

# NEWSLETTER

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## STATE OF THE ART

### ACT NEWS

#### *Sharing Australia's Stories*

A new grants programme called *Sharing Australia's Stories* was launched by the Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Senator the Hon. Ian Campbell, on 20 August 2004 as part of the implementation of the new heritage system which came into effect this year. The \$3 million programme will be run over three years and will offer grants of between \$5,000 and \$50,000 to help Australians to share their connections to the nation's great events and themes. It will be run by the Natural and Cultural Heritage Management Section of the Heritage Division. For more information visit the DEH website at:

<http://www.deh.gov.au/heritage/programs - sharing>

Eligible projects could:

- be about a place (including a site, area, region, track or route, or a series of related places), community, activity, event, tradition, institution, or a family or person;
- tell the story of an aspect of Australia's natural heritage that has been important in shaping the flora, fauna or landscapes of the continent; or
- involve activities such as publishing brochures, books, guides or websites or developing events, displays, interpretive exhibitions or signage.

Senator Campbell's media release notes that he said in launching the new program: 'I encourage individuals, communities, schools and organisations such as heritage and historical societies, Indigenous groups, conservation bodies and multicultural groups to apply for these grants. It's an opportunity to tease out the local strands of the national stories which connect us all.'

Thus there may be opportunities for ASHA members, or even ASHA itself to seek funding for relevant projects.

Applications close on 15 October 2004.

### ***Australian Heritage Council***

A major responsibility of the new Council is the assessment of places for the two new lists, the Commonwealth Heritage and the National Heritage Lists. In June 2004, the Minister for the Environment and Heritage listed 336 places on the Commonwealth Heritage List (CHL), using the special provisions of the newly amended *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* to start up the CHL, by moving eligible places from the Register of the National Estate to the CHL. Information on the implications of being in the CHL can be found at <http://www.deh.gov.au/heritage/commonwealth/implications.html>. Future listings will follow a longer process of nomination and assessment with recommendations from the Council to the Minister.

The new National Heritage List (NHL) has also started with three listings in July 2004 – listings of the Budj Bim National Heritage Landscape at Lake Condah in Victoria's south west, the Dinosaur Stampede National Monument in Queensland and the Royal Exhibition Building National Historic Place.

Dating back thousands of years, Budj Bim shows evidence of a large, settled Aboriginal community systematically farming eels for food and trade in what is considered to be one of Australia's earliest and largest aquaculture ventures. This complex enterprise took place in a landscape carved by natural forces and full of meaning for the Aboriginals who lived there.

Located at Lark Quarry Conservation Park, 110km south of Winton in Central Queensland, the the Dinosaur Stampede site features unique evidence of a dinosaur stampede with almost 4,000 dinosaur footprints (representing about 150 two-legged dinosaurs) clearly visible in an area of just 210 square metres.

The Royal Exhibition Building and Carlton Gardens are located in Melbourne, Victoria. Together, the Building and Gardens are important both as a rare surviving example of the late nineteenth and early twentieth century international exhibition movement (a value for which it was World Heritage listed in July 2004), and also as the venue for the opening of the first Australian Federal Parliament.

Further information on these places, including their NH/CH Values, and other places as they are added to the NHL/CHL, can be found in the respective records located on the Australian Heritage Database at <http://www.deh.gov.au/cgi-bin/ahdb/search.pl>

### ***National Cultural Heritage Forum***

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage was unable to convene a meeting of the Forum in August 2004 as had been hoped, but several members (including ASHA representative Dr Tracy Ireland) were able to meet with the Adviser to the Minister in Canberra on 12 August 2004. They discussed amongst other matters, the Forum's proposal for a new Australian Government program, 'HeritageCare', similar to Landcare/Bushcare, aimed at raising the profile of heritage in the community in the way that Landcare did for environmental issues and community hands-on involvement in them. It is also aimed at taking the Commonwealth money back into grassroots heritage issues in the way that the NEGP helped to, which is especially important in view of the high level focus of the new National Heritage List.

### ***ACT Heritage Unit***

The Bill for a new *ACT Heritage Act* passed the Assembly on the evening of 17 August 2004 with some minor amendments but with the integrity of the legislation (described in the last Newsletter) intact.

*Richard Morrison*

## **QUEENSLAND NEWS**

### ***Cooktown Sewerage and Archaeology***

The decision to sewer the port town of Cooktown has offered a rare opportunity to further record the town's archaeological record. Cooktown was permanently established in 1873 as the port for the Palmer Goldfield. It is probably better known, however, as the place where Lt James Cook organised repairs on HMB Endeavour after it hit a nearby reef.

A survey of the entire town area was carried out by Gordon Grimwade, Martin Rowney and the traditional owners a few months ago. It identified key areas of concern and all heritage listed properties.

As a result, regular monitoring is undertaken in sensitive areas. Where the town's rare granite kerb and channelling has to be crossed the engineers will burrow underneath and 'thread' the pipes into position. The kerbing and channelling dates back to the late 19th century when a Cornish stonemason, a Mr Pascoe, was contracted to undertake the work.

In the first stage of clearance work two wells lined with clay bricks were located right in the middle of a proposed sewerage feeder line. Rather than excavate and, in the process destroy, these important features the sewerage line was realigned and the wells remain intact. It is uncertain who built these wells but they are in an area known to have been used by Chinese market gardeners.

*Gordon Grimwade*

### ***Brisbane Naval Stores***

During National Archaeology Week 2004 Brisbane City Council and the University of Queensland co-sponsored a public excavation at the Brisbane Naval Stores at Kangaroo Point on the Brisbane River opposite the CBD. A ground penetrating radar study was undertaken in late 2003 indicating the presence of a number of metallic anomalies less than one metre below the ground surface.

One of these anomalies was targeted for exploratory archaeological excavation. The chosen anomaly matched oral records as the site for the dumping of Martini-Henry carbines. The excavation was run by Jon Prangnell and Tam Smith and the work was undertaken by crews of volunteer undergraduate and postgraduate students who enjoyed the week. A daily web diary was maintained and can be accessed at:

<http://www.archaeologyweek.com/navalstores/index.html>

Alex Wisniowiecka, an Honours student in the School of Social Science, is critically comparing the results of the GPR, archaeology and oral history. Her thesis will be finished by November.



### ***University of Queensland***

In addition to Alex there are a number of Honours level historical archaeological projects being undertaken this year. Jo Brett is examining the archaeology of the urban landfill that overlaid the Lang Park Cemeteries. Bernadette Allen is looking at the relationship of historical archaeology and museum presentations of contested versions of the past. Anna Dwyer is reassessing the historical archaeology of the Irish in Queensland. Jo Dudley is using a landscape approach to understanding the spatial and social distribution of marginalised groups on the Paradise goldfield and, finally, Jen Davis is examining the role of social significance in the assessment of 20<sup>th</sup> century heritage places in Brisbane.

The University of Queensland also has its first maritime archaeology PhD student. John Forrest (ex-Flinders) has recently been confirmed in the School of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology to undertake a PhD on the remote sensing of maritime sites. It is his hope to increase the practical resolution of remote sensing technologies to their theoretical maxima.

In 2003 Karen Murphy obtained first class Honours from the University of Queensland for her thesis entitled *Under the Boards: The study of the archaeological site formation processes at the Commissariat Store Site, Brisbane*. Karen also won the UQ Blue Mountains Honours Prize. This is the first time it has been awarded for an historical archaeological thesis.

### ***Green Bridge***

Brisbane City Council is proposing to construct a bus/pedestrian/cycle bridge across the Brisbane River between Dutton Park and the University of Queensland. It is to be known as the 'Green Bridge'. The eastern access route for the bridge runs through parkland adjacent to the Dutton Park Cemetery. Throughout the first half of 2004 The University of Queensland Archaeological Services Unit investigated this access route looking for unmarked and/or unrecorded graves. Following the methods used at Lang Park we used heavy machinery to remove the between 40cm and 4m of sediment. The exposed surfaces were then examined for the presence of indicative grave markings. No graves were found but three separate episodes of dumping or landfilling dating from the 1890s, 1920s and 1960s were identified as well as an old unrecorded cemetery dump containing broken headstones and other monumental masonry.



### ***Paradise***

Since 2002 the University of Queensland Archaeological Services Unit has been conducting salvage archaeology at the mining township of Paradise, approximately 30km northwest of Biggenden (inland from Maryborough). Burnett Water Pty Ltd is constructing the Burnett River Dam on the site of the 1890s town. Extensive survey and excavation work has now been completed and four volumes of reports produced. Two PhD students are using this material: Kate Quirk is examining the workings of gentility in this frontier town and Geraldine Mate is using Paradise as the southern extreme of a study of the mining landscape of the Burnett River catchment. Kate and I will be presenting some of the initial findings at this year's ASHA conference.

*Jon Prangnell*

### ***Mill Point***

Preparations for the 2004 field season of the Mill Point Archaeological Project were described in the December 2003 Newsletter. Over a two week period at the end of February 2004 a team of staff from the University of Queensland, the Environmental Protection Agency and Queensland Parks and Wildlife Service along with a large group of student volunteers from universities in Queensland, New South Wales and Victoria began the survey component of the fieldwork at Mill Point. Detailed surface artefact recording was conducted over two 625m<sup>2</sup> (25m x 25m) grid squares in the vicinity of the boiler. Over 2,000 individual artefacts were found in these two grid squares consisting of brick, glass, ceramic and metal. All these artefacts were described, mapped and photographed. A high degree of integrity was found in the deposits with rows of bricks found largely undisturbed. Components of the tramway complex, cemetery, settlement and wharf were also surveyed. The 2004 field season can be seen at <http://www.atsis.uq.edu.au/millpoint>



The 2004 season was just the beginning. It is planned to continue with two week field seasons for the next two to four years. The objectives for 2005 will be to complete the broad scale survey of the site, to undertake detailed recording of another two grid squares and to run fieldwork open days for local community members to participate in the field survey.

*Sean Ulm and Jon Prangnell*

## **NEW SOUTH WALES NEWS**

### ***Parramatta Historical Archaeological Landscape Management Study***

The Parramatta Historical Archaeological Landscape Management Study (PHALMS), prepared by Godden Mackay Logan for the NSW Heritage Office in 2000, is in the process of being implemented at Parramatta City Council (PCC), as part of their general property



management database.

Godden Mackay Logan and the NSW Heritage Office are providing PCC officers with specific training in using PHALMS to inform the development application process for properties within the Sydney Regional Environmental Plan No. 28 - Parramatta (SREP No. 28) area, to ensure that sites in this area with archaeological significance do not slip through the development net. This process should also ensure that PCC's processes are in line with the requirements of the NSW Heritage Office.

### ***Prince Henry Hospital Site***

Godden Mackay Logan have been involved in monitoring works at the Prince Henry Hospital Site at Little Bay, NSW. The work involves recording the remains of former hospital buildings (and other features) and road infrastructure largely associated with the original construction of the hospital in the early 1880s and its subsequent phases of consolidation and expansion up to the mid-Twentieth Century. In addition, it is hoped that former tram tracks associated with an early tram loop (which ceased to operate in the late 1930s), might be identified through future archaeological monitoring.

*Jennie Lindbergh*

### ***Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd***

Casey & Lowe Pty Ltd have been busy over the last eight months completing archaeological excavations and testing programs in Parramatta, Surry Hills and Pyrmont. During December 2003 and January 2004 we completed a small excavation of houses and cesspits in Union Street, Pyrmont. This site had been extensively disturbed by a twentieth-century flourmill. One of the double cesspits contained an extensive deposit with artefacts while the other two were backfilled with sterile clean material.

Tony directed work on the recording of the part of Barker's Mill, Darling Harbour, cut through by an on-ramp of the Cross City Tunnel. The mill began operation in late 1825 and was an impressive four-storey stone building. Originally a flourmill built by the firm of Cooper and Levey, it used the third steam engine imported into the colony. Thomas Barker bought the 'capital building and steam engine with other machinery and apparatus for the purpose of grinding corn' in 1827. It was later diversified into an award-winning cloth and tweed factory. The excavation of the on-ramp cut through the centre of the mill site and revealed a section of the mill's sandstone-flagged floor and details of the mill's structure and north-facing verandah. A segment of imported millstone, probably from the early mill, was recovered. Descendants of the Barker family attended the successful Open Day.

This was followed by an exciting project in Parramatta during March and April 2004 at the Parramatta Children's Court site, on the corner of George and O'Connell Streets, which Mary directed. There were remains of two convict huts on this site. The sites of the huts are retained *in situ* within a Conservation Zone established across the centre of the site. As part of this project we were able to excavate the rear yards of the convict huts, an 1880s house, remains of an 1830s timber and stone dwelling, and the c.1840 to 1860s/70s Emu Brewery.

In the rear yard of one of the huts we found a partially disturbed brick-built storage cellar which contained quantities of early roofing tile with a different type of attachment to those

typically found on early sites in Sydney. These are thought to be the remains of the roof of this storage structure. Also found in the backfill of this structure was a near intact lead-glazed po, an eighteenth-century salt cellar and other early artefacts. Some other early features were found with both slipped and lead-glazed coarse earthenware pottery as well as some interesting Chinese export porcelain.

The remains of the Emu Brewery conformed to our prediction that due to the early date of demolition that the building stone was probably recycled. In the very large hole for the cellar only one course of a single stone wall survived and in the ground floor area an extensive layer of mortar bedding testified to the removal of a flagged stone floor. A well, possibly backfilled around the time the brewery was demolished as the brick structure had been removed, also contained a large quantity of artefacts.

In May and June we excavated another site in the 1830s brickfields at 19-41 Reservoir Street, Surry Hills. This was the third site we had excavated on this city block in nine years. On the first site in Albion Street in 1996 we found remains of a 1840s brick clamp kiln. On the next site, off Mary Street, there was further evidence for brickfield activities, mostly single tracks of barrow used for transporting bricks around the site as well as some evidence for brickmaking activities. In the most recent excavation the single barrow tracks dominated the brickfield phase but there were also a layer of sand for laying out the bricks after they were fired in the clamp kiln.

This site also contained disturbed remains of later nineteenth-century terrace housing with considerable occupation by Chinese people from the 1890s into the 1930s. On a preliminary level little of the artefacts were thought to be associated with typical Chinese artefacts. A good deposit of recognisable Chinese artefacts associated with a furniture factory was found on the adjacent Mary Street site. A rubbish deposit was used to build up the site near a creek line between the brickfield and residential phases which mostly consisted of broken glass and stoneware bottles. Two 1780s glass decanters were identified during the cataloguing.

An 1870s site at 1 Smith Street, Parramatta was tested and sampled for Sydney Water. One of the houses from this period had only been demolished as part of the current redevelopment. Three large beehive cisterns were recorded in the backyards of these houses. Surprisingly, one of these contained an extensive deposit relating to the late nineteenth- and early twentieth-centuries occupation. It looks like the unwanted contents of a kitchen and possibly a shed were thrown away following the death of an older inhabitant. This deposit included lots of whole bottles, at least five teapots, glass jars, enamel kettles, and bottles containing somewhat noxious substances, such as mineral turpentine and paint. This project is Stage 1 of the larger *Civic Place* redevelopment for which we have just completed testing and are now writing a management strategy.

*Mary Casey*

### ***Heritage Concepts***

Heritage Concepts have been extremely busy over the last 6 months. We have been involved in numerous projects including excavations, assessments and heritage management studies around NSW. In the last 6-12 months, our projects have taken us to some great locations including Lightning Ridge, Brunswick Heads, Byron Bay, Gosford, RMC Duntroon as well as all the usual Sydney region sites.

We have also undergone a few changes. Sam Moody has joined us in the position of Senior Archaeologist.

We have new email addresses:

Lori Sciusco            [lori@heritageconcepts.com.au](mailto:lori@heritageconcepts.com.au)  
Sam Moody              [sam@heritageconcepts.com.au](mailto:sam@heritageconcepts.com.au)  
Caroline Wilby        [caroline@heritageconcepts.com.au](mailto:caroline@heritageconcepts.com.au)

A web page is to follow in the coming months.

Perhaps most exciting is our move to new premises on 1/118 Johnston Street, Annandale in September.

*Lori Sciusco*

### ***Roads and Traffic Authority***

The RTA has a new graduate, Christine Costin working for me at the moment. She has just finished honours in historical archaeology at the University of Sydney. She is learning to love timber truss bridges and is also helping out on the development of internal RTA heritage protocols and procedures.

*Claire Everett*

### ***Chinese Heritage Association of Australia.***

Following a flyer inserted in December 2003 newsletter I was honoured to be the guest speaker for their July 2004 talk at the Avillion Hotel in Sydney NSW. The subject was The Gam Family, Timber Industry Pioneers. Tom Gam, my paternal Great-Great Grandfather came to Australia as a gold miner in 1858, swimming ashore at Robe South Australia, to avoid paying the tax on Chinese and walked to Ballarat, Victoria to mine gold. After marrying in 1863 he became a timber cutter, eventually settling at Wyong Creek in NSW. He and his wife Barbara, had 14 children, all the sons were also timber workers in West Australia and New South Wales and some even owned sawmills.

I was the first Gam in 5 generations not to go into the timber industry, but found my background in the timber industry beneficial to researching the timber industry past. If any of ASHA members are interested in giving a talk to the Chinese Association of Australia please contact Daphne Lowe Kelley, President, 02 92998942 or [lowekelley@bigpond.com](mailto:lowekelley@bigpond.com).

*Ross Gam*



**Daphne Lowe Kelley and Ross Gam**



## **NEW ZEALAND NEWS**

No New Zealand news was received for this issue.

## **NORTHERN TERRITORY NEWS**

### ***Knights Folly***

Julie Mastin's dig at Knight's Folly on the fringe of Darwin's CBD has now run for several weeks. A most confusing array of concrete slabs and footings has emerged from the leaf mould, suggesting that a lot of unrecorded building activity took place on the site, as well as the two houses known to have been erected there.

So far only one section of concrete path can be dated definitely. On the 28<sup>th</sup> July a slab was uncovered with a largely complete inscription of the workmen's initials and the date 27-7-44. A day late (and a dollar short? – you know what funding is like) of meeting the sixtieth anniversary.

Julie is now searching high and low for information on dating concrete. Can anyone out there help her? Email to [juliemastin@iinet.net.au](mailto:juliemastin@iinet.net.au)

Julie's work on Knight's Folly is likely to become a factor in the NT Government's proposed development of the Darwin City Waterfront. This is a \$600 million development of a convention and exhibition centre on now largely disused waterfront and industrial areas. An Environmental Impact Statement has been prepared for the NT Department of Infrastructure Planning & Development and the selection of the preferred bidder for the development is expected by the end of this year.

This is of particular interest to historical archaeologists as several important sites are within or adjoining the development area. As well as Knight's Folly, the camp site of Goyder's landing for the 1869 survey and founding of Darwin (then named Palmerston) and WWII period features such as the Naval fuel oil storage tunnels cut into the escarpment above the port are likely to be affected.

While recognition of sites of Aboriginal and European cultural heritage significance is noted in the EIS there is presently no detail available on moves to be taken to either minimise damage or to appropriately incorporate them into the development. This will be an activity to be watched with interest over the months ahead.

*Colin DeLaRue*

### ***Review of the NT Heritage Conservation Act 1991***

The Review of the *NT Heritage Conservation Act 1991* alluded to in the December 2003 Newsletter is proceeding.

A review of the Northern Territory *Heritage Conservation Act 1991* commenced in 2003. The review, jointly conducted by the NT Office of Environment and Heritage in conjunction with the Heritage Advisory Council, is based on broad community consultation model. This approach has been well received by the Territory community, resulting in 44 written submissions, over 300 people attending meetings, over 1500 visitors to the web site and nearly 500 copies of a discussion paper sent to community groups and individuals.

The discussion paper examined the issues facing heritage conservation in the Territory and presented a number of options for new legislation. The paper recognised that the current NT model was outdated and in urgent need of renewal. Issues such as the destruction of Hotel Darwin and other icons were raised in every public meeting. The paper also noted the issues unique to the Territory, particularly the multicultural nature of heritage here, the powers of the Commonwealth in a territory, the relationship with the *NT Aboriginal Sacred Sites Act* and the broad scope of the current NT heritage act.

The paper presented options based on three models for future heritage legislation. These included:

1. A Heritage Council with statutory powers to declare places, impose work and stop work orders, provide provisional protection from the day of nomination and approve maintenance works on heritage places (similar to Victoria and Tasmania);
2. A Heritage Council with powers delegated from the Minister (partly following from the NSW model); and
3. A Heritage Advisory Council with the capacity to advise the Minister on heritage matters, including declaration of heritage places (the current model in the NT and WA).

The paper also presented a new model for protection of heritage places that are not always precisely located, such as archaeological places. Currently, the *Heritage Conservation Act* protects Aboriginal archaeological places and objects using a 'blanket protection' approach. However, it does not protect archaeological places and objects of non-Aboriginal origin. This means that large numbers of heritage places such as the original North Australian Railway, the Overland Telegraph line, the early British settlements and mining heritage in the NT are not legally protected in any way.

Over the last few decades, this has resulted in the loss of many places and objects to artefact scavengers. Particularly, at risk has been the extensive WWII heritage in the Top End. Various jurisdictions deal with these issues in various ways, none of which are particularly successful in a legal sense. The discussion paper raised the concept of the declaration of serial places and objects. This would give the Minister, on advice from the Heritage Council, the power to declare a class of objects and places protected, with the full powers of a heritage act. For example, all WWII aircraft crash sites could be protected by Ministerial declaration. The statutory power to make these declarations would remain with the Minister, as they are a policy, rather than an administrative decision. This concept was well supported in the community, as was the concept of a Heritage Council with statutory powers.

The NT Heritage Advisory Council met to discuss recommendations for a new Heritage Act following the conclusion of the public consultation phase. Cabinet will consider their recommendations in the near future. If Cabinet so decide, then a draft heritage bill will be presented to the community later this year for further public comment.

Copies of the NT Review of the Heritage Conservation Act Public Discussion Paper can be obtained by calling Richard Woolfe on 08 89244051, or by e-mail at [richard.woolfe@nt.gov.au](mailto:richard.woolfe@nt.gov.au).

*Richard Woolfe*

## **SOUTH AUSTRALIAN NEWS**

### ***Port Adelaide Historical Archaeology Project***

The Quebec Street and Jane Street excavations have finally been completed and artefact analysis is underway. The Project is investigating labourers' lives in mid 19<sup>th</sup> century Port Adelaide. Look for some scintillating revelations in future newsletters!

### ***Hills Face Zone Cultural Heritage Project***

The Hills Face Zone Cultural Heritage Project is entering its final phase. Field surveys have been completed and it is in the write-up stage. The Project aims to develop an integrated and comprehensive management plan for the unique and threatened Hills Face Zone located near Adelaide.

### ***Flinders University***

Flinders University lecturers Heather Burke & Claire Smith have just published *The Archaeologist's Field Handbook*. It is a fantastic synthesis of current techniques and a must have for every student.

Under the direction of Tim Denham third year Field Method students will be looking for a World War II air raid shelter at the Repatriation General Hospital in Daw Park. As no location maps exist aerial photographs showing the entrances together with GPR will be used to define the excavation area. The eventual aim is to reopen the shelters. For more information contact [susan.briggs@flinders.edu.au](mailto:susan.briggs@flinders.edu.au)

*Susan Briggs*

## **TASMANIA NEWS**

### ***Tasmanian Heritage Office***

The commitment of the Tasmanian Heritage Office (THO) to consider and acknowledge archaeology has led to a full time coverage within the Office and an increase in the assessment of nominated sites for their archaeological value. The THO Archaeological Practice Note (2) is also under review as is the Cemeteries Practice Note (11). The Office has also taken steps to promote archaeology through a public display in Service Tasmania. The display illustrates the significance of the city's Sullivans Cove area, with particular reference to the area's archaeological values.

*Allison Ryland*

### ***Parks & Wildlife Service***

Mark Staniforth (Flinders University) and Mike Nash (Tas P&WS) have signed a contract with Plenum Press (USA) to edit a book for their Series on Underwater Archaeology. The publication will be entitled *Underwater Cultural Heritage - Australian Approaches* with 13 chapters by prominent local maritime archaeologists including Jeremy Green, Dr Mike McCarthy and Dr Nathan Richards. There is currently no directly comparable work that presents, examines and discusses the body of work in maritime archaeology and underwater cultural management conducted by Australians over the past twenty years. Following the format of the 2001 *Reader in Maritime Archaeology* the publication will provide a concise reference work for tertiary students. Topics will include artefact studies, theoretical approaches, thematic studies, legislation and CRM, ethical issues, interpretation and education. It is anticipated that the publication will be available during 2005.

*Mike Nash*

### ***Forest Practices Board***

During the last three months Parry Kostoglou (Archaeological Services Tasmania) has partially completed an oral history project for Forestry Tasmania which seeks to record community memories of the Southern Forest which includes all thematic pursuits there, not just timber getting, such as orcharding, tourism, mining and fishing. Parry has once again begun operational archaeological assessments of timber harvesting operations involving historic timber-getting sites in the Derwent Valley for Forestry Tasmania. The results of these will be added to an existing draft report which will be completed for publication later in the year.

*Denise Gaughwin*

### ***New Port Arthur Public Archaeology Web Site***

The Port Arthur Historic Site has updated and revised its web site. The archaeology entry page on the new site can be viewed at:

[http://www.portarthur.org.au/pashow.php?ACTION=Public&menu\\_code=500.100](http://www.portarthur.org.au/pashow.php?ACTION=Public&menu_code=500.100)

Or view the preliminary results of the 2004 summer archaeology program (and previous projects) by following the embedded link to the Port Arthur Archaeology site:

<http://www.portarthur.org.au/archaeology-new/>

Comments or other feedback welcome.

*Greg Jackman*

### ***Southern Midlands Council***

#### ***Oatlands Gaol***

June 2004 saw the completion of Stage 1 of the 1834 Oatlands Gaol archaeological project, which entailed a detailed historical study of the physical evolution of the largest regional gaol in colonial Tasmania. The gaol was partially demolished between 1937 and 1954, and the main yard filled to house the present municipal swimming pool. An archaeological survey was undertaken to determine the extent of demolition of the site and to estimate the extent and preservation of the gaol remains. This work was sponsored by the Southern Midlands Council as part of the long-term goal of relocation of the pool and conservation and interpretation of the site. The research design for Stage 2 of the project, which will involve remote sensing and test trenching, is currently being prepared.

#### ***Oatlands Military Precinct***

Southern Midlands Council is currently preparing briefs, research designs and funding applications for the archaeological investigation of the wider Oatlands Military Precinct. This area was the founding hub of the Oatlands township, and is known to have contained at least 30 buildings (including the Oatlands Gaol) dating from 1827-1850. Much of this area is still in public ownership and several buildings from the period remain. Council has recognised the significant research and interpretation potential of the precinct and aims to incorporate and promote this alongside the nearby Callington Mill precinct.

*Brad Williams*

### **VICTORIAN NEWS**

No Victorian news was received for this issue.

### **WESTERN AUSTRALIAN NEWS**

#### ***Augusta fieldwork***

The first systematic survey of the 1830 settlement of Augusta in Western Australia's extreme southwest was completed in June/early July. This early settlement failed because of poor soil and supply problems, with the region virtually uninhabited until the 1870s when the area's hard wood timbers attracted overseas companies. Students from the University of Western Australia's Centre for Archaeology did the survey, and a small 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Grant from the Western Australian Government funded the project.

Despite limited historical documentation, poor visibility, and recent increased town development encroaching on possible site areas, archaeological remains were found from the 1830s. The location of some settlers' dwellings was already known, but systematic survey of these areas brought to light more material remains not previously recorded. The cellar of Turner's house in Albany Terrace is enclosed by a fence, but nearby and previously unrecorded were the remains of a structure pad most likely for the farm's kitchen cut into the



side of a moderately steep hill, a light but extensive artefact scatter, and evidence of a cobbled path. Further surveys and an excavation are planned on this site in 2005.

Other previously unrecorded structural remains were found consisting mostly of stone house foundations. However, possible bridge remains over an unnamed but permanent brook was an unexpected discovery. The remains are close to the location of an 1834 bridge (Hillman 1834), but further analysis is needed. No obvious 'typical' bridge timbers (pylons, cross spans etc) are visible because of deep soil and vegetable matter overlay, but water passes unhindered under this feature, and there is no evidence of a fallen log nearby. If a bridge, preservation has been enhanced because the permanent stream and overlay most likely countered destruction by bushfire. In the Perth region, bushfire instead of flood was the main cause of bridge damage in the Swan River Colony's early years.

The survey's main aim was to document archaeological remains dating to the 1830s, but other unrecorded archaeological evidence dating to the area's M. C. Davies timber milling era (1883 to 1907) in the form of tramway earthworks and the jetty at Flinders Bay indicated other potential projects for study at honours or post-graduate level.

The survey's results were presented to about 80 Augusta Historical Society members at a special meeting in Augusta on June 30. Further funded surveys and excavations are planned for next year corresponding with the town's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of founding.

### ***Western Australia's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of founding***

Archaeological projects are planned to mark Western Australia's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Department of Conservation and Land Management have commissioned a survey of Clarence, a small ramshackle camp overlooking Cockburn Sound where the State's first settlers camped in 1829-1830 while waiting land allocation. Lotteries Commission grants are being arranged for proposed excavations at High Street West and the Old Port area in Fremantle.

*Shane Burke*

## **OTHER NEWS**

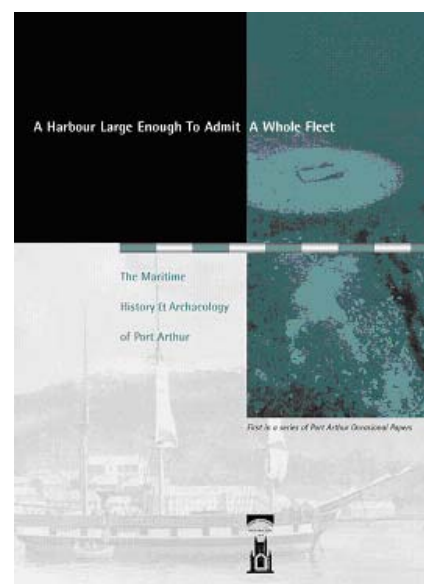
### ***A Harbour Large Enough To Admit a Whole Fleet***

*The Maritime History & Archaeology of Port Arthur: First in a series of Port Arthur Occasional Papers*

(Available October 2004)

Whereas today the sea that frames the Tasman Peninsula is a source of recreation and aquaculture, 150 years ago its blue expanses were viewed very differently. Perceived as both a boundary limiting escape and an open highway, the waters surrounding the penal peninsula were traced by lines of communication and transport linking the isolated settlements of the industrious convict colony.

Innumerable jetty sites, wharves, slipways and the remnants of associated industries, as well as the written record, bear testimony to the importance of the sea in





**Background:** Rick Tholen contacted me to find out if there is a risk to cultural resources from application of the pesticide Sevin (chemical name, Carbaryl). This chemical is used to treat pinyon/juniper stands which are affected by a beetle infestation. I spoke with Anthony Britten of the EPA, who conducted the chemical review of carbaryl for the EPA, and reviewed materials he sent me as well as a fact sheet on carbaryl from the EPA website.

**Carbaryl:** According to the EPA chemical review, carbaryl is “one of the most widely used broad-spectrum insecticides in agriculture, professional turf management and ornamental production, and residential pet, lawn, and garden markets”. It does not pose a dietary risk from these applications, though contact with it may be toxic to humans. It affects the nervous system and poses an occupational risk to those who handle the chemical without protection. It has little effect on plants if properly applied.

Carbaryl breaks down relatively rapidly in the environment; it degrades to 1-naphthal, which in turn degrades to CO<sub>2</sub>. It degrades more quickly in aerobic and alkaline conditions with half-lives of 4 – 5 days in soil, and dissipates rapidly from foliage with a half-life of 3 – 4 days. In a forestry study (pine forest in Oregon), dissipation took longer: 21 days on foliage, 75 days on leaf litter, and 65 days on soil. A centimetre of rain is sufficient to wash 91% off leaf surfaces. Carbaryl may be mixed during application with formulations to make it adhere longer to foliage and this factor may affect use by humans of the affected foliage.

**Cultural Resource Concerns:** In reviewing the material I identified four areas of potential concern for the effects of carbaryl. These four concerns and my conclusions regarding potential effects are as follows:

1) Materials Science

- Potential effects on chemical studies of:
  - Inorganic remains (lithics, pottery, glass, metal, etc.);
  - Organic remains (wood, leather, bone, shell, fibre, etc.)
  - Residue studies
  - Soil chemistry analyses
  - C14 dating
- Discussion: Carbaryl is volatile and not long-lived, and washes off with water in the natural environment (or presumably also in a lab). It is unlikely to affect the chemical analyses of any of the above materials.

2) Artefact Preservation: Would carbaryl be likely to enhance corrosion or decay of some materials? The product is widely used by farmers, homeowners, and others and as such is unlikely to affect normal materials (wood, metal) unless specified in the product directions (e.g. “may cause corrosion of gaskets”). Assessment of carbaryl application to cultural sites should pay attention to any such warnings and determine if they might be applicable to affected archaeological/historical materials.

3) Native American Use: Native Americans harvest pinyon nuts and use juniper foliage for burning in ceremonies. Application of carbaryl is not likely to pose much of a threat for consumption of pinyon nuts, which are shelled before eating, though contact with treated trees should probably wait until sufficient time has passed for the chemical to dissipate. The effects of smoke inhalation are unknown; however, it seems reasonable to assume that waiting until the chemical dissipates should reduce or eliminate any potential danger.

4) Other Human Contact Issues: Archaeologists may work at sites in areas treated with carbaryl, and artefacts from these sites may pass to museums or tribal groups. Since carbaryl has a relatively short life, and also washes off, it is reasonable to assume that sufficient precautions (waiting for a period of time, washing materials) would make these activities safe.

**Conclusion:** This brief review suggests that the chemical carbaryl is unlikely to directly affect archaeological materials, though there may be human contact/ use issues which arise in the context of the cultural resource program. Any office employing this chemical should address these potential effects, and offer recommendations to mitigate them (e.g. establish safety periods before using treated materials).

**Resources Consulted:**

Britten, Anthony

July 27, 2004 Personal Communication, carbaryl chemical reviewer for the Environmental Protection Agency.

Jones, R. David and Steeger, Thomas

March 2003 Revised Risk Assessment of Carbaryl in Support of the Registration Eligibility Decision. Documents provided by Anthony Britten, EPA.

Carbaryl IRED Facts: Document on EPA website:

[http://www.epa.gov/REDS/factsheets/carbaryl\\_factsheet.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/REDS/factsheets/carbaryl_factsheet.pdf)

*Submitted by:*

*Smoke (Michael A.) Pfeiffer, RPA*

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**ASSOCIATION BUSINESS**

The following are the new state representatives for the ASHA Newsletter; Darren Griffin (Vic), Jon Prangnell (Qld) and Tim Owen (NSW). Thank you all for being volunteered and a big thanks for the retiring reps for a job extremely well done. The contact details of the new reps are at the end of the newsletter

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## **FORTHCOMING CONFERENCES**

### AIMA/ASHA Conference

Wellington-Picton, New Zealand  
24-27 September 2004

**“Gold, Wars and Whaling - trans-Tasman connections”**

#### *Key Information*

##### Location

The conference will be in two locations: Wellington and Picton. Conference attendees will travel to Picton by ferry from Wellington part way through the conference.

Wellington is New Zealand’s capital city, and is a large cosmopolitan city of arts, culture and damn fine coffee. Picton, located in the Marlborough Sounds at the top of the South Island, is a three-hour ferry ride from Wellington. Picton is a small resort town serving as the maritime “gateway” via the spectacular Marlborough Sounds to the South Island.

##### Timing

The conference runs Friday 24 September – Monday 27 September 2004.

There will pre- and post-conference fieldtrips (see below): various pre-conference activities are offered in Wellington on Thursday 23 September, and there will be a post-conference field trip from Picton to Christchurch from Monday 27 September to Wednesday 29 September.

##### Conference Venues

The Wellington venue will be Turnbull House, Bowen St, central city.

The Picton Venue will be the Yacht Club Lodge, Waikawa St in downtown Picton.

##### Accommodation

###### Wellington:

- Delegates will arrange their own accommodation in Wellington.
- A range of accommodation from 4 star to backpackers is available in Wellington: check [www.wellingtonnz.com/](http://www.wellingtonnz.com/)

Picton: Delegates will stay at the conference venue. Accommodation in Picton will be booked by the conference co-ordinator. The price stated is for a twin share – please indicate on the registration form if you prefer a room to yourself, or who you wish to share with.

Accommodation for the post-conference fieldtrip will be arranged by the conference co-ordinator and will be included in the fieldtrip price.

## *Programme*

### **Thursday 23 September**

- A range of full and half-day fieldtrips and activities are available (see fieldtrips below)
- 5.30pm: Welcome drinks and registration, Museum of Wellington, City and Sea (MOWCAS), Queens Wharf, central city Wellington. MOWCAS is Wellington's own museum, telling the stories of Wellington people and events in innovative ways. The museum will be open for us to explore. Your first drink will be included in the registration fee, thereafter a cash bar.

### **Friday 24 September**

- 9am-4.30pm: papers, Turnbull House, Bowen St, Wellington
- Evening: Conference dinner. Venue: The Tug Boat, Oriental Bay, central Wellington. There will be a cash bar.

### **Saturday 25 September**

- 9am-4pm: papers, Turnbull House
- 5.30pm: ferry to Picton, arriving 8.30pm (delegates leaving from Turnbull House to Wellington ferry terminal). Transport to terminal provided.

### **Sunday 26 September**

- All day boat trip through Marlborough Sounds, visiting historic and whaling sites (see below)

### **Monday 27 September**

- 9am-12pm: papers, Yacht Club Lodge, Waikawa St
- 12pm: conference close (followed by visit to historic *Edwin Fox* on the Picton foreshore prior to departure of post-conference fieldtrip train at 1.40).

## *Fieldtrips*

### *Preconference fieldtrips and activities: Thursday 23 September*

- Trip to Matiu-Somes Island, Wellington Harbour (all day). Matiu Somes Island is located in the middle of Wellington Harbour, accessed by a 20 min ferry ride. The island has a long and complex human history: it was originally fortified and occupied by Maori prior to European arrival, it served as a quarantine station for early European settlers, it was defended during the first and second World Wars and more recently was an animal quarantine station. In very recent years it has become a wildlife sanctuary administered by the Department of Conservation, and now features some of New Zealand's rarer birds, plus a flourishing (and often visible) population of tuatara.
- Bus trip visiting Wellington's military fortifications (all day). Wellington has a complex landscape of European defences dating from the 1880s, with subsequent structures built for each World War. This trip will visit a number of the more important and spectacular sites, and will be lead by one of New Zealand's leading military historians, Peter Cooke.
- Walking inner city Wellington (3 hours). This walking tour will look at the history and development of the settlement of Wellington, based on its layout and buildings, and noting the main issues of influence, such as economics, politics and earthquakes. It will be lead by a notable and provocative historian, Gavin McLean.

*Conference Fieldtrip: boat trip through Marlborough Sounds, Sunday 26 September.*

The Marlborough Sounds contained a number of very active whaling stations through the late 19<sup>th</sup> century and into the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. Our planned trip will leave Picton and cruise to Blumine Island, visiting [WW2](#) batteries and associated sites on the island, then to the Te Awaiti and Perano Whaling Stations in Tory Channel, which represent the start and finish of shore whaling in NZ. This cruise will be lead by Steve Bagley, Department of Conservation archaeologist.

The cruise will run 9am-4pm (weather dependent); lunch, tea and coffee will be provided.

*Post conference fieldtrip: Monday 27 September to Wednesday 29 September*

**Note this is limited to 20 attendees**

### **Mon 27 September**

- 1.40pm: train to Kaikoura, arrive 4pm, overnight in Kaikoura, accommodation in a motel. Kaikoura is a small coastal town on the east coast of the South Island. For many years it was a major whaling site, and more recently has reinvented itself as a major tourist destination, focussing on whale watching: the continental shelf is very close to the coastline beside Kaikoura, enabling easy boat access to the spectacular sperm whales. See [www.kaikoura.co.nz/](http://www.kaikoura.co.nz/) for more information on Kaikoura

### **Tues 28 September**

- *Morning:* Visit to Fyffe historic house and whaling historic area OR Whale watching. Historic Fyffe House is owned and operated by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and has been registered by the Historic Places Trust as a category 1 historic place. It was built in 1842 by Robert Fyfe who founded the Waiopuka Whaling Station. Built of native timbers with lath and plaster interior walls and mud and straw insulation, the house rests on whalebone foundations. Just beyond Fyffe House is where the whaling station once stood. Whalebone fence posts mark what was a whaler's garden. At low tide, flat deeply grooved rocks are exposed, where the whales were hauled up. A whalebone marker for a whaler's grave is another reminder of these days. Entry is free, and a group visit will be arranged with the curator. Alternatively conference goers can spend the morning whale watching. See [www.whalewatch.co.nz](http://www.whalewatch.co.nz) Trips last about 3.5 hrs and cost \$110 (indicate on the registration form if you're interested in going whale watching and we will make a group booking).
- *Afternoon:* 4pm train to Christchurch, arrive 7pm
- Bus to Lyttelton, overnight in Lyttelton, accommodation in a motel or similar.

### **Wednesday 29 September**

- *All day:* Tour Historic Lyttelton: we will visit Ripapa Island, a defended site from the 19<sup>th</sup> century featuring disappearing guns, tunnels, barracks, fortified (steepened) bank all round the island, and fortified entrance/jetty), Quail Island featuring a leper station remains, immigration barracks that date back to quarantine station days and traces of Scott's training base before he headed south, a ships' graveyard with 14 hulks mostly pre 1900 including oldest iron-hulled steam paddle-wheeler, the historic (and still operating) Timeball station, and the Torpedo Boat museum at Magazine Bay
- The day's trip will conclude at Christchurch International Airport by about 5pm.

### **Alternative travel**

Delegates not taking part in the Picton-Christchurch fieldtrip can either:

- Return to Wellington by ferry. Ferries leave Picton about three times a day. There will be a ferry leaving on Monday 27 September at 1.30pm.
- Fly to Wellington from Koromiko airfield near Picton on a (very!) small plane
- Fly to Wellington from Blenheim (larger town 20mins from Picton) with Air New Zealand turbo prop. Shuttle buses are available from the Picton ferry terminal to Blenheim after every ferry arrival.
- Travel all the way to Christchurch by train on Monday 27 September, leaving Picton at 1.4pm, arriving Christchurch at 7pm.

**Delegates not taking part in the post conference fieldtrip are responsible for their own travel out of Picton**



## Costs

	<b>Costs</b>	
	Before August 31	After August 31
<b>Conference Fee</b>		
ASHA, AAMH, AIMA, AAA, MAANZ members	N/A	\$270.00
ASHA, AAMH, AIMA, AAA, MAANZ student members	N/A	\$210.00
Non members	N/A	\$330.00
Non-Members student/unwaged	N/A	\$200.00
Wellington only registration, 2 days	N/A	\$170.00
Picton only registration, 1/2 day & fieldtrip	N/A	\$60.00
	N/A	
Conference dinner	N/A	\$37.50
	N/A	
<b>Note:</b> The conference registration fee include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◆ nibbles and one drink at the welcome function/registration evening on the first night</li> <li>◆ morning and afternoon teas and lunches at the conference venues</li> <li>◆ shuttle to Wellington ferry terminal</li> <li>◆ ferry to Picton</li> <li>◆ All-day boat trip through the Marlborough Sounds, including lunch box.</li> </ul>		
Picton Accommodation at venue 2 nights	N/A	\$250 (share twin)
<b>Pre conference fieldtrip</b>		
Matiu Island ferry	N/A	\$16.50
Wellington heritage Walking tour	N/A	\$0.00
Fortifications bus trip	N/A	\$15.00
<b>Post conference fieldtrip</b>		
train Picton-Kaikoura	N/A	\$37.00
train Kaikoura-Christchurch	N/A	\$39.00
Kaikoura accommodation	N/A	\$60.00
Lyttelton accommodation	N/A	\$60.00
Bus trip	N/A	\$25.00
<i>Total for post conference fieldtrip</i>	N/A	\$221.00

### Notes

1. All prices are GST inclusive and are in New Zealand dollars.
2. The cost of the conference dinner is a separate additional charge.
3. Please ensure you have current membership of one of the participating organisations to take advantage of the membership & early bird discounts.
4. Early-bird discounted conference fees should be paid by cheque, bank draft or credit card to Conference Treasurer Gina Scheer. Please use the on-line registration form on the ASHA and AIMA websites

## 5. Registration form

### Australasian Institute of Maritime Archaeology Australasian Society of Historic Archaeologists

*Joint Conference, 23-27 September 2004, New Zealand*

#### ***Delegate Details:***

Title	Surname	First name
Address		
E-mail address		

#### ***I am attending:***

Conference 24-27 September	Member: \$ Non-Member: \$ Student: \$
Conference dinner: Friday 24 September	\$

#### ***Pre-conference activities:***

Trip to Matiu-Somes Island	\$
Bus trip to Wellington's military fortifications	\$
Walking tour of inner city Wellington	Free, but please tick if joining so we know numbers _____

#### ***Picton Accommodation:***

<p>Picton accommodation: Accommodation in Picton will be booked by the conference organiser. Payment will be made direct to the venue at the conference. Please advise accommodation preferences. (Wellington accommodation will be arranged by delegates)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I require a room by myself (tick) _____</li> <li>OR:</li> <li>• I will share with (name) _____</li> </ul>
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#### ***Post conference fieldtrip:***

<p>Cost includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• train Picton-Kaikoura</li> <li>• accommodation in Kaikoura</li> <li>• train Kaikoura-Christchurch</li> <li>• shuttle to Lyttelton</li> <li>• Accommodation in Lyttelton</li> <li>• visit to Fyffe House</li> <li>• Bus trip on Wednesday</li> </ul>	\$
<p>Accommodation will be booked by the conference organiser for delegates taking the post-conference field trip. Please advise accommodation preferences:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I require a room by myself (tick) _____</li> <li>OR:</li> <li>• I will share with (name) _____</li> </ul>

# Australasian Society for Historical Archaeology

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Household Membership (Australia & New Zealand only)	60			5.45
Corporate Membership (Australia & New Zealand only)	65			5.90
Overseas Membership (excluding Australia & New Zealand)	75			6.81
Life Membership (includes copies of all in-print monographs as a gift)	1000			90.90
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## **FORTHCOMING NEWSLETTERS**

The ASHA Newsletter is produced quarterly with the assistance of guest editors. The 2004 guest editors are:

This issue	Jon Pragnell	<a href="mailto:j.pragnell@uq.edu.au">j.pragnell@uq.edu.au</a>
December 2004	Rick Mc Govern-Wilson	<a href="mailto:rmcgwilson@historic.org.nz">rmcgwilson@historic.org.nz</a>

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

The guest editors are asked to finalise the newsletter in the third week of the month prior to circulation. Final copy must reach the General Editor, (Ross Gam), by the final week of the month prior to circulation.

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

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*General Editor*  
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