EDITORIAL

PRESIDENT’S ADDRESS

UPFRONT PIECES

WA Heritage Legislation  Liz Vaughan
University insurances   Georgia Roberts,
Lucia Clayton-Martinez
Megan Berry

ORIGINAL RESEARCH PAPERS

Humans and oil palm (Elaeis guineensis Jacq.) exploitation in Orile-Owu,
southwest Nigeria, ca 1450-1640 A.D: Archaeo-botanical evidence
- Kingsley Chinedu

Macroscopic analysis of Archaeological pottery, Argentina
- Miranda Rivas Gonzalez, Paula Granda

The effects of the Egyptian Empire on palatial structures of the Middle and
Late Bronze Age southern Levant
- Holly Winter

Late-holocene Indigenous occupation of the Uruguay River (Argentina)
- Juan Carlos Castro

CONTENTS

New lights on the archaeology of Sungbo’s eredo, south-western Nigeria
- Olanrewaju B. Lasisi

An Archaeogeomorphological Approach Applied in the Study of a Chalcolithic
Civilization from north-eastern Romania
- Ionut Cristi Nicu

The nature of food production
- Gonzalo Linares Matás

The social, economic and ideological changes that accompanied the establishment
of village life in the Levant during the Pre-Pottery Neolithic B period.
- A. Chris Silvester

DIG IT DIALOGUE
PERSONAL ACCOUNTS
NASC REVIEW
BOOK REVIEWS
ARCHSOC NEWS
ABOUT DIG IT AND COMMITTEE BIOS
Welcome to Volume 3 of *Dig It*. This year we have built on the success of last year’s editorial committee to ensure the journal’s future. Part of this process was to rearrange the roles of the editorial committee, whereby we now have four people doing the same tasks that the previous editor, Jana, undertook singlehandedly. We also created two positions for short contributions editor, which were taken up by Kathleen Gorey and Rose Santilli, who worked tirelessly to guarantee the quality of the short contributions for this volume.

Another change that our members will have noticed is that we only produced one issue this year. After careful deliberation, the editorial committee found that we could produce a higher quality journal if we reduced this volume to one issue. Additionally, over the last few years, ArchSoc has been producing *Dig It* at a loss; membership fees were not covering the costs of *Dig It* and this meant that we had to come up with a long-term solution to this budgeting issue. Not only has the reduction of issues meant that *Dig It* is no longer produced at a loss, but the remainder of each membership fee can be allocated to fund other initiatives and opportunities for ArchSoc members.

Earlier this year we engaged with graphic designer, Laura Cooper, who agreed to take over from our editor, Jordan Ralph, in designing this volume of *Dig It*. Jordan has designed all five previous issues of the new series of *Dig It* (2012–2014), which—due to his lack of graphic design qualifications—meant that on average each issue would take him two–three weeks to design. The editorial committee decided that it was a cost-effective and time-effective solution to hire Laura as our graphic designer and to pay her an honorarium for her service. This honorarium was covered by a Cadbury™ Fundraiser in semester two. Thank you to everyone who bought and sold chocolates for this fundraiser! We would also like to thank Laura for putting so much work into designing this issue for us.

We encourage all students, regardless of their geographical location, to consider writing for *Dig It*—we want to know what students are researching across the globe. Our advice for future contributors is to make sure your contribution is grounded in current academic literature and deals with a specific topic or question. Most often, it is not enough to try to fit all of the discussion points from a thesis into one paper. We suggest that you pick one topic from your research and write about that specific thing, rather than try to cover a broad range of issues in a few thousand words. This will make your contribution—and your argument—concise, clear, and robust. We look forward to receiving many more contributions from students and recent graduates and to helping them to refine their research for publication.

A few final notes on this volume and the articles herein: *Dig It* is fast becoming a global journal for archaeology students and recent graduates. Despite being based in Adelaide, Australia, this volume of *Dig It* includes papers by authors from Argentina, Australia, Nigeria, and Romania. The diversity and breadth of the theories, topics and sites that our authors write about is a testament to a growing attitude of global collaboration and dialogue in archaeology, not least of which has been fostered by the World Archaeological Congress.

Jordan Ralph, Catherine Bland, Adrian Mollenmanns and Fiona Shanahan
<dig.it@findersarchsoc.org>
Change and consolidation can best be used to describe the year 2015 for the Flinders Archaeological Society. During this time members of ArchSoc benefited from the hard work and vision of its committee. Not only did the number of workshops offered increase but the type of workshop was expanded, with ArchSoc not only offering the ever popular Total Station but also the Intro to GIS, Geophysics Taster, Mapping and Dumpy Level workshops. Many thanks are given to Rob Koch, Bob Stone, Ian Moffat and Andrew Frost who gave freely of their time, expertise and experience, thus enabling the Society to again provide the workshops free of charge to its members. Attendance at the workshops was excellent and the feedback from members was positive and encouraging. There is a definite ongoing need for these workshops. Thank you again to all those people who have taken the workshops from an idea to a reality.

Congratulations also to Susan Arthure and Cherrie de Lleiuen, the very deserving winners of the 2014 Ruth and Vincent Megaw award.

During 2015 ArchSoc again supported the Archaeology Department’s Thursday Seminar Series; provided a very successful Graduand Celebration for the 2014 Graduates and stalls at the two O Week events and university Open Days. ArchSoc also gladly supported the UNESCO UNITWIN event and congratulates the Archaeology Department on achieving this outstanding UNESCO recognition. Another popular event was the Meet the Archaeologists and Archaeology Students lectures. In addition, ArchSoc was pleased to again support the South Australian Anthropological Society’s Norman Tindale Lecture. The ArchSoc pub crawl was a success and the upcoming quiz night will also be an event not to be missed.

Significant changes were made during this year with regards to Dig It. It was decided to publish one issue per year of the society’s journal Dig It and to also employ the services of a graphic artist. Given the huge amount of commitment needed to produce a journal of this quality, these changes will benefit all concerned with the publication of our journal. ArchSoc also supported the Palaeontology Society’s James Moore scholarship fund with the donation of $500 which money was raised from the proceeds of the Diggers Shield Cricket match and an on campus book sale. Thank you to everyone who supported and contributed to this very worthy cause.

Members might have noticed that significant changes are being undertaken on campus, including several new Archaeology Department facilities, namely the closing of its lab in Social Sciences South and the opening of brilliant new labs/computer resource room in the Humanities quadrant. Due to these changes ArchSoc no longer has the use of the Map room, where we had stored equipment and merchandise as well as using it as an office. ArchSoc would like to thank the Archaeology Department for the use of the Map room over the years; to have been able to use it has been invaluable. Although this loss is problematic for ArchSoc and we have had to come up with different strategies to address it, the department has kindly provided temporary but very much appreciated secure storage.

Volunteering opportunities have again successfully been advertised to our members and we anticipate that similar opportunities will again become available in 2016.

Changes to our constitution are again being taken to our AGM. Some of the proposed changes have resulted from our ongoing affiliation with FUSA and our support of the new student association FUCAHSA. It has been encouraging to see that our membership numbers have been maintained in 2015.

Lastly, as your outgoing President, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the ArchSoc committee for their support but most importantly I thank you, our members for your continued support.

Dianne Riley
President, Flinders Archaeological Society 2015
<ril0066@flinders.edu.au>
What is sacred, what is worth saving, and who gets to choose?

Issues of rights and power with Western Australia’s *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972*.

---

Elizabeth Vaughan
University of Western Australia, Perth, Australia
Aboriginal Heritage Action Alliance, Perth, Australia.
vaughe01@student.uwa.edu.au
Western Australia’s (WA) *Aboriginal Heritage Act 1972* (AHA) is the principle legislation that protects Aboriginal ethnographic and archaeological sites in WA. This pioneering legislation passed with bipartisan support in the WA parliament in 1972 (Chaloner 2004:60) in that it recognised the legitimacy of an alternative world-view within the western hegemony. However, a clear shift seems to have occurred from a ground-breaking attempt to protect Aboriginal heritage to a mechanism that facilitates the orderly destruction of heritage sites through the Section 18 process¹ (Ritter 2003).

The AHA affords power to the regulator (the WA government) to define and conserve Aboriginal heritage on behalf of the WA community. However, it appears that the current definitions being applied by the regulator do not match Aboriginal and archaeological concepts of significant heritage. Further, the regulator has been applying narrow definitions of what a ‘site’ is under the AHA, resulting in a 74% decrease in the number of sites afforded legislative protection since 2011 (Figure 1). Government reforms to the AHA are indicated by these statistical trends, as the administration of the legislation is brought into line with the new *Aboriginal Heritage Act Amendment Bill 2014* (hereafter ‘2014 Bill’). The 2014 Bill progress in parliament has stalled for the past few months, however the incumbent government passed a motion to restore the Bill to the notice paper on the 18th of February 2016. The recent reinterpretation of the definition of an Aboriginal ‘sacred’ site as defined under Section 5b of the AHA is discussed here².

The reinterpretation of Section 5 is based on legal advice from the State Solicitors Office (SSO) sought by the chairperson of the Aboriginal Cultural Materials Committee (ACMC) in August 2012 (WA Legislative Council 2015a). The ACMC is the statutory body that assesses heritage places for legal protection on behalf of the WA community. Significantly, this advice was sought in the ensuing turmoil of the ongoing 2011 James Price Point (JPP) heritage dispute between the developer Woodside Energy Limited (hereafter ‘Woodside’), the WA government and some Aboriginal People over the applicability of the AHA to an extensive song cycle on the coast of the Dampier Peninsula, north of Broome in WA—as reported in a 2013 letter from the registrar of Aboriginal sites to the Kimberley Land Council³. This dispute had been causing frustration for the government, who in July 2011, recalled the advice of its own Department of Aboriginal Affairs (DAA) officers after they advised Woodside to cease works near JPP due to the risk of site damage (Aboriginal Affairs Manager, Browse LNG Project, Woodside 2011). The SSO advice was applied by the ACMC at the same meeting the song cycle (labelled LSC11 by the reporting DAA officers) was assessed on the 21st of November 2011 (WA Legislative Council 2015b; 2015c). At this meeting, the ACMC determined that LSC11 did not fall within the ambit of the AHA, and was therefore not a site. In a 2013 email from the registrar of Aboriginal sites to Chalk & Fitzgerald lawyers⁴, the justification provided for this decision was that to be ‘sacred’ the site must be devoted to religious use rather than subject to traditional song, story or belief. It was argued the whole song cycle path was not dedicated to religious use and therefore not a site. This is a clear demonstration of how the AHA has been reinterpreted, because the same song cycle was investigated and recorded as being a site to which the AHA applies in 1989 by the WA Museum who at that time administered the AHA (Bradshaw and Fry 1989). Further, the ACMC considered the song cycle path at its meeting in 1991 and recommended it for protection (Novak 1991).
Since November 2012, 23 ‘sacred’ sites on the regulator’s register of Aboriginal sites have been removed, despite having previously qualified for protection under the AHA (Chapple and Collier 2015d). A further 16 sites since November 2012 were determined not to qualify as sacred sites under the AHA, thus not receiving legislative protection (WA Legislative Council 2015e). The deregistration of one of these sites, Marapikurinya Yintha (Port Hedland Port), was subject to a successful Supreme Court challenge by traditional owners in December 2014 (Perpitch and Gartry 2015). In Robinson v Fielding (2015) WASC 108, Justice Chaney found the ACMC had fallen into ‘jurisdictional error’ in its administration of the AHA in their interpretation of the legal definition of an Aboriginal ‘site’. Justice Chaney found that ‘by requiring evidence of specific religious use, the ACMC did not have regard to associated sacred beliefs as the primary consideration as required by s 39(3)’ (2015:40).

Despite the Supreme Court win, there is still much concern regarding the 2014 Bill before parliament. The 2014 Bill has been described by former federal Aboriginal Affairs minister Ian Viner amongst others, as ‘truly offensive; bad legislation and bad administrative practice; and fundamentally destructive of Aboriginal cultural heritage protection...’ (Viner 2015:1). It is argued that the proposed amendments will enshrine in legislation the deleterious administrative practice that is evidenced by recent events, and will increase the political control over heritage matters.

As Aboriginal heritage sites and development continue to come into contact through WA’s mining boom, the AHA has become an instrument of power. The power to define what a site is and thus what is protected is not in the hands of Aboriginal people. Instead this right is held by bureaucrats and government lawyers, who have in the last two and a half years successfully removed Aboriginal significant sites from the heritage register by narrowing the interpretation of ‘sacred site’. Evidence would suggest the reasons for this is to streamline industry by constraining the areas industry must avoid or apply for a permit to destroy. The Supreme Court win has afforded heritage advocates some satisfaction, but sadly demonstrates that constant vigilance and sustained effort is needed to fight against a government actively aiding the destruction of its own cultural heritage.
References


World Archaeological Congress

WAC-8 Kyoto

29 August to 2 September 2016

WAC and the local Organizing Committee of the Eighth World Archaeological Congress invite you to join WAC-8 in Kyoto, a traditional Japanese capital with incredible cultural heritage. WAC-8 will be held at Doshisha University, and will include special symposia such as:

- Disaster archaeology today and for the future
- Post-colonial experiences and archaeology practice
- Digital archaeologies

The call for WAC-8 themes will be made in early 2015, with calls for sessions to follow. WAC will support Indigenous peoples, students, and archaeologists from economically disadvantaged countries to attend.

For more information about WAC, visit: www.worldarchaeologicalcongress.org http://wac8.org/
Editorial Committee

Jordan Ralph, Editor
<jordan.ralph@flinders.edu.au>

Jordan completed a Bachelor of Archaeology (Honours) degree at Flinders University in 2012. The focus of Jordan's Honours research was contemporary graffiti of Jawoyn Country. He is an active member of the archaeological community, serving as a Student Representative for the Australian Archaeological Association and the President of the Flinders University Archaeological Society during 2012, as a member of the World Archaeological Congress Student Committee in 2012 - 2015 and as a member of the Council of the World Archaeological Congress as the Junior Representative for Southeast Asia and the Pacific in 2013 - present. Jordan has considerable experience working with Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory, and has participated in numerous archaeology surveys and recording projects, with a particular focus on rock art and graphic representation. Jordan now works as a field archaeologist at Vallis Heritage Consulting and is a PhD candidate with the Flinders University Department of Archaeology where he is currently researching modern material culture in Aboriginal communities in the Northern Territory.

Catherine Bland, Co-editor
<cblan0087@uni.flinders.edu.au>

Catherine completed her Honours degree in 2012 where she conducted a technological and functional analysis on stone artefacts from the archaeological site of Ngau Nguat (Devon Downs), South Australia. Her current PhD research involves analysing ceramics with elemental and mineralogical techniques in order to explore questions about provenance and technology, which can be used to infer interregional interaction. The archaeological site of Caleta Vitor is the focus of her research and is located in northern Chile, South America. The ceramic record from the site spans the last 2,000 years and thus covers the rise, consolidation and collapse of two Andean cultures - Tiwanaku and Inka. This is a multidisciplinary international project that will provide insight into the ceramic manufacturing process for the site and identify the possible influences that the overarching political states of Tiwanaku and Inka had on the population.

Adrian Mollernan, Co-editor
<mollernan2013@uni.flinders.edu.au>

Adrian completed his Honours degree in 2014 in which he undertook an analysis of Aboriginal fish traps on Yorke Peninsula (Guaranda), South Australia. Adrian's research interests include indigenous archaeology with an emphasis on adopting and promoting collaborative archaeological and community based participatory research approaches (see also interview with Dr Amy Roberts in this edition for a further discussion on ethical considerations that underlie the need for adopting such approaches). His current PhD research continues his collaboration with the Narungga community of Yorke Peninsula (Guaranda) by undertaking a broader investigation of coastal and marine resource use of this community including how the coastal and marine economy developed over time.

Fiona Shanahan, Co-editor
<shanahanf@uni.flinders.edu.au>

Fiona completed an archaeological Honours degree at La Trobe University in 2014. Her thesis deals with the management of World War II aviation sites in Australia and the Marshall Islands. Fiona has presented at a number of international and domestic conferences, including the National Student Archaeology Conference (NASC) and Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology (AIMA) conferences. She has a broad range of fieldwork experience including terrestrial and maritime archaeology throughout Australia. Excavations include the Penitentary in Port Arthur, Oaklands Guard House, Australian Historic Shipwreck Preservation Project (Clarence) in Victoria, a shell midden in Apollo Bay, survey work at Ned's Corner as well as consulting work throughout Victoria, Tasmania and Western Australia.

About Dig It

Dig It is the student-run, peer-reviewed journal of the Flinders Archaeological Society and its purpose is to provide students - including undergraduates, postgraduates and recent graduates - with the opportunity to practice and familiarise themselves with the processes involved in academic publications, including writing, publishing, editing and reviewing. The publication began in 1997 and after a hiatus of at least five years, it was relaunched in 2012. It aims to offer emerging young academics with an avenue to engage with archaeological dialogues and discourse. In addition, it seeks to keep future and junior archaeologists connected and informed about what is happening in the archaeological community.

Dig It is published once a year and is printed at Flinders Press. Dig It considers a range of contributions, including research articles, essays, personal accounts/opinion pieces, book reviews and thesis abstracts for publication. We welcome contributions from local, interstate and international undergraduates, postgraduates and recent graduates. The guidelines for contributors can be found here: http://flindersarchsoc.org/digit/guidelinesforcontributors/.

Dig It is an open access journal. The journal and the individual articles can be freely distributed; however, individual authors and Dig It must always be cited and acknowledged correctly. The intellectual ownership remains with the individual authors. Articles, figures and other content cannot be altered without the prior permission of the author.

Correspondence to the Editor should be addressed to:
The Editor, Dig It c/o ArchSoc
Department of Archaeology
Flinders University
GPO Box 2100
Adelaide, 5001
or email <dig.it@flindersarchsoc.org>

Editor
Jordan Ralph

Co-editors
Catherine Bland, Adrian Mollernan, and Fiona Shanahan

Short contributions editors
Kathleen Gorey and Rose Santilli

Permanent review panel