



# SHAP'23

SYDNEY HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY  
PRACTITIONERS WORKSHOP

PROUDLY PRESENTED BY



artefact



Artefact acknowledges that this event takes place on the stolen lands of the Gadigal People of the Eora Nation. We pay our respect to Elders past and present and take this opportunity to extend that respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Always was, Always will be –  
Aboriginal Land.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF COUNTRY

# PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

8:30am - 9.00am	Arrival: Check in at registration desk
9.00am	Formal Commencement
9.00am - 9.10am	Welcome: <i>Dr Sandra Wallace</i>
9.10am - 9.25am	Welcome to Country: <i>Uncle Allan Murray</i>
9.25am - 9.30am	Housekeeping: MC
9.30am - 10:45am	Session One: New Discoveries
10.45am - 11.15am	Break: Morning Tea
11.15am - 12.30pm	Session Two: New Perspectives
12.30pm - 1.15pm	Break: Lunch
1.15pm - 2.30pm	Session Three: New Technologies
2.30pm - 3.00pm	Break: Afternoon Tea
3.00pm - 4.00pm	Session Four: New Approaches
4.00pm - 4.30pm	Formal Close: MC
4.30pm onwards	Post-workshop social event



# NEW DISCOVERIES

9.30am - 10.45am

**Dead Central: the discovery and management of human remains from the former Devonshire Street Cemetery**

*Dr Iain Stuart (Artefact Heritage) and Georgia Wright (Sydney Metro)*

This presentation very briefly discusses the archaeological program for the new Sydney Metro platforms at Central Station between late 2018 to 2020.

Excavations identified a range of archaeological resources, including the oldest railway turntable in Australia, however, this paper's focus is on the slightly unexpected discovery of graves and vaults left over from the clearing of the Devonshire Street Cemetery in 1901.

While the results provide new evidence about the former Devonshire Street Cemetery and the people buried there; it is the consultation focused approach to the management of the exhumed remains that set a benchmark for archaeological practice in NSW.

The approach provided opportunities for descendants, where they could be identified, to be involved in decision making, to celebrate their family history, and reflect on what the discovery of the remains meant to them more than 100 years after their ancestors had been laid to rest.

**Spatial analysis fieldwork at Glen Lorne: Understanding a 19th and 20th century farmhouse and outbuildings**

*Katherine Douglas (University of Sydney)*

Glen Lorne is a 19th century homestead built on land granted by Governor Lachlan Macquarie in 1823 on the boundary of Campbelltown as part of rural expansion into the broader Appin region.

The homestead underwent significant stages of development during its occupation up until the 1930's. Subsequently, it began a slow decline before being destroyed by fire in 1981 and the site has remained largely untouched to this day.

The Glen Lorne homestead provides a unique opportunity to interpret spatial relationships across the 19th and early 20th centuries at a site that was located on the divide between rural and urban landscapes.

Whilst the site has previously been evaluated for its archaeological and heritage significance, this has been the first opportunity for a thorough assessment of the archaeological remains of the site.

This presentation details fieldwork conducted at Glen Lorne, including the collection of spatial data to produce an accurate understanding of the homestead and outbuildings for evaluation alongside historical aerial imagery, material remains and written accounts.



*Image: Spatial analysis fieldwork at Glen Lorne: Understanding a 19th and 20th century farmhouse and outbuildings. Katherine Douglas (University of Sydney)*



## SESSION ONE

# NEW DISCOVERIES

9.30am - 10.45am

**Water views: An unrecorded 1800s-1810s cottage on the river at Queens Wharf Reserve**

*Sophie Jennings (GML Heritage)*

During May-June 2020, a program of salvage excavation was completed in Queens Wharf Reserve, Parramatta, as part of the Parramatta Light Rail (PLR) project.

The Queens Wharf Reserve area was an important location for the early colonial settlement of Parramatta, containing the first wharf built at Parramatta in the 1790s as well as significant government institutions including the 1808 Grain Store and 1825 Commissariat.

While the excavation uncovered archaeological remains dating from the late eighteenth century through to the early twentieth century, this talk will focus on the early nineteenth century timber cottage. The cottage is unusual in its location beyond the core settlement area at Parramatta and its situation within land reserved for government use raises questions on who lived there and for what purpose.

This talk considers the archaeological evidence of the cottage and its associated material culture, and provides preliminary answers to the questions on when it was built, who lived there and what was their connection (if any) to nearby government institutions.

→ Time for additional questions  
Morning Tea (10.45am - 11.15am)



Image: Water views: An unrecorded 1800s-1810s cottage on the river at Queens Wharf Reserve. Sophie Jennings (GML Heritage)

# NEW PERSPECTIVES

11.15am - 12.30pm

## Bedrock, Boats and Buttons: A tale of two foreshores

*Rhian Jones, Kylie Seretis  
and Holly Winter (Casey & Lowe)*

This presentation focuses on the archaeological excavation of two foreshores (on the north and south sides of Sydney Harbour) as part of the works for the new Sydney Metro network.

As the city expanded beyond the confines of Sydney Cove, the need to navigate 'the finest harbour in the world' led to extensive modification and occupation along the water's edge. The steep rocky foreshore was cleverly incorporated into development on both sides of the harbour at Blues Point and Barangaroo, while the discovery of a timber boat abandoned alongside William Langford's wharf in Darling Harbour gives exciting insight into the types of craft that were made and used in the harbour and beyond in the late 1830s.

Artefacts recovered from both sites show how the immediate maritime industries of the harbour and broader national and international trade influenced the tastes and activities of the people who lived beside the busy waterway.

## Laying the Baselines: 3D recording and conservation of the Barangaroo Boat

*Irini Malliaros and Heather Berry  
(Silent World Foundation)*

During works by Sydney Metro on the new Barangaroo Station, an early 19th century clinker-built boat, constructed entirely of Australian timber species, was found. Following the excavation of the Barangaroo Boat in 2018, detailed 3D recording and conservation of the boat timbers began in October 2019. It is one of the earliest known watercraft from the early colonial period to be fully excavated, lifted, recorded and conserved in Australia.

The timbers were recorded using the newly developed '3D Annotated Scans Method' which uses a combination of image capture using a structured light scanner and an annotation phase of the 3D models using the CAD software, Rhino3D. This project represents the first use of this recording workflow in Australia, and it has provided capacity-building opportunities for the professional Australian heritage community.

The conservation method is a modified polyethylene glycol treatment plan, including a freeze-drying stage, incorporating lessons learned from historic shipwrecks treated in the Northern Hemisphere. Australian archaeological waterlogged timbers have not previously been treated using this methodology on this scale.

Over the last three and a half years, the application of methods developed for the recording and treatment of shipwreck timbers in the Northern Hemisphere, to the Australian context, have yielded valuable results that will serve as the baseline for Australian waterlogged timber artefacts into the future.



## SESSION TWO

# NEW PERSPECTIVES

11.15am - 12.30pm

### To Digitise or Not to Digitise

*Maggie Butcher and  
James Shepherd (Biosis)*

Recording historical archaeology during excavations has been largely limited to paper recording. This is the method that was created when archaeology was first being developed as a discipline, and while some advances have been made, these methods are largely still in use today. Context, photo, plan, test trench, soil and pollen registers; context sheets, Harris matrices, mud maps and trench recording sheets (among others) are all recorded on paper and are associated with common problems such as loss of information, misinterpretation during digitisation and increased time taken in post excavation analysis and reporting.

With advances in technology, is there a way to digitally record all information we are required to? Biosis is developing and trialling a system using an enterprise GIS platform for recording, managing, and analysing historical archaeological data. Information from the last site that Biosis excavated (paper only) has been digitised into the new system to show how the two compare. The presentation will include an overview of the system, its advantages and limitations, and a case study demonstrating its implementation.

→ Time for additional questions  
Lunch (12.30pm - 1.15pm)

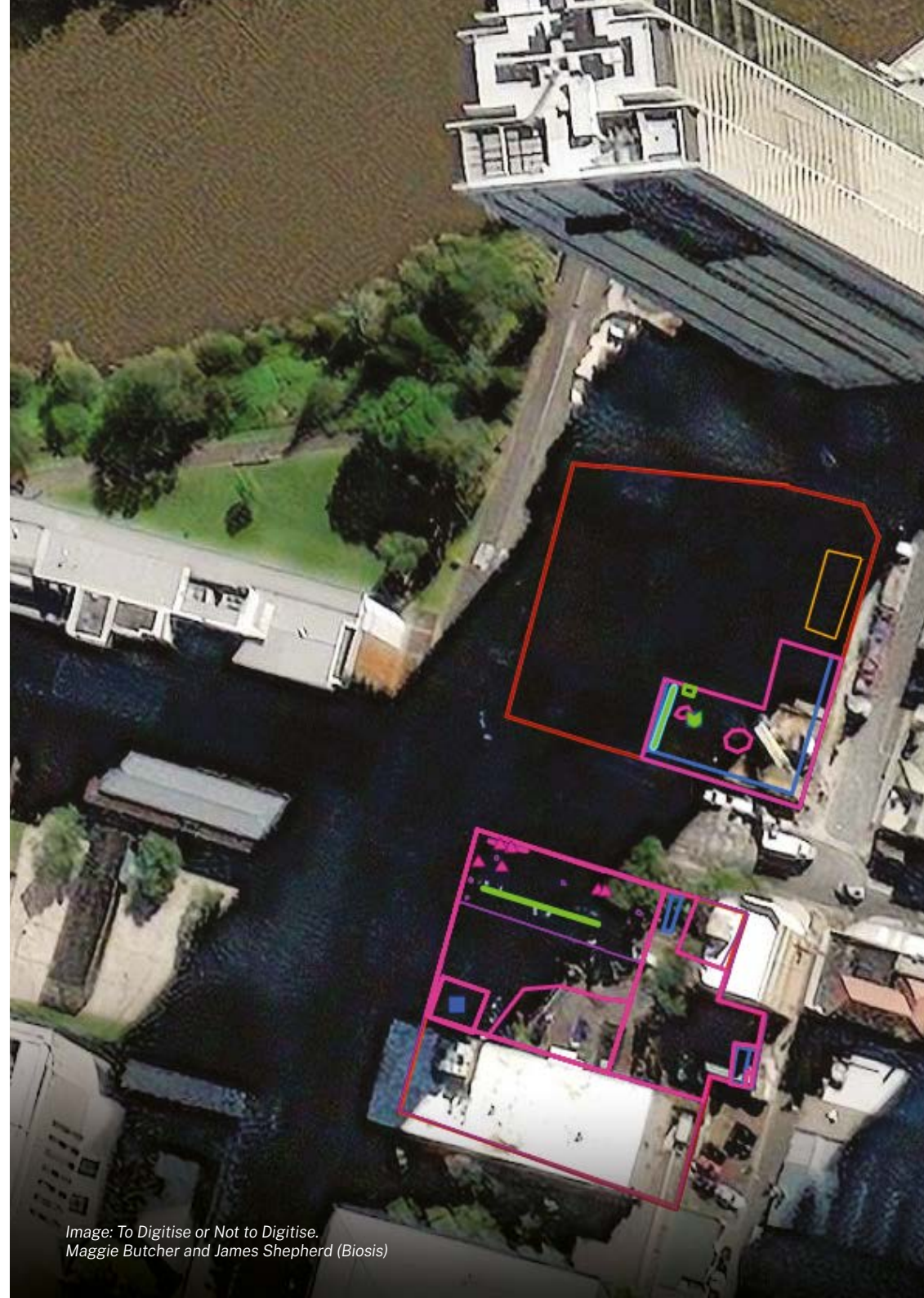


Image: To Digitise or Not to Digitise.  
Maggie Butcher and James Shepherd (Biosis)

# NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND INTERPRETATION OUTCOMES

1.15pm - 2.30pm

Archaeology and digital heritage approaches to excavation at the site of the Liverpool Convict Barracks (Liverpool Public School)

*Brian Shanahan, Graham Wilson, Francesca McMaster and Clare Fitzpatrick (Extent Heritage)*

In 2022 Extent Heritage undertook test excavation at the Liverpool Public School. The site has a long colonial history, beginning in 1822 as the location of the Liverpool Convict Barracks. In the 1830s the convict barracks became the Military Barracks before transitioning to the Police Barracks in the 1850's.

Following demolition of the barracks structure in c.1910 a new Police Station was built in the area, this building burnt down in 1972 and was demolished. The barracks and later police station building formed part of a law-and-order complex with the Liverpool Gaol, also built in 1822, and later Liverpool Courthouse, located to the east of the barracks building. The testing program was designed to test for and to characterise the nature of archaeological remains associated with the state significant convict barracks and subsequent phases of development.

This paper will outline the results of the program of test excavation at the site including a summary of the use of digital recording techniques employed on site and how these techniques have both assisted in post-excavation analysis and offer opportunities for future communication and interpretation of the excavation results to archaeologists and the wider community.

Full steam ahead: Creating new platforms for old stories

*Natalie Vinton and Jody Steele (Curio Projects)*

In close collaboration with Mirvac and our project partners, Curio Projects have delivered an industrial museum which incorporates the natural environment, the existing heritage fabric and extensive movable heritage collection with innovative design and technology amidst a versatile and exciting retail and commercial space.

The delivery of exhibition elements has been staged according to the concurrent development of leased spaces. The key principles implementation of the heritage interpretation were:

- Highlighting the significance of the site, and its surrounds, to the local community, including the Aboriginal community, in consideration of ongoing cultural connection to the site and wider Eveleigh/Redfern area
- Recognising the rights of Aboriginal people to interpret their own cultural heritage and ensuring that the development of interpretative products/devices is undertaken in consultation with the local Aboriginal community

- Ensuring that all relevant and significant phases of the site's history are adequately considered and interpreted
- Conserve, maintain and interpret the heritage significance of the Eveleigh Locomotive Workshop, its machinery collection, and intangible assets & stories
- Ensuring that the design of the interpretation is able to be well-integrated within the final built environment, public domain, and landscaping for the site, so that it compliments and enhances the overall development.

Sustainable re-use of existing materials was a key element in the physical design of interpretive elements. Wherever possible, exhibition furniture incorporates recycled building elements and workshop equipment, furniture, and tools. Many of the original machines and tools used during the operation of the Workshops are on display in situ, interpreted through a combination of interpretive panels, historic photographs and lighting projections which bring movement and life back to the site. This year, the vision has come to fruition!

## SESSION THREE

# NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND INTERPRETATION OUTCOMES

1.15pm -2.30pm

### Re-excavating from the office

*William Andrews  
(Heritage Spatial)*

Photogrammetry and 3D modelling have become standard methods for digital documentation in archaeology worldwide. These techniques have revolutionized the way archaeologists document excavations. Advances in computing power, internet bandwidth, and storage have made it easy to generate and distribute very large 3D models.

Using photogrammetry to document excavations at the end of each context or day provides highly detailed results and allows the model to be viewed as it was excavated, sections can be extracted anywhere across the site and annotations can be added to make the model a database of its own. Generation and combination of models in this way allows for collaboration between team members, retrospective excavation, site refamiliarization, and public outreach. With this in mind and the advancement of 3D GIS, the question arises: should the use of photogrammetry become the norm for excavation documentation?

→ Time for additional questions  
Afternoon Tea (2.30pm -3.00pm)  
NAW bake off winners announced.





# NEW APPROACHES

3.00pm - 4.00pm

## Advances in the Investigation and Management of Underwater Cultural Heritage in Australia

*David Nutley (Comber Consultants, Flinders University)*

Australia has been involved with the ethical investigation of underwater cultural heritage since the 1970s. What originated with a singular focus just on shipwrecks began to expand to aircraft and, slowly at first, to Aboriginal underwater cultural heritage. It was in the 1980s when submerged Aboriginal sites began to be considered – the first being at Lake Jasper in Western Australia in an investigation lead by maritime archaeologist, Graham Henderson, from the Western Australian Maritime Museum.

People across the globe were becoming increasingly aware that shipwrecks and aircraft were not the only forms of cultural heritage that had, by accident, design or through natural sea level changes, become part of the underwater seascape. With the advent of the 2001 UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage, there has been a rapidly increasing focus on the need for and challenges associated with identifying and managing underwater cultural heritage.

In February 2023, the Federal Government's Joint Standing Committee on Treaties held a meeting to consider the merits of ratification of the convention. Its recommendation sets a stage for important developments in this area of archaeological investigation and management of underwater cultural heritage.

This presentation explores and describes the current state of developments in this area and its potential importance, particularly in regard to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander heritage.

## Renewing a sense of purpose for a historical building and for ex-service personnel: Towards the restoration of Australia Hall, Malta

*Andrew Wilkinson (Everick Heritage)*

From the early days of the First World War, it was recognised that activity was an essential component for the recovery of service personnel recovering from injuries sustained during conflict.

In 1915, Australia Hall, Malta, was built as a venue for recreational activities to provide respite from combat. Around 58,000 Anzac troops passed through Malta during WW1, with many from the evacuations of Gallipoli and Salonika campaigns.

Australia Hall is believed to be the only purpose-built construction of its type in Malta during the war.

Following the withdrawal of British governance and Malta's Independence, Australia Hall fell into disrepair and was gutted by fire in 1998, remaining derelict ever since. Past attempts to see the building restored have largely failed to

develop a proper plan for its restoration.

Operation Nightingale was established in the UK in 2011 to "...assist the recovery of wounded, injured and sick military personnel and veterans by getting them involved in archaeological investigations". Its demonstrated success has provided valuable data in developing strategies for archaeological practice for disabled participants, while developing a renewed purpose in life, and avenues for undertaking education and further employment.

Other countries, including Australia, have devised their own programs and it is hoped that the restoration of Australia Hall will provide such an activity, with positive outcomes for veteran recovery and lead to opportunities in heritage and related industries.

This talk discusses the history of the building, and challenges of such a project that hope to see the restoration of a largely unfamiliar piece of Australian History.

# FORMAL CLOSE

4:00pm – 4:30pm

SHAP 2023 would like to take this opportunity to thank all our presenters and attendees – your support ensures the ongoing success of SHAP into the future.

## AMBS Handover

4.00pm - 4.05pm

We'd like to wish all the best to AMBS, who will be hosting next year's event. We can't wait to attend!

## Vale Kevin Hickson

4.05pm - 4.15pm

Artefact takes this moment to extend our condolences to the family, friends, and colleagues of Kevin Hickson. Kevin was a well-loved friend and colleague to many and will be deeply missed.

## ASHA News

4.15pm - 4.25pm

Upcoming ASHA News and Events from ASHA President, Anita Yousif.

## Wrap-up and Close

4:25pm – 4:30pm



# POST EVENT SOCIAL

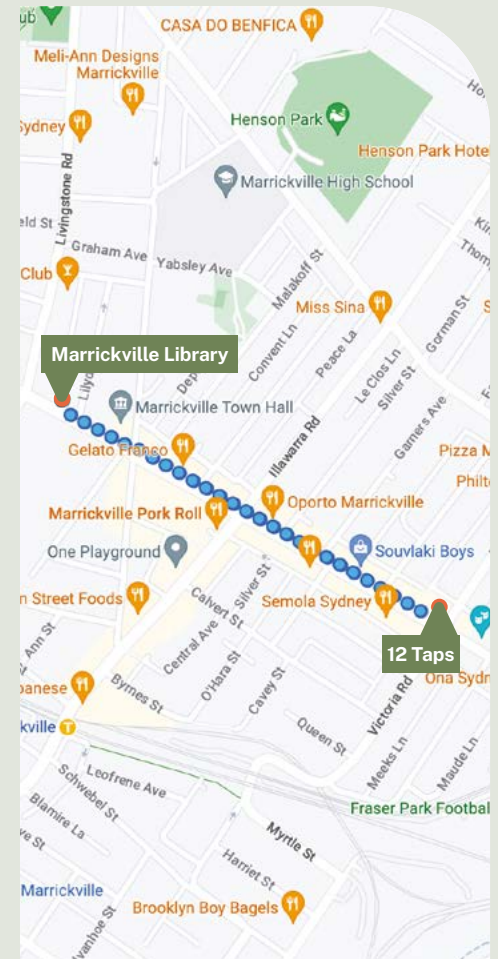
Artefact would like to invite all participants to join us for a drink at 12 Taps, Marrickville after the event.

12 Taps is a 9-minute walk from the Library, directly along Marrickville Road towards Sydenham Station, at the corner of Marrickville and Victoria Roads. Please see the map below for detailed instructions.

The drink ticket provided at registration will provide you one complimentary beverage. All other drinks will be at the cost of participants.

Artefact also advises that there a number of restaurants and bars within walking distance of the venue and the train station, should participants wish to get dinner following the formalised social. Please ask our volunteer team for recommendations!

→ We hope you've enjoyed SHAP 2023 and look forward to seeing you next year!





# SHAP BINGO 2023

Use the circles below as inspiration to make friends with other SHAP attendees. First person to complete their bingo card and present it to the front counter will receive a prize.

Has attended an archaeology conference in the last 12 months

Has excavated  
overseas

Is visiting from  
out of sydney

Has acted as an ED  
or secondary ED

Works at a different heritage consultancy than you

Has  
attended another  
National Archaeology  
Week event

Is a student

Is presenting  
today at SHAP

Has published  
a paper

SHAP  
first-timer

Has been  
a member of a  
heritage organisation  
for more than 5 years

Has participated  
in the NAW bake off

Has attended SHAP before

Is a veteran  
10 or more years  
in archaeology

Has lost a  
trowel in the field

Has undertaken more than 2 weeks of non-stop excavation in the last 12 months

→ Please record the name of the attendee in each circle – you cannot use the same person for more than one circle!

## NOTES

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