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STATE OF THE ART

ACT NEWS

Compiled by Richard Morrison

Heritage Branch, Department of the Environment (Cwlth)

Heritage Grants

The Hon. Greg Hunt MP, Minister for the Environment, has announced new rounds of two Commonwealth grants programmes – the Protecting National Historic Sites and the Community Heritage and Icons programmes. Details of the programmes for these rounds can be found at <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/grants-and-funding/protecting-national-historic-sites/2015-16> and <http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/grants-and-funding/community-heritage-icons-grants/2015-16>

It is worth noting that the present form of these programmes represents a significant shift for the Commonwealth. Since the mid-1970s, the Commonwealth has been funding, through several programmes such as the National Estate Grants Programme, grants to community organisations and individuals, including owners, to undertake heritage projects, planning, or works on heritage across Australia. Now, the exclusive focus of the Commonwealth heritage grants is on the just over 100 National Heritage List (NHL) places. The Protecting National Historic Sites programme will only focus on the 60 or so historic places on the NHL.

This unfortunate situation seems to be a consequence of the High Court School Chaplaincy case which has underlined limits in the ability of the Commonwealth to provide grant funds where there is no Constitutional and related legislative ‘head of power’. See http://www.claytonutz.com/publications/edition/26_june_2014/20140626/where_to_now_for_commonwealth_grants_programs_post-williams_no_2.page

Australian Heritage Strategy

In early December 2015 the Commonwealth Government launched the Australian Heritage Strategy after several years’ gestation:

<http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/publications/australian-heritage-strategy>

It announces, inter alia: confirmation of the move to a One-Stop Shop across Australian heritage regulation; with AICOMOS, the ‘exploration of development and implementation of a heritage framework to provide more consistent heritage management guidance to the Australian building industry’; and an intent to ‘explore new funding opportunities for the long-term protection and management of Australia’s heritage places, in particular the potential for a national lottery’.

This latter initiative may be a mechanism to provide funds to heritage, without appropriation of Australian Government funds, and arisen as a direct consequence of the Chaplaincy case (see above).

National Heritage Listings

The Burke, Wills, King and Yandruwandha National Heritage Place (<http://www.environment.gov.au/heritage/places/national/burke-wills-king-yandruwandha>) comprising five elements linked by Cooper Creek and stretching from Queensland to South Australia is the most recent place to be added to the NHL (22 January 2016). It commemorates the Burke and Wills Expedition of 1860. It is the first NH listing for a year.

Commonwealth Heritage List

There have been no additions to the CHL for a while and there do not appear to have been any annual calls for nominations for several years.

State of the Environment Report 2016

This is a national report, including on heritage, prepared by the Commonwealth, every five years since 1996. The stated intent is to capture and present, in as accurate and useful a format as practicable, key information on the state of the 'environment' in terms of: its current condition; the pressures on it and the drivers of those pressures; and management initiatives in place to address environmental concerns, and the impacts of those initiatives. Apart from providing useful public information on heritage, its purpose is to allow for the formulation of informed government policy.

The present survey (begun in 2015) and the previous version have both suffered from reduced resourcing with the current heritage component known to not include physical field surveys to sample heritage condition as have been used previously to test the reality of the condition of heritage. Instead, it is to place greater reliance on expert opinion such as through surveys of peak bodies, for example, AICOMOS. This will make benchmark comparisons with previous SOE outcomes related to heritage difficult.

Heritage, ACT Environment and Planning Directorate

ACT Government Heritage Strategy (2016-2021)

A Discussion Paper has recently been issued to focus debate on a proposed strategy to guide the direction of heritage recognition, protection, conservation, and promotion in the ACT over the next five years. See <http://haveyoursay.planning.act.gov.au/ACTHeritageStrategy>. A series of information sessions are being held and comments are being received until the 29 March 2016.

Dr Pearson's Polar Adventures

Michael Pearson has just returned from a field season on Livingston Island in the South Shetland Islands, in Antarctica. Mike is a member of a team made up of Chilean, Argentinian and Brazilian archaeologists, who have been locating, excavating and recording sealing camp sites from the 1820s. This work has been going on for two decades, and Mike has been involved since 2003, taking part in five expeditions to the islands to date. The South Shetlands were discovered in 1819, and sealing ships from Britain, the USA and at least two from Australia immediately exploited the ice-free beaches, so intensively that the fur seal population was reduced to the point of unprofitability within about four years. About fifty sealing camp sites, comprising stone walls with whale-rib roof members, and occupied caves, have been located so far, and many excavated. This season's work concentrated on making 3D laser scanner recordings of a number of the sites for incorporation in a website being developed by the University of Minas Gerais in Brazil. Mike can provide references to the published archaeological results for anyone who might be interested.



Scanning site Punta X, Livingston Island, South Shetlands, Antarctica. Stone walls and whale bone rafter can be seen. Elephant seals to left (Photo: Mike Pearson, 2016).

Australian National University (ANU) School of Archaeology & Anthropology, Research School of Humanities & the Arts, ANU College of Arts and the Social Sciences

The previously advised Archaeological Field School for ANU undergraduates, jointly led by Dr Ash Lenton and Dr Duncan Wright, was conducted over six weeks earlier this year to record and investigate the former Military Barracks at Triabunna, Tasmania. This successful operation will have a further stage next year. The project is more fully reported on in the Tasmania section of this newsletter.

Centre for Archaeological Research (CAS) Lecture

Two forthcoming lectures may be of interest to members. Both lectures are to be held at 6.00pm, Manning Clark Centre, Theatre 6, Bldg 26A, Union Court, ANU. Gold coin donation, CAS members free.

- Professor Mike Smith. The Australian Archaeologist's Book of Quotations. Wednesday 16 March 2016.
- Dr Duncan Wright and Dr Peter Dowling. Springbank Island and Triabunna Projects. Wednesday 20 April 2016.

NEW SOUTH WALES NEWS

Compiled by David Marcus

National Archaeology Week, 15-21 May 2016

We have some NSW events booked in already:

- Sydney Historical Archaeology Practitioners Workshop (hosted by EMM), 13 May
- The Big Dig Archaeology Weekend, 13-15 May
- First Footprints along the Parramatta River – Jillian Comber (Comber Consultants and RAHS), 14 May
- The Big Dig Artefact Workshops, 20-21 May

And there are heaps more in the pipeline. Please keep an eye on the website and Facebook page, and snaptweet your instachat so all your friends know too:

<http://archaeologyweek.com/?event-category=nsw>

<https://www.facebook.com/National-Archaeology-Week-179612978799261>

Join in or plan your own event, it's all good fun. A huge thank you to everyone involved.

Material supplied by the NSW National Archaeology Week Committee: Fenella Atkinson (Artefact), Helen Nicolson, national co-ordinator (freelance), Anita Yousif (GML Heritage) Rebecca Newell (OEH)

Australian Museum Consulting

After 24 years, Australian Museum Consulting ceased to operate on 31 December 2015. The decision to close the consultancy was made due to a change in the Museum's strategic future direction which does not include maintaining an ecological and heritage consultancy service. Five senior staff have now formed a new business: AMBS Ecology & Heritage Pty Ltd, which provides consultancy services in flora and fauna, and Aboriginal and historic heritage.

Among historical archaeological projects undertaken over the last few years were the 14-28 Ultimo Road, Ultimo site and the 209 Castlereagh Street Sydney site. The Ultimo site, now occupied by the UTS Frank Geary designed building, was the subject of two papers at the 2013 ASHA Conference in Sydney.

Material supplied by Jennie Lindbergh

SYDNEY HISTORICAL PRACTITIONERS WORKSHOP 2015

On the 15th of May 2015, ASHA hosted the Sydney Historical Archaeology Practitioners Workshop (SHAP) at the YHA Big Dig Centre. With eight presentations on Digital Approaches to Archaeological Recording, five discussions on the creation and execution of Research Designs, as well as the traditional short presentations on current projects in both Sydney and overseas, there was something to appeal to every interest.

The Digital Approaches presentations focused primarily on techniques and approaches that have already been proven successful in the field, including photogrammetry from both unmanned aerial vehicles and stationary pole photography, the collection and interpretation of 3D scanning data and all the tips and tricks to choose the best type of geophysical survey for a site. The presenters were happy to openly discuss both the benefits and challenges of these methods. Listening to Alexander Beben and Hugh Thomas, it was clear that it does not matter if you are standing in the basement of the Oxford Hotel in downtown Wollongong or the windswept cliffs of Zagora on the Greek island of Andros, wind and rain wait for no archaeologist and time-pressures are a universal constraint in excavations around the world. A surprising theme from many of the presentations was that while these technologies will become increasingly more accessible, affordable and prevalent on future excavations that they work best when employed to complement, rather than replace, existing techniques of scale planning, section and elevation drawings.

Given ASHA's aim to establish an independent Research Agenda in 2015-2017, the discussions on research designs from commercial, academic and legislative viewpoints was informative and generated lively debate. These sessions encouraged us as practitioners to position our work within larger frameworks, whether they be regional and state themes of 'Water' or 'Disease' or the global theme of 'Empire'. The value of engagement with archaeological research on a larger scale than an individual assessment or single site was further demonstrated by the innovative research and methodologies being employed by Penny Crook regarding the patterns and themes of 'Consumption' and the position of colonial Sydney as a marketplace in the context of Empire.

Peta Longhurst's research on the archaeology of quarantine and disease has also benefited from a global view of 'Empire', as she explained that the absence of any church or religious space at the North Head Quarantine Station is considered unusual within a wider comparison of contemporary sites within the British Empire. Hopefully one of the outcomes of these discussions is that ASHA can play a larger role in providing more resources and information about positioning "key-hole" research designs written by archaeologists within a larger, national and global framework.

The final four presentations were the always-anticipated short talks on current projects. Matthew Kelly spoke about the importance of community engagement projects, such as recording oral histories and school programs, regarding his survey of WW2 sites in Papua New Guinea. Jane McMahon talked about ways to interpret excavated material in the 14 artefact display cases proposed for the 200 George Street site. Each case will have a discrete story or theme, while additional online content will be available through QR codes, neatly marrying the two themes of the SHAP workshop of digital technologies and the need for strong research design. Jennie Lindburg's presentation on the unusual buttress support technique recorded at Castlereagh Street, figured out while at an open-house in her neighbourhood, was a lesson on looking to standing buildings to shed light on buried remains. Amanda Dusting's discussion of the clamp kilns uncovered at St Marys was a fascinating look at the 'archaeology of absence'. While the brick stacks that formed the kilns had been removed, the impressions of bricks and wheel ruts into damp clay had been preserved by the firing of the kilns, and revealed how the kilns had been made, used and dismantled.

Material supplied by Rhian Jones, Casey & Lowe

TASMANIA NEWS

Compiled by Annita Waghorn

Triabunna Barracks

In February, ANU students led by Dr Ash Lenton embarked on an archaeological expedition to Triabunna Barracks, Tasmania, where they uncovered subsurface remains relating to Tasmania's free settlement, convict and military past.

The site of the Triabunna Barracks is a plot of land near the convict station of Maria Island (which is one of the Australian Convict World Heritage Sites). The plot was first built upon in the 1830s and subsequently leased from the Crown in the 1840s. Several phases of building works occurred soon after to provide barracks accommodation for 100 troops of the Spring Bay detachment of the British Army at Maria Island. Commercial buildings including a hotel and a bakery were also constructed. Two 19th-century buildings are still standing in the centre of the plot and were most likely used as stabling. Earthworks indicate the existence of further subterranean remains together with a visible ground water well.

Triabunna Barracks formed an integral part of agricultural society and the interaction between free, unfree and military settlers is of major interest to historical archaeologists. The transition of such an implanted colony to a developing agricultural society is a key theme in the history of 19th-century Australia. The project included training students in archaeological prospection, mapping, excavation, finds treatment and conservation techniques. The project also provided site tours and school visits for the local community and demonstrations of historical technology such as stone masonry.



ANU students working on the foundations of a late 19th-century bakery and chimney (left).

The excavation produced some remarkable finds as well as the fascinating everyday items used by the people living on the site in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The significant building remains included the foundations of the early settlers' dwellings and a large chimney thought to have been part of the town's bakery, built around 1870. Portable items included quantities of fine 19th-century tableware brought from England, tobacco pipes made in Scotland, pins, buttons, and children's lead toy soldiers and china dolls. These small personal items provide intriguing glimpses into the everyday lives of 19th-century Tasmania's men, women and children. Although the site was thought to have been primarily a military one, many different people made their lives there.

Excavations are to continue next year as more of the historical site is uncovered and the conserved artefacts will go on display in local museums.



Lead toy soldier and tobacco pipes with Glasgow makers' marks.

Material supplied by Dr Ash Lenton, Research Fellow, SAA, ANU

ArcTas Projects

ArcTas has been involved in two major archaeological projects in the last twelve months. Both involved the excavation of significant historical landscapes within the central district of Hobart.

Melville Street, Hobart

ArcTas was engaged by the University of Tasmania to excavate the carpark areas on the corner of Elizabeth and Melville Streets, Hobart, in anticipation of their development of a major university student accommodation (National Rental Affordability Scheme - NRAS) facility and limited street-side retail premises. These areas were known to be important in the development of Hobart from the 1820s and this was supported by the archaeology. Excavation in this area took nine weeks and cataloguing is currently underway.

Archaeological features excavated included:

- The Stowell Arms, a pub licensed in 1827, operated until 1910 and was owned from 1871 to 1910 by the colourful local figure, Ma Foster. The pub was also known to have exhibited a Tasmanian Tiger in 1870. Associated features included cesspits, stables, a

cellar and a detached cottage. Artefact finds include coins (dating to the early 1800s), a temperance medal, bottles, stoneware ginger beer bottles, musket balls, ceramics, clay pipes and Chinese items all testifying to a long and varied history.

- The Haberdashers Arms had a varied history, beginning as shops in 1827, and turning into a pub between 1843 and 1865. Like the Stowell Arms, it included the building complex, cesspits, stables and various outbuildings. Artefact finds were varied, with a cesspit at the rear revealing some very interesting finds including an early Schweppes torpedo bottle dating from 1801 to 1831, complete pipes, personal items and a snuff bottle, which pre-dated 1820.
- Various sandstone cottages and terrace houses dating from the 1820s with associated cesspits, outbuildings and yard spaces. Artefact finds included pipes, ceramics including complete vases, mustard jars and chamber pots, sperm whale teeth and bottles including case gin bottles and black beer bottles.



Schweppes torpedo bottle dating from 1801 to 1831 (Photo: Darren Watton).

Theatre Royal Carpark Site

ArcTas was again engaged by the University of Tasmania to excavate the area of the Theatre Royal carpark on the corner of Campbell Street and Collins Street, Hobart, for the development of the Academy of Creative Industries and Performing Arts (ACIPA). This area is along the bank of the original Hobart Rivulet, in the area known as “Wapping” (a low socio-economic district) and was therefore significant in the development of Hobart. Excavation took 12 weeks and cataloguing of artefact finds is currently underway. Archaeological features excavated included:

- The Dolphin Hotel, a pub dating to around 1818, with outbuildings and cesspits. Below the Dolphin Hotel were features providing evidence of very early colonial occupation. Some evidence of this appears on the earliest 1804 maps in the form of sketches of buildings. Artefacts supporting this included early hand-painted Chinese porcelain export-ware, ceramic fragments, snap off base case gin bottle bases and finishes, and early coinage including an 1803 East India Company coin and a 1813 Russian Kopek.
- The Shakesphere Hotel began as a cottage in the 1820s but became the Colonial Secretary’s offices for a short period in the early 1830s. By the 1840s it was a pub. Behind the Shakesphere were warehouses with a large cesspit, which contained very early pottery, Georgious Rex broad arrow lime juice bottles, which date before 1830, a Taddy and Co. snuff jar circa 1831-1841 and some very early perfume bottles and

personal items. A cannonball and clay pipes were also found associated with the Shakesphere Hotel.



Taddy and Tomlin snuff jar c.1831-1841 (Photo: Darren Watton).



Dumeril Leurs French pipe (The Murderess) (left) and section of foundations of the warehouse (right) (Photos: Darren Watton).

- Two substantial tenements were located on the site. These were high occupancy “rookeries” for itinerant sailors and workers and low-income tenants. Finds included a 1836 Peruvian coin, a bone North American fish harpoon, a deck prism from an early ship, various early ceramics and Chinese export-ware porcelain and bottles.
- Early dwellings dated to the 1820s with associated cesspits, outbuildings and stables. Significant finds included early coinage, Chinese export-ware porcelain, a Chinese I

Ching token, other mid 19th-century tokens and three douches used by individuals for sanitary reasons.



Bone fish harpoon (left) and deck prism from a wooden ship showing the Government broad arrow (Photos: Darren Watton).



Foundations of one of the tenements (Photo: Darren Watton).

Material supplied by Parry Kostoglou and Darren Watton, TasArc, Hobart

Victorian Archaeology Colloquium 2016

The fifth annual Victorian Archaeology Colloquium was held at the Institute for Advanced Study, La Trobe University on Friday 5 February 2016. More than 150 delegates attended the event, which brought together Aboriginal community representatives, academic researchers, heritage managers and heritage advisers in a diverse and thought-provoking program. The following papers focused on historical archaeological themes:

Identifying Bearhup: The hamlet that became Melbourne

Barry Green, Green Heritage, Melbourne

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The official history of Melbourne begins with the proclamation of a township by Richard Bourke, Governor of New South Wales in March 1837 followed by the laying out of the Hoddle grid. The preceding period of unofficial and illegal settlement, starting in August 1835, has its own distinct and separate story, that of the hamlet of Bearhup, a place that was both Aboriginal and British. This presentation outlines the development of the hamlet, the nature of its archaeological remains and how they may be identified during excavation works.

The Archaeological and Historical Value of Cesspit Assemblages: Interpreting 5-11 Sutherland Street, Melbourne

Caiti Holzheimer, La Trobe University, Melbourne

caiti.holz@hotmail.com

Past interpretations of material culture through cesspit analyses have identified the value that discarded material goods hold for understanding the social and economic climate of historical places. Two cesspits and their artefact assemblages were recorded and catalogued in 2011 as part of a larger excavation by Andrew Long + Associates at 5-11 Sutherland Street / 280-286 Little Lonsdale Street in Melbourne's CBD. Additionally, as part of an Honours thesis, the cesspits were further analysed in order to determine the historical and archaeological significance of the site and its occupants, and as part of 19th century working-class Melbourne. Intra-site comparative analysis of the assemblages enabled the Sutherland Street cesspits to be discussed as a reflection of the wider social, economic and cultural themes experienced by the 19th-century working class of Melbourne on an individual scale. Inter-site comparison of the Sutherland Street cesspits to two previously analysed assemblages from 'Little Lon' identified the similarities and differences present in the discard of two contemporaneous sites. This presentation discusses the results and interpretation of these analyses at Sutherland Street, and the historical and archaeological value that can be drawn from analysing cesspit assemblages.

Recovering Manufacturing History and Geomagnetic Field Intensity from 19th-Century Bricks in Victoria using Archaeomagnetism

Agathe Lisé-Pronovost, Tom Mallet and Andy I.R. Herries, La Trobe University, Melbourne
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Archaeological materials that have been heated to high temperatures (e.g. bricks, ceramics, hearth stones, sediments etc.) can record the ancient direction and intensity of the Earth's magnetic field at the time of cooling. Archaeomagnetic data thus provides an additional archive of past geomagnetic field behaviour, which is typically documented via palaeomagnetic records of lake and ocean sediments and volcanic rocks. Late Quaternary records of the geomagnetic field from Australia are critically limited, and are the focus of new research integrating palaeomagnetic (lake sediments and volcanics) and archaeomagnetic records from the last ~50 ka of human occupation. Along with understanding the evolution of the field from the southern hemisphere, this work aims to construct the first archaeomagnetic dating reference curve in Australia, which will allow dating archaeological sites in the future. To highlight recent developments, this talk presents the first archaeomagnetic data obtained from bricks in Australia, through collaboration with consulting archaeology projects and Heritage Victoria. The results reveal high geomagnetic intensities in agreement with the historical measurements of the field by mariners. It also presents preliminary data looking at the potential for recovering the manufacturing history of the bricks with examples showing manufacture in Scotland and use in Australia.

Archaeology Week at the Thomas Mill site

Jeremy Smith, Heritage Victoria, Melbourne
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During Australian Heritage Week and National Archaeology Week 2015, Heritage Victoria conducted an archaeological investigation and community engagement program at the site of the former Moses Thomas Mill, located on the Plenty River in Mernda. The project was conducted in partnership with Parks Victoria, the Wurundjeri Community, and the City of Whittlesea assisted by archaeology consultant Catherine Tucker.

In addition to increasing our knowledge of the condition, significance and extent of the 1850s mill site, the aim of the project was to raise community awareness of archaeology in the area. The project included two weeks of site excavation, but also featured site tours, hands-on experiences for school students, information sessions and lectures, a Community Day and a Ministerial media event. More than 600 people visited the site during Heritage Week and Archaeology Week, and the project received extensive coverage across traditional and social media.

As well as creating invaluable relationships with key stakeholders in *this* rapidly developing locality, the project has continued to produce important (and to some degree, unexpected) outcomes. Since the fieldwork finished, the engaged local community has provided a large amount of quality information to Heritage Victoria about previously unknown sites in the area. This information is very timely, as the reopening and extension of the South Morang rail line through this area is currently being scoped. This presentation will outline the findings from the

dig, detail how the community engagement program was undertaken and touch on some of the other positive outcomes that have emerged from the project.

Religious Expression and Landscape Use over Time at the Necropolis Cemetery at Springvale

Jo Wilson, Indiana Jo Heritage Solutions, Melbourne

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The Necropolis cemetery in Springvale, Victoria, provides a fascinating record of the last 115 years of religious expression in death, burial and remembrance. It has a unique history, being developed in stages rather than in a single time period. As a result, the changes in the layout of the cemetery and the use of the land between 1901 and 2011 reflect the changing social values regarding religion, religious expression and its place in death and bereavement in the local area and the State of Victoria. It also makes it easy to observe the changes in religious expression over time by comparing areas of the same religious compartments as they come into use during different time periods. In addition, the cemetery has a well-documented history, allowing for easy comparison between the conclusions drawn from the archaeological data such as grave markers, cemetery layout and historical aerial photographs and maps, and the historical data as documented in census records, historical accounts and the written record (books, pamphlets and online publications). This in turn can assist in creating a framework with which lesser-documented Victorian historical cemeteries can be studied in the future, especially in regard to religion and land-use, and the implications that can be drawn from these types of archaeological studies.

Material supplied by Peter Davies, La Trobe University

Centre for the Archaeology of the Modern World, La Trobe University

The Centre for the Archaeology of the Modern World will enable La Trobe University and its partners and collaborators to consolidate and expand research in historical archaeology being carried out all over the world. In addition to providing a structure within which to support the ongoing research and research training activities at La Trobe, the Centre would undertake the following core activities:

1. Create and maintain international networks of scholars linked to the Centre that would promote research at the local, national and global scales.
2. Organise and host conferences, symposia and seminars.
3. Host eminent visiting international scholars.
4. Host, curate and manage the very large databases created first by La Trobe archaeology staff, and later by partners and collaborators.
5. Develop professional education packages for industry professionals in Australia.
6. Develop and run community outreach and engagement activities in collaboration with federal and state heritage agencies and museums in Australia.

The Centre's website can be found at: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/archaeology-and-history/research/camw>

BACKGROUND

Historical archaeology has always been concerned with transnational matters, particularly the great flows of people, material culture, technology and, of course, capital that left Europe for the peripheries in the late seventeenth century and have been washing back and forth ever since.

Over the past three centuries, people around the globe have been participating in what has been called the modern world system – comprising not only flows of capital and trade, but also ideas, aspirations and, perhaps more concretely, material culture as various as locomotives and tea cups. It is a commonplace observation that the pace and intensity of interaction between people scattered all over the globe rapidly increased during that time, and that the pace and intensity of social and cultural change matched this. These have been the centuries of mass production and mass consumption, of the increasing industrialisation of all aspects of life which have been understood, especially in recent times, as having the potential to create a global social and cultural uniformity that might crush the identities of those societies and cultures which (for whatever reason) lose the capacity to generate and sustain distinctive identities. In the last decade or so these have become highly sensitive matters as people contemplate the consequences of global markets and their local impacts. Equally sensitive are the challenges societies face from the movements of people, no matter whether they are referred to as economic refugees, asylum seekers, or 'illegals', and from flows of culture – both to and from the countries of the West and within the West itself.

Notwithstanding great flows of population, capital and technology – and despite the transference of political and cultural institutions, class structures, ideologies of domesticity and social aspiration underwritten by the mass consumption of mass produced consumer goods, newspapers and magazines – the point of colonisation was also the beginning of a journey of

separation and differentiation. There are many reasons why this happened. All settler societies generated internal tensions from a variety of sources, among them labour and capital, gender, cultural diversity among immigrants, and of course relations with indigenes. Resolving these required local solutions, sometimes at odds with the wishes of the metropolitan. The political and social evolution from settler colony to independent nation is thus understandable, even if its causes, precise histories or consequences can be debated.

Histories of settler societies such as Australia have long stressed the importance of technological innovation spurred on by isolation; such histories have also understood the overwhelming significance of the development of the global market. Much less attention has been paid to the role played by material culture in this differentiation and separation from Britain. The Centre for the Archaeology of the Modern World will provide a platform on which we can undertake research focusing on aspects of technology transfer, trade and immigration, and help to further contextualise the issue of how an increasingly globalised and homogenous material culture could be 'read' by its consumers in culturally heterogeneous ways.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

The Centre for the Archaeology of the Modern World will focus on these global, national and local issues to advance our understanding of the modern world and the nature of the societies that have been created by it. Our particular focus will be on the 'long 19th century' (given that our base is Australasia), but it is well understood that many of the global forces unleashed during that time had their genesis in the first great movements of people and capital from Europe to the Americas, Africa and Asia beginning in the 16th century, but gaining great momentum in the 17th and 18th centuries. A core objective of the Centre is to provide a framework within which scholars across the world working in the broad fields of transnational archaeology and transnational history can undertake collaborative comparative research across continents and across the last three centuries.

A specific concern will be to explore the contexts within which settler colonies, such as those in Australia, became established and then transformed into nations, during a period of intensifying globalisation. But exploring the archaeology of nation-building during this period is, in the early 21st century, to a large extent subverting the pre-eminence of the narratives that told the national story. These historical archaeologies of transformation, diaspora and globalisation are also about frontiers, blurred boundaries, and the refashioning of ethnicities and identities. The political context of transnational historical archaeologies is undeniable and pervasive, as postcolonial societies at once celebrate diversity and cultural and social possibilities deriving from an extraordinarily eclectic sampling of global 'capital', while also seeking to retain identities that have created the cohesion of nations.

RESEARCH THEMES

The existing expertise of La Trobe staff and research fellows will allow the proposed Centre to foster research on five inter-related problem domains. It is expected that these domains will change as the Centre responds to the research interests of new members.

1. ***The archaeology of Indigenous–European interactions from the point of initial contact through to the present day.***

One very obvious consequence of the creation of settler societies was the fact that indigenous societies were placed under significant stress as their worlds were utterly transformed and in many cases destroyed. But it is also clear that the histories of those settler societies also show strong evidence of the persistence of transformed indigenous societies, frequently hidden from the view of dominant colonial culture. This is a global phenomenon which is now being explored on a global scale and work is proceeding on developing comparative approaches that will guide research at global and local levels.

2. ***The archaeology of migration, first from European source countries and later from Africa and Asia.***

Migration is a complex process including slavery, indentured labour, and free (including subsidised) migration and involving a close analysis of, among other things ‘push’ and ‘pull’ factors such as economic conditions, the existence of oppression, and of course imperial or colonial service. The archaeology of migration incorporates analyses of processes, as well as the transfer of social and cultural elements (particularly material culture), and the creation of new settler societies from those of their European founders. It is a commonplace that lives are changed through immigration and research into migration histories will help to humanize our understanding of the complex processes involved.

3. ***The archaeology of human impacts on colonised lands, particularly in Australia and North America, but also significant across the colonial world.***

These impacts cluster around the transformations of indigenous ecologies by factors such as pastoralism, agriculture and of course mining. Specific concerns will be the introduction of exotic plants and animals to support settler occupation of land, the creation of global markets in commodities such as cotton, wool and sugar, the development of strategies to sustain new economic enterprises through the control of resources such as water, and technologies of production and distribution.

4. ***The archaeology of the modern city.***

Although this has for some time been a focus of historical archaeology at La Trobe, a great deal of research remains to be done in Australia, to say nothing of the rest of the modern world. It has long been understood that modern cities are crucibles of social and cultural change and that they are physical expressions of the complexities of the modern world. The sources of these complexities are many, ranging from the specific historical trajectories of cities before the modern era (and of course after its advent in the seventeenth century), through to the roles played by cities at various scales (regional, national and, especially in the case of cities such as London, global). Modern cities became places of residence, employment, manufacture, trade, education, innovation and

creativity, and political and social action. They also became places where poverty, inequality, wealth, privilege and enterprise underwrote the further evolution of culture and society. We understand that the significance of cities did not stop in the last century. While we might argue about the chronology of the modern city, there is no argument that cities continue to be one of the most significant theatres of human action.

5. *The development of methodologies that foster our capacity to engage in global scale comparisons of archaeological assemblages.*

These methodologies primarily relate to the management of very large and diverse databases and the need to ensure comparability at all levels, local, national and global.

Collaborations with scholars working outside the 'long 19th century' and within other disciplinary traditions such as history, geography and economic history will foster a more complete coverage of the historical archaeology of the modern world at La Trobe and with its national and international partners.

KEY PERSONNEL

Director: Professor Tim Murray

Tim Murray is Charles La Trobe Professor of Archaeology at La Trobe University. A practicing archaeologist with an interest in history and epistemology, his research and publications have focused on the history and philosophy of archaeology, the archaeology of the modern world, and heritage archaeology. His most recent books include *World Antiquarianism Comparative Perspectives* (co-edited with Alain Schnapp, Lothar von Falkenhausen and Peter Miller, Getty Research Institute, 2013), *An Archaeology of Institutional Confinement. The Hyde Park Barracks, 1848-1886* (co-authored with Peter Davies and Penny Crook, Sydney University Press, 2013), and *From Antiquarian to Archaeologist: The history and philosophy of archaeology* (Pen and Sword Press, 2014). His current projects are based around the general theme of transnational archaeologies in the long 19th century, with particular focus on 'contact' archaeology, urban archaeology and technology transfer, and demonstrating the importance of the history of archaeology for building more robust archaeological theory.

Assoc. Professor Susan Lawrence

Susan Lawrence specialises in studies of material culture, gender, and the social archaeology of industry, funded by five ARC Discovery and Linkage grants totalling over one million dollars. Lawrence has written three monographs, edited six books and published 53 peer-reviewed articles and chapters. She is a past president of the Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology, has been on the Heritage Council of Victoria's Archaeology Advisory Committee for over a decade, and was elected to the Australian Academy of the Humanities in 2011 and to the Society of Antiquaries of London in 2012.

Dr Penny Crook

Penny Crook is an early-career researcher and historical archaeologist who specialises in urban assemblage analysis and material-culture studies. She has pioneered new methods in historical-archaeological assemblage analysis and price analysis of 19th-century store catalogues. In 2014

she was awarded an ARC Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA) to extend the quality research framework and re-examine the role of consumption in colonial Sydney. Her recent publications include *An Archaeology of Institutional Confinement. The Hyde Park Barracks, 1848-1886* (co-authored with Peter Davies and Tim Murray, Sydney University Press, 2013) and 'Creating eResearch Tools for Archaeologists: The FAIMS Project' (co-authored with Shawn Ross, Adela Sobotková & Brian Ballsun-Stanton, *Australian Archaeology*, 2013).

Dr Sarah Hayes

Sarah Hayes researches in the area of historical and urban archaeology and the archaeology of the middle class. She was awarded her PhD from La Trobe in 2009 and has worked for government heritage departments, Museum Victoria, private heritage consultants and in post-doctoral research positions at La Trobe University. Dr Hayes has made significant contributions to the rehabilitation of Victoria's stored historical archaeological assemblages. She also has a strong track record of ensuring public outcomes for her academic research via the web and public lectures. She has recently been awarded an ARC Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA), commencing in 2015, 'An Archaeology of Quality of Life During Victoria's Gold Rush'.

Dr Peter Davies

Peter Davies is a researcher in historical archaeology at La Trobe University where his work and publication has focused on human-environmental interactions and the archaeology of institutions. He is a highly accomplished fieldworker with experience in Cyprus, Turkey and Syria as well Queensland, NSW, Tasmania and Victoria. He has also directed numerous large and small-scale excavation and survey projects and conducted a wide range of heritage assessments. His recent books include *An Archaeology of Australia Since 1788* (with Susan Lawrence, Springer, 2011) and *An Archaeology of Institutional Confinement. The Hyde Park Barracks, 1848-1886* (with Penny Crook and Tim Murray, Sydney University Press, 2013). He also co-edits the journal *Australasian Historical Archaeology* and previously edited the monograph series *Studies in Australasian Historical Archaeology*. His current ARC-funded research (with Susan Lawrence) focuses on landscapes of water management in colonial Victoria.

FIRST STEPS

This invitation to join the Centre is being sent to prospective partners and collaborators. Some 35 individuals and institutions have already become members, but it is our goal to provide an open forum for collaboration through the creation of networks of researchers based in Universities, Museums, and government and private heritage agencies. We will maintain a public register of Centre members and research projects, and provide regular space where members can promote their research or related activities.

At the same time work will begin on developing a Centre website that will provide both a 'shop window' for our work and collaborations, as well as a vehicle for creating and strengthening networks of researchers drawn from Australia and elsewhere.

During the course of 2016 we will be working on providing public fora for the Centre at major meetings in Australia and elsewhere, featuring the research of Centre partners within the various themes already outlined, and enhancing networking opportunities. At La Trobe we will also develop our program of visiting speakers (drawn from within Australia and elsewhere).

HOW TO RESPOND TO THIS INVITATION

If you, or your organization, wishes to join the Centre or to pursue collaborative research opportunities please send your details direct to Tim Murray (T.Murray@latrobe.edu.au), who will also be happy to provide further, more detailed, information about the Centre should this be required.

Material supplied by Professor Tim Murray, La Trobe University

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS & NOTICES

ARC Success for Historical Archaeology

Historical archaeologists have been awarded three Discovery projects in the recently announced round of ARC funding. The projects reflect the diversity of historical archaeological research in the Australasian region, ranging from the archaeological vestiges of the Queensland Native Mounted Police, to the mining landscapes of regional Victoria and the Christian missionaries of Vanuatu. Details of each project are below.

The investment of over \$1.73 million over four years demonstrates the competitiveness of, and interest in, historical archaeological research on the national stage.

We congratulate the chief investigators, Associate Professor Heather Burke, Associate Professor Susan Lawrence and Dr James Flexner, and all their local and international collaborators, and wish them every success in their research.

For further information, see the ARC website (www.arc.gov.au/discovery-programme-0).

THE PROJECTS

Associate Professor Heather Burke, Professor Bryce Barker, Professor Iain Davidson, Dr Lynley Wallis, Dr Noelene Cole, Ms Elizabeth Hatte and Dr Larry Zimmerman

The Flinders University of South Australia

\$765,727, 4 years

This project plans to conduct a systematic archaeological study of the Queensland Native Mounted Police. While previous studies have focused on policing activities as revealed by the historical record, this project will combine material, oral and historical evidence from a range of sites across central and northern Queensland to understand more fully the activities, lives and legacies of the Native Police. This project aims to provide an alternative lens through which to

understand the nature of frontier conflict, initiate new understandings of the Aboriginal and settler experience, and contribute to global studies of Indigenous responses to colonialism.

Associate Professor Susan Lawrence, Associate Professor Ian Rutherford, Dr Ewen Silvester, Dr Darren Baldwin, Professor Mark Macklin, Dr Peter Davies and Ms Jodi Turnbull

La Trobe University

\$650,187, 4 years

By considering rivers as cultural artefacts, this project aims to evaluate how historical gold mining has shaped river systems in Victoria. Victoria's historic mining industry led to extensive and long-lasting change to waterways across the state. The project plans to integrate approaches from landscape archaeology, physical geography, geomorphology and environmental chemistry to identify and map the extent of changes, including increased sedimentation, erosion, and chemical contamination. The project plans to demonstrate how historical mining continues to influence chemical and physical processes in Victorian streams and to develop understanding of the landscapes experienced by Victorians at the height of the mining boom. Project outcomes may provide improved context for catchment and reservoir management and counter prevailing impressions about causes of observed damage to rivers.

Dr James Flexner, Dr Stuart Bedford and Dr Frederique Valentin

The Australian National University

\$317,698.00

This project aims to conduct an archaeological survey of Vanuatu. One of archaeology's most significant contributions is providing models for the emergence of cultural diversity through time. Vanuatu is one of the most diverse regions on Earth. The southern islands were an important hub in early settlement and long-term inter-island interactions of Island Melanesia. Yet little is known about the origins of cultural contacts and diversity in the area. A major archaeological survey of the Polynesian outliers Futuna and Aniwa and neighbouring islands Tanna and Aneityum would greatly improve our knowledge of settlement patterns, long-distance exchange, and cross-cultural interaction in the region, from initial Lapita settlement 3000 years ago through to the arrival of Christian missionaries in the 1860s.

The project will include archaeological survey and excavation as well as a survey of 19th and early 20th-century museum collections, particularly looking at examples of stone and shell exchange valuables from Futuna, Aniwa, Aneityum, Tanna. These objects may provide evidence about connections to neighbouring island groups, including New Caledonia, Fiji, and possibly Western Polynesia.



***Excavating a colonial-era Melanesian village site, south Tanna Island
(Photo courtesy of J. Flexner).***

2016 ASHA Conference

The 2016 ASHA Conference will be held in Christchurch, New Zealand, from 28 September to 1 October. The conference will take place at Chateau on the Park, 189 Deans Avenue, Christchurch. As part of the conference, attendees will have the opportunity to take a field trip to Ōtamahua/Quail Island in Lyttelton Harbour, site of a ships' graveyard, an early 20th-century leper colony and where Shackleton and Scott both trained and quarantined dogs and ponies before their Antarctic journeys. Registration information will be available later in the year.

Call for Session Proposals

Session submissions are now invited for the upcoming ASHA Conference. We welcome proposals for conference sessions associated with historical archaeology in Australia, New Zealand and the Asia-Pacific region. We encourage all to attend and present.

Session organisers should provide:

- a title and abstract (150–200 words) for their proposed session(s);
- name and title of two prospective papers for the relevant session; and
- name, affiliation, contact email and phone number of all session organisers.

It is proposed that the sessions will comprise up to six papers, each 20 minutes in duration. The call for sessions is now open and will close on 30 April 2016. During May, we will announce the conference sessions and invite a call for papers to be submitted to their respective session chairs, as well as for papers for general sessions. Please send proposed sessions with the above details to kurt.bennett@underoverarch.co.nz.

Trove Funding Cutbacks

Many of us are aware of the proposed defunding of TROVE, sponsored by the National Library of Australia, a great source of information for historical researchers in Australia. There are two petitions on line and the Megaphone one (<https://www.megaphone.org.au/petitions/fund-trove-1?bucket=&source=twitter-share-button>) at the time of writing had 9141 signatures and the Change.org petition had 6249 (<https://www.change.org/p/malcolm-turnbull-mp-stop-cuts-to-national-library-of-australia-save-trove>). There have been discussions on Radio National about this closure and the significance of the TROVE resource to the nation. Phillip Adams had a discussion: <http://www.abc.net.au/radionational/programs/latenightlive/treasure-trove-under-threat/7218302>. Other commentaries include the RAHS and others: <http://www.rahs.org.au/treasure-trove-defunding-trove-leaves-australia-poorer/>; <https://theconversation.com/treasure-trove-why-defunding-trove-leaves-australia-poorer-55217>

I encourage you all to write to your local Federal member and sign petitions to assist with the maintenance of such an innovative and substantial research outcome.

President, Dr Mary Casey

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|------------------------|--|--|
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FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS

The ASHA Newsletter is produced quarterly with the assistance of the State Reps. In order to facilitate efficient newsletter production, all contributions should be forwarded to your State Rep (refer to table above for email addresses) by the below dates:

June issue: 15 May
September issue: 15 August
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.

Aleisha Buckler
General Editor
ASHA Newsletter

Email: newsletter@asha.org.au