Semple Kerr on 6 July 1932, in Rockhampton. To his family he was known as 'Billjim'. With his sisters he was initially schooled at home on Hampden Downs Station, but later attended Toowoomba Preparatory School and then the King's School Parramatta. After school, Jim was a member of Royal Australian Naval Volunteer Reserve and represented Queensland, and later NSW, in rowing, but narrowly missed selection as part of the Australian team for the 1956 Olympics.

In 1960 Jim married Joan Lyndon (1938-2004), (whom he had met in 1956), at All Saints, Brisbane. Joan was an art and architectural historian as well as a critical thinker, but above all, she was a lifelong soul mate for Jim. Together and separately the 'Drs Kerr' (as James Broadbent would come to call them), were scholarly rigorous, intellectually formidable and socially convivial. However, at the time of their wedding, their shared interest in art, architecture and heritage was yet to assert itself.

Jim landed a job with Qantas in 1961 and worked in Geneva, then London in the early 1960s. During this period, as well as commencing their family together, Jim and Joan enjoyed lectures on art and architectural history at the Warburg Institute and the Courtauld, and later with Nikolaus Pevsner at Birkbeck College. After a stint in Sydney between 1968 and 1972 they both returned to the United Kingdom, where Jim enrolled in the then brand new Diploma of Architectural Conservation at the University of York. In 1974 both Jim and Joan commenced PhDs at the Institute of Advanced Architectural Studies, also at the University of York. Jim's doctoral thesis was published in 1984 as *Design for Convicts*, which remains a classic reference for Australian convict architecture.

After returning to Australia the Kerr family settled in Murdoch Street Cremorne, in Sydney. Jim was appointed Assistant Director at the NSW National Trust, then in 1978 became Assistant Director at the relatively-new Australian Heritage Commission. Resigning in 1980, (having served exactly the two years he had promised when accepting the position), he returned to Sydney and spent the next 30 years as consultant, author, volunteer, expert and mentor. His connection with the NSW National Trust was invigorated by roles as Chair of the Historic Buildings Committee and advisor on historic cemeteries.

Jim Kerr is rightly honoured and should be remembered for his contribution to the discipline and process of cultural heritage management. Edward de Bono, of the Six Thinking Hats fame, has perspicaciously observed that brilliant people are apparent because they can see, looking forward, the side tracks away from the 'path most travelled' that often lead to highly productive innovation. Looking back, these side routes are readily apparent, but many cannot see them looking ahead — Jim Kerr's contribution to cultural heritage was like this. He was able to determine, looking ahead, paths for heritage conservation that today,

with the benefit of hindsight, seem self-evident as best practice. Through a distinguished career Jim determined processes and standards that are now commonplace and obvious, but they weren't, at the time of their inception. At the heart of the Kerr approach was the rigour that separated understanding heritage 'values' (to be conserved) from 'issues' (to be managed). While focused on buildings, the Kerr methodology engaged with both the importance of evidence and the tension between those who saw the heritage as something for experts alone, and those who conceived heritage significance as something much broader, that might involve divergent community views. He valued places for their formal 'aesthetic' qualities, as physical 'evidence' and for their 'association' whether represented by fabric or not. This thinking profoundly influenced and supported a multi-disciplinary approach and was particularly accommodating of the emergence of archaeology as a legitimate element within the emerging heritage discourse of the 1970s and early 1980s. Along the way, Jim Kerr was a tireless contributor to the drafting of the Burra Charter of Australia ICOMOS and its related practice guidelines.

Jim Kerr's best known volume, *The Conservation Plan*, was first published by the NSW National Trust in 1982 and quickly became a standard reference; widely cited and used by heritage professionals, government agencies and property owners. Its strength, throughout seven editions and twelve printing impressions, has been a simple, logical, process and alignment with the philosophy and principles of the Burra Charter. *The Conservation Plan* explains, through examples, how to read the fabric of places, to understand their multiple values and to use that knowledge to make well-informed decisions. Importantly, this work (and the Burra Charter) moved the underlying message and approach of conservation from preventing change, to managing change intelligently. The Kerr methodology has exerted global influence, and can be readily seen in contemporary conservation principles in China, England, Wales and Scotland.

Jim Kerr was a thorough researcher; one of a rare breed, who can undertake primary research, read the fabric of a site and synthesise practical approaches for management. But, reflecting his commitment to reach wider communities through dissemination of his work, and a love of sharing the fruits of his endeavours, he was also an inveterate author and publisher. His numerous published conservation plans comprehensively chronicle major cultural heritage sites such as Goat Island, Cockatoo Island, Admiralty House, Parramatta Gaol, the Sydney Observatory, Yungaba Immigration Depot, Tamworth Gaol, and Fremantle Prison. His Conservation Plan for the Sydney Opera House, now in its second phase, reflects and acknowledges the design principles of this twentieth-century icon, while recognizing that it must evolve to continue as an internationally-significant performance space.

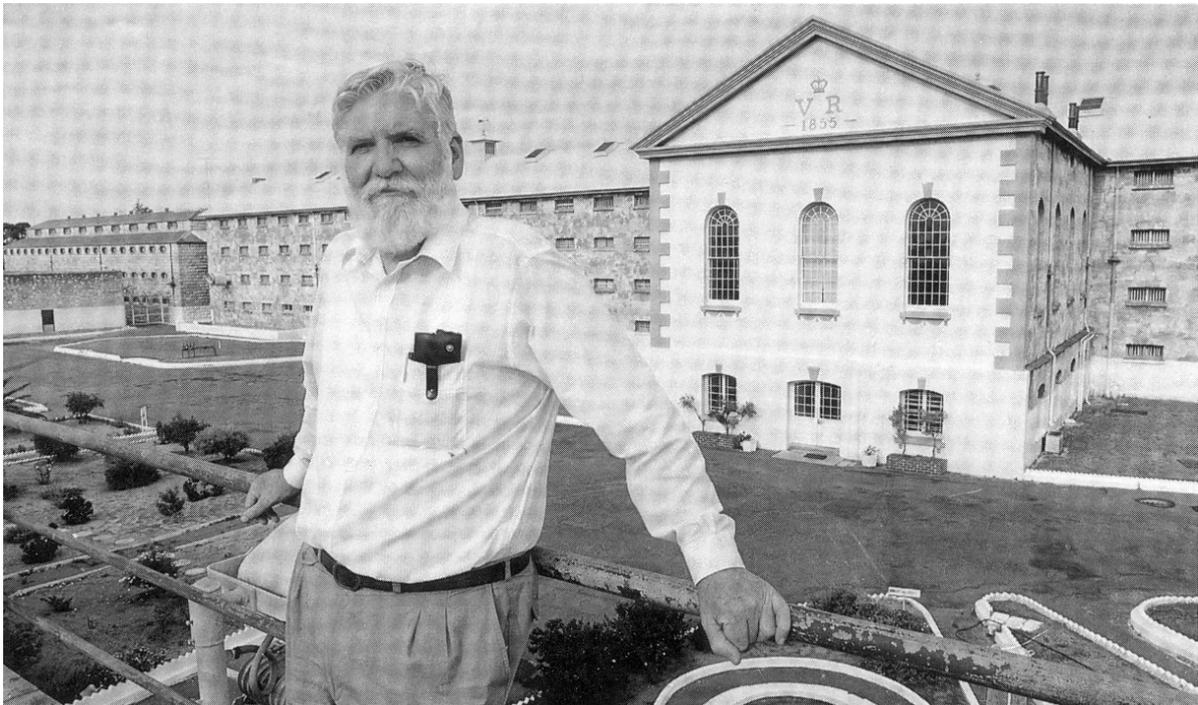
Jim Kerr's contribution has been well recognised with a NSW National Trust Lifetime Achievement Award (Jointly with Joan Kerr) (1995), Honorary Life Membership of Australia ICOMOS (2003) and the NSW National Trust (2007) and as a Member of the Order of Australia (1999), "...for service to heritage conservation through organisations including the Australian International Council on Monuments and Sites, and The New South Wales Branch of the National Trust of Australia".

Jim Kerr died on Wednesday 15 October 2014, at Willoughby, New South Wales. Ordering and cataloguing of his extensive personal papers, and those of his wife, Joan Kerr, as well as records of the family history had been his last project — as always, completed to specification and on time. As well as a vast array of primary and published material, Jim

Kerr kept detailed records of his own research and site analyses; generally prepared by hand and carefully filed in multiple drawers of elegant card files. It now falls to his family to lodge this outstanding research archive — comprising both primary documentation and evidence of a seminal period of conservation thinking and methodology — with the National Library and other institutions.

Jim Kerr is survived by his children Tamsin and James, five grandchildren, a cohort of grateful colleagues, and an extensive set of exemplar publications.

Jim always took particular aversion to the use of the word ‘unique’ and I have had draft material duly returned to me with the word crossed out and the word ‘unusual’ written in its place in his famous neat handwriting. However, that acknowledged, in the current circumstance, the term unique does apply — Jim Kerr was and is a unique part of our shared heritage.



Jim Kerr at Fremantle Prison [photo courtesy of *Freemantle Herald*]

Prof Richard Mackay, AM, November 2014

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FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS

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

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

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

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

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