

Book Reviews

Annalies Corbin and Matthew Russell (eds) *Historical Archeology of Tourism in Yellowstone National Park*. Springer, New York, 2010; 253 pages; hardcover; ISBN 978-1-4419-1083-7. US\$129.00.

The *Historical Archeology of Tourism in Yellowstone National Park* examines the role of tourism in facilitating historic land use and settlement in Yellowstone, a national park which was created in 1872 and which extends through the U.S. states of Wyoming, Montana, and Idaho. A recurring theme throughout the book is the way the creation and marketing of Yellowstone reflects several key phenomena in the mid-nineteenth century, including the push towards industrialisation; the expansion of railroads into the west; and the increased demand for distinct leisure activities and mass tourism facilitated by the shift to wage labour.

Each section begins with an overview of various theories from the anthropology of tourism, with particular reference to the idea of tourism as a key framework or context from which historical settlement and land use developed. As part of the Society for Historical Archaeology's new *When the Land Meets the Sea* series, it establishes the presence of material culture relating to tourism activities in both marine and terrestrial elements of the park. In doing so, this volume blurs the often firm line drawn between underwater and land-based archaeologies, recognising the fact that human activity is rarely restricted by this divide.

The preface scripted by editors Corbin and Russell effectively illustrates that while the anthropology of tourism has been a field of study for 30 years, this book is the first major contribution to the archaeology of tourism. Since this book was published, the *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* released a special issue focused on the archaeology of tourism (O'Donovan and Carroll 2011), signalling the start of a hopefully fruitful new area of study in historical archaeology.

The book is broken into three long sections. In the first section, 'A Model of Tourism as Context For Historical Sites: An Example of Historical Archeology at Yellowstone', Hunt begins with an interesting consideration of the fraught concept of the 'natural landscape' at Yellowstone. In a discussion that has obvious parallels for the Australian context, Hunt points out that that this supposedly 'untouched' landscape is in fact a result of thousands of years of human history, use and modification. Following a discussion of theoretical approaches to the anthropology of tourism, Hunt proceeds to outline the history of Yellowstone as a national park, breaking it into four phases: Nascence (1872–1882), Transition (1883–1892), Diversification and Expansion (1893–1915), and Transition and Reformation (1916–1942). These phases then form the basis of a systems-based model, in which Hunt combines relevant demographic information about tourists with internal and external factors such as transportation, support, supply, and management to predict where tourism-related archaeological features might be located in the park. He concludes with a discussion of potential archaeological research topics in the park, including the cultural landscape, economics, the tourist system itself, architecture, subsistence, status and ethnicity, and health and sanitation.

The second section, 'Maritime Archeology of Tourism in Yellowstone National Park', aims to examine maritime heritage through the systems-based framework outlined by Hunt in the previous section. The authors, Russell, Murphy, and Bradford, discuss various watercraft and maritime sites

within Yellowstone to try to illustrate how tourism within the park exists as part of the larger, capitalist world-system. Underwater sites within the park are conceptualised as the 'Yellowstone Lake Maritime System', a landscape approach that recognises that sites cannot be understood in isolation, but rather must be explored in their wider context. The authors go on to explore the 'Yellowstone Lake Maritime System' as a representation of post-industrial tourism, itself a by-product of capitalism, and examine how it fits into the larger, interconnected system of nineteenth-century tourism and industrial expansion.

Several watercraft and potential underwater sites within Yellowstone Lake are outlined by the authors in great detail, perhaps to excess for the general reader. Those interested in highly detailed descriptions and images of historic maritime vessels and their construction, however, may find this section useful. The crux of the authors' argument rests on the remains of the E.C. Waters, a wooden-hulled passenger steamer which was built to transport visitors to the park, but which was never used. Using a systems-based framework, the authors show that the E.C. Waters was a victim of changing times, rendered obsolete by the introduction of automobiles to the park.

The final section of this book, 'The Marshall/Firehole Hotel: Archeology in a Thermal River Environment', discusses material culture from the earliest hotel complex established within Yellowstone. The authors, Corbin, Hunt, Valvano, and Harris, begin by outlining the history of accommodation and the hotel site, emphasizing the fact that until 1891 the Marshall/Firehole Hotel, a notably rugged place, was the only accommodation within the park. In this context, the authors explore the material culture recovered from the thermal stream adjacent to the hotel site in terms of theories about colonial frontiers.

One particularly notable thing about this volume is the fact that most archaeological work at Yellowstone has been driven by the need for salvage before construction or following natural disasters, mirroring most of the work done by field archaeologists with consulting companies worldwide. Without any major research-driven projects, the authors of this book have sought to link mostly salvage-oriented data with major anthropological and economic theories, and so encourage other heritage professionals to do the same. This is unquestionably an important aim, particularly given the large number of historical archaeological salvage operations conducted in the U.S. (and Australia), but there were a few flaws in the final product.

While the authors clearly address several anthropological theories, they struggle to convincingly integrate these with the archaeological data or wider discussion and, resultantly, the final interpretation of the archaeological data can sometimes come as a bit of a surprise. In the second and third papers, the theoretical components are rather overwhelmed by the sheer weight of descriptive detail, unfortunately giving the impression that they have been 'tacked on' to the end. It may be the papers were in need of more judicious editing, or perhaps that they needed to be split into two parts; one descriptive and one analytical. While the final conclusions were unquestionably interesting and thought-provoking, it just took a bit too long to get there.

The first paper, in which Hunt sets up his systems-based framework, is more successful in its attempt to integrate salvage data into a broader research framework, but the resulting systems-based approach seems a little narrow, failing to engage the deeper issues of class, industrialization and

labour he begins with. It is still, however, something potentially useful for heritage management and planning.

Despite these failings, however, this book does contain a great deal of interest, both in terms of detailed descriptions of the material culture of tourism, and the clear explication of theories related to the topic. While it does not seem to fully integrate the two strands, it does provide a useful sourcebook for both, and so will be informative for archaeologists at any point in their career. Overall, I found this to be an interesting book that brought a lot of new, useful ideas to the archaeology of tourism.

REFERENCE

O'DONOVAN, M. and L. CARROLL 2011 'Going Places: The Archaeology of Travel and Tourism', *International Journal of Historical Archaeology* 15:191-193.

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Sherene Baugher and Suzanne M. Spencer-Wood (eds)
Archaeology and Preservation of Gendered Landscapes,
Springer, New York, 2010; 275 pages; hardcover; ISBN
978-1-4419-1500-9. US\$129.00.

This edited volume examining gendered landscapes and their preservation provides an interesting collection of papers with a range of examples drawn from North America. The editors have sought to 'present new perspectives on gendered cultural landscapes by expanding the analysis of power dynamics involved in altering cultural landscapes' (p. 4). Fifteen researchers from a range of institutions present several different perspectives on landscapes, the process and/or manifestation of gendering in those landscapes, and issues for preservation.

The volume is divided into five sections – Native American landscapes, African-American landscapes, multi-ethnic landscapes, religious landscapes and industrial landscapes. It traverses a diverse range of landscape types and scales, from relatively poorly-preserved Native American Haudenosaunee landscapes to extant heritage buildings, and raises an array of issues related to the analysis, interpretation and preservation of these varied landscapes. The volume concludes with a strongly argued critique of feminist frameworks for the analysis of power and gender by co-editor Spencer-Wood.

The papers presented provide a variety of examples of the way in which gender differences, similarities and interactions can be understood. Although Voss (2006:108) suggests that archaeologists have struggled to come to grips with the study of gender in the archaeological record, this volume clearly addresses the manner in which women and men use, interact with, and leave traces on the landscape, and the analyses lead to some interesting discussions. The authors focus primarily on ideas about differences and divisions in spatial use, spheres of influence, and in the type of interactions in the landscape related to gender. The challenges and debate that surround the gendering of landscapes unfortunately receive less attention, and are not really addressed beyond the introductory and concluding chapters.

Power in landscapes is a common theme in many chapters, reflecting the stated intention of the editors. In Chapter 8, Baugher examines the predominantly male landscape of Snug

Harbor [sic], showing that despite the overwhelming ascendancy of men in the landscape – from the powerful director to the humblest sailor – women had a clear presence in the complex and some agency in the use of space. Baugher argues though that, in the end, both genders occupied a landscape dominated by hierarchical power relations.

In contrast, Spencer-Wood's examination of gendered power in the Jewish communities of Boston (Chapter 9) demonstrates a more equitable distribution of power. This is articulated by Spencer-Wood as a 'power with' and a 'power to' that is accessed and exercised by many community members, especially women. Though these communities are generally regarded by outsiders as homogenous, Spencer-Wood shows how differences in material expression, the distribution of places of worship, and functioning of aid networks actually reflects internal ethnic diversity.

Delle and Levine provide another consideration of power in the landscape in their examination of several women in post-bellum Lancaster, Pennsylvania (Chapter 6). In this paper, the authors show how women used property as a means of economic power to not only improve their own and their families' lot in life, but also to provide safe haven on the underground railway, assisting runaway slaves to move to relative safety and freedom in the north.

Another major theme in the volume is that of resistance through the adoption of liminal spaces and subversive action, and it is one that has particular resonance with the actions of Aboriginal and Chinese communities in Australia. Greenwood's work on the Chinese fishing communities in California (Chapter 12), for example, uses one man's story to demonstrate the changing interactions of ethnic minorities in the landscape, while in Chapter 4, Battle-Baptiste provides a thought-provoking analysis of the use of space by slaves in a plantation landscape. She most particularly addresses the dooryards of domestic areas to illustrate the subversive practices of culture in the most innocuous of activities – sweeping.

In another approach that examines the spatial arrangements of everyday routines, Sydoriak Allen (Chapter 3) considers Native American Haudenosaunee landscapes and longhouses from the Cayuga region of upstate New York. She investigates both temporal and spatial patterning to show that domestic tasks, viewed largely as being carried out by women, do have spatial elements but that these spaces are not exclusive of male activities. Haudenosaunee longhouses are presented as 'multifunctional, adaptable unit of residence where alternative gendered activities are carried out in different spaces depending on need' (p. 71).

In Chapter 5, McBride examines everyday domestic activities in a very different context – that of military camps. The analysis of an undocumented and largely unacknowledged camp for the families of African-American soldiers in the Civil War sheds light not only on the story of this particular camp, but also the practices, occupations and spatial organisation of these settlements found at the periphery.

Changes to the gendered domestic landscapes of followers of the Shaker belief system are seen in the archaeological analyses of both McBride (Chapter 11) and Starbuck and Dennis (Chapter 10). Shaker towns like Canterbury and Pleasant Hill in New Hampshire have generally been viewed as having highly gendered spaces and roles, but the work of these authors demonstrates far more nuanced and less conforming landscapes, landscapes that shifted with changing demographics and resultant pressures on the communities. In these studies, archaeology has been able to reveal a flexibility around Shaker divisions of labour and spaces associated with highly gendered activities (such as laundry), which is absent in the historical record.

In this volume, authors not only consider landscapes across a range of scales, but also present different ideas about using, understanding and being-in landscape. Delle and Levin, for example, use a contextual examination of the landscape at a household scale to show the changing urban landscape and residential history of 'the women of Vine Street' (p. 119). In contrast, in Chapter 2, Venables examines not only the Haudenosaunee longhouse and settlement but the landscape beyond to illuminate the gendered landscape between the 'clearing' and the 'Woods'. She illustrates the inextricable link between the Haudenosaunee identity, their belief system and their living-in, and movement through, the landscape. In Chapter 7, Sunseri examines the differences in the conflict landscape of colonial New Mexico, identifying the influences of power, ethnicity, gender, and violence in the construction and operation of the landscape, where indigenous *genízaro* women and men occupied buffer settlements on a contested frontier.

For a number of the case studies in the book, encroaching twenty-first century land use has eroded the landscape and preservation has therefore been a pressing and important challenge. In considering the extended Haudenosaunee landscape (Chapter 3), Sydoriak Allen makes some interesting points about the preservation of this relatively concealed landscape, showing that early recognition of the significance of villages, together with intent of land owners, was critical to the preservation (and subsequent investigation) of the landscape. However, she also noted that the early marking of these 'sites' has also made them the target of *ad hoc* surface collection and pit digging by collectors looking for artefacts.

Urban landscapes in particular present challenges of preservation around over-building and urban renewal, while rural townships and extended farming and mining landscapes share challenges of dilapidation. Culturally significant mining and agricultural landscapes are further threatened by potential re-use. Examinations by Hardesty (Chapter 13) and Metheny (Chapter 14) particularly address the challenges of preserving the landscapes of mining towns. Metheny contrasts the social values that drive the preservation of cultural heritage with the conflicting economic impetus to mine. Hardesty addresses the other challenge, that of the cost and difficulty of preserving the entirety of a widespread landscape. This kind of debate clearly shows that challenges such as articulating the significance of an extended landscape are important in enabling and justifying the preservation of those landscapes.

This volume provides a complex set of ideas, and presents a fascinating array of case studies which allow readers to explore a number of different views of gender. Influenced by the editors' views, the role of power in the landscape is seen as both cooperative and hierarchical (p. 5). The discussion of gender power dynamics, however, is largely practice-oriented rather than dialectically engaged with landscapes. To me, this touches on a shortcoming of this volume – that the view of landscape is sometimes rather simplified. In many cases, landscapes are regarded merely as the stage for performance (Patterson 2008: 77), the setting of gendered activities, or the backdrop of power dynamics, while the archaeological evidence is seen as a spatial scattering rather than a more intimately bound experience and engagement with place and space. If there is one other issue with the volume, it is that it attempts to do too much. The examination of gender and power in the landscape, or the challenge of preserving landscapes of cultural significance would both ably stand alone in an edited volume. Incorporating both here makes the volume seem somewhat disjointed.

Overall however, the variety of case studies presented make this book a worthwhile addition to the libraries of archaeologists interested in the application of themes of power

and gender to archaeological interpretations. The value of this volume lies particularly in the integration of gender and landscape, providing a valuable focus that argues for more nuanced considerations of landscape, engaging with ideas such as gender, class, power, and ethnicity.

REFERENCES

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Ben Ford (ed) *The Archaeology of Maritime Landscapes*. Springer, New York, 2011; 352 pages, 34 illustrations; hardcover; ISBN 978-1-4419-8209-4. US\$129.

When Christer Westerdahl's 1992 article 'The Maritime Cultural Landscape' appeared in the *International Journal of Nautical Archaeology*, it initiated a paradigm shift within the discipline of maritime archaeology that has persisted to the present day. Westerdahl recognised that aspects of a given landscape, whether cultural, political, environmental, technological or physical in scope, are interrelated and therefore cannot be understood unless analysed and interpreted relative to one another. He applied this concept to maritime landscapes, placing particular emphasis on the interpretive potential of archaeological sites to explicate the relationship between human beings and the sea. In Westerdahl's view, these sites, whether prehistoric or historic, terrestrial or submerged, could be assessed holistically within a cultural landscape framework to illuminate and integrate a variety of broad-based maritime themes, including habitation, resource procurement, industry, and warfare.

A significant aspect of Westerdahl's work was that it prompted maritime archaeologists to move beyond purely underwater, predominantly shipwreck-based studies and consider other aspects of historic and prehistoric maritime culture, including land-based coastal infrastructure and communities; inland areas connected to the sea via trade, defence, and other activities; and even immaterial aspects of human activity such as folklore. Westerdahl's ideas also inspired archaeologists from both 'terrestrial' and 'maritime' backgrounds to tackle the maritime cultural landscape concept and contribute – directly or indirectly – to its methodological and theoretical development. In many cases, these scholars forged beneficial alliances with specialists from other disciplines (such as geography), thereby introducing an interdisciplinary approach to the analysis and interpretation of the maritime past. Ultimately, all of this has served to better integrate maritime-based studies within the larger discipline of archaeology – and the broader scope of the humanities and

social sciences – while simultaneously promoting maritime archaeology's intellectual growth.

The Archaeology of Maritime Landscapes is a compilation of 19 essays penned by individuals from a variety of professional backgrounds, including academia, the consulting industry, government agencies and research institutions. Most hail from the United States, with a handful of others based within the United Kingdom, Australia, Canada and Norway. The level of expertise represented by the book's contributors ranges from established scholars to early-career professionals; this in turn imbues the book with a diverse but balanced array of experience and innovation. Its chapters feature archaeological research at sites that range from the Palaeolithic to the modern era, and span a geographic area that includes North and Central America, the Caribbean, Europe, and Australia.

In his introduction, editor Ben Ford provides a brief overview of the application of cultural landscape studies in archaeology and maritime archaeology, and emphasises its utility in creating a 'balanced approach to the past' through its integration of 'multi-vocal' data such as oral history, archival documents, and the archaeological record (p. 3). He also considers how the use of landscape studies within maritime archaeology has expanded beyond Westerdahl's original concept(s) to include the notion of 'seascape', or those factors – including stars, currents, winds and the presence of seabirds – that enabled individuals at sea to determine their location when out of sight of land. The introduction concludes with a discussion of the broader goal(s) of the book. Ford notes that its main point is not to present the study of maritime landscapes as a unified field, but rather a conceptual starting point from which the contributing authors have diverged to explore a variety of themes. Despite the breadth and scope of topics addressed in the volume, Ford seems somewhat disappointed that he could not add more to it, describing what the reader holds in their hands as a mere 'sample' of what currently exists in the realm of maritime landscape research and scholarship (p. 6).

The chapters that follow are initially arranged roughly along chronological lines. The first three address the investigation of North American prehistoric indigenous landscapes in the Northern Channel Islands (California), Glacial Lake Iroquois (New York) and northeastern Lake Ontario. The primary thrust of these research projects has been to develop predictive models for Paleoindian migration, habitation and other cultural activities in submerged coastal (i.e. maritime) zones through the use of varying methodologies, including remote sensing and diver surveys, material culture studies, and analyses of bathymetric data and geological processes. Although preliminary, the results outlined in these chapters make a persuasive argument for the research potential of submerged prehistoric landscapes, as well as the utility of cultural landscape concepts in their discovery, identification and interpretation.

Chapters 4 and 5 assess the maritime landscapes of two regions in the North American Great Lakes: northeastern Lake Ontario (which forms part of the border between Canada and the United States) and Thunder Bay (located within Lake Huron on Michigan's Lower Peninsula). Both bodies of water have been occupied by humans since the Paleoindian period, and were perceived for centuries as both cognitive 'barriers and avenues' to a wide array of prehistoric and historic cultural activities, including sustenance, transport, and commerce (p. 81). Building on this theme, the two chapters address culture contact between indigenous populations and Europeans in North America during the sixteenth, seventeenth, and eighteenth centuries. The first considers data recovered from terrestrial and submerged archaeological sites at Hare Harbor, Quebec to reconstruct the area's transition

from a predominantly indigenous (Inuit) cultural landscape to one alternately shared with, or dominated by, visiting European whalers and cod fishermen. The second examines how geologic landscape change within the 'pond region' of coastal Rhode Island facilitated the creation of a maritime cultural landscape, and later influenced settlement and other use activities of its prehistoric and contact-period inhabitants.

At this point, the book's chapters seem to shift from a chronological arrangement to one based on geographic location, as the next six contributions focus on maritime cultural landscape studies around, or within, the waters of the Gulf of Mexico and circum-Caribbean. A discussion of post-contact period sites at Old Navy Cove and Deadman's Island in Pensacola, Florida (Chapter 8) is immediately followed by an assessment of the potential for submerged prehistoric landscapes and archaeological sites in the northwestern Gulf of Mexico (Chapter 9). The focus then shifts back to the historic period to address the maritime culture of the port city of Galveston, Texas, (Chapter 10) before going on to explore pre- and post-contact maritime activities associated with the Maya (Chapter 11). The emphasis on the Gulf and circum-Caribbean regions concludes with two chapters. The first, (Chapter 12) is an assessment of maritime subcultures and identity at a logwood cutter settlement in the Barcadares, Belize and two sugar production centres on the island of Nevis. The second, (Chapter 13) examines the maritime cultural landscape of the mouth of the Río Chagres (Panama), placing particular emphasis on its role as a strategic waterway since the sixteenth century.

The geographic focus shifts again in Chapters 14 and 15 to highlight maritime cultural landscape studies in Australia. The first addresses the significance of 'place' in the 'land-culture nexus' through an evaluation of American sealing and shipbuilding activities on Kangaroo Island, South Australia during the early nineteenth century (p. 261). As a consequence of their presence, American sealers created cultural identity and meaning in the form of specific place names (i.e. Independence Point and the town of American River), local lore, and commemorative monuments that persist to this day. The second chapter utilises a variety of sources, including oral histories, folklore, toponymy and the archaeological record, to explore the social history of fishing in the coastal community of Queenscliff, Victoria.

The book's concluding chapters emphasise past, present and future directions in the theoretical development and application of maritime cultural landscape studies. The first (Chapter 16) is authored by Christer Westerdahl and explores his past and current hypotheses regarding 'human cognition at the sea and at the shore' by highlighting his decades-long study of the belief systems and lifeways of maritime societies in northern Europe from prehistoric times to the modern era (p. 291). Joe Flatman's contribution (Chapter 17) considers Westerdahl's original concepts – and a number of interrelated themes that have subsequently developed from them – to consider issues of tangible versus intangible heritage and the presence of human agency in the creation of both past and present maritime cultural landscapes. In the final chapter (Chapter 18), Westerdahl returns to summarise and remark upon the book's preceding sections, revisit the maritime landscape paradigm, and propose avenues for its future growth and development.

For the most part, *The Archaeology of Maritime Landscapes* is well written and the content of each of its chapters seamlessly integrated with the other sections. One notable exception is the aforementioned organisational shift that occurs between Chapters 7 and 8. This apparent move from a temporal to geographic emphasis – and the frequent chronological shifts that occur in its wake – proved confusing

to this reader and disruptive to the narrative's overall arrangement and flow. Unfortunately, the disruption is only exacerbated by a number of spelling and grammatical errors scattered throughout the text. The volume features several illustrations, and the majority complement their respective chapters well, although it should also be noted that some – including those depicting decorated ceramic artefacts or survey maps with colour codes – would perhaps have been more effective if they had been printed in colour.

Despite these relatively minor issues, *The Archaeology of Maritime Landscapes* is an engaging, informative, and long-overdue contribution to archaeological literature and scholarship. As the discipline's inaugural academic compendium of maritime landscape-themed studies, this volume is a useful reference for first-year students and established scholars alike. Given its wide geographic and temporal scope, it is also fair to say that all professional maritime archaeologists, no matter what their theoretical or methodological inclinations, will benefit tremendously from reading its contents.

REFERENCE

WESTERDAHL, C. 1992 'The Maritime Cultural Landscape', *The International Journal of Nautical Archaeology* 21(1):5-14.

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Susan Lawrence and Peter Davies, *An Archaeology of Australia Since 1788*. Springer, New York, 2011; 421 pages; hardback; ISBN 978-1-4419-7484-6. US\$129.00.

Australian historical archaeology is a particularising discipline, consisting of the results of a very large number of field or laboratory investigations. The research focus of these is often narrow, whether they have a primary academic purpose or one that is partly motivated by the more pragmatic demands of commercial archaeology. As a result, it is often difficult for students of the discipline and, indeed, for many of its professionals, to 'see the wood for the trees'. This means that any monographic synthesis is of great importance, providing an overview of past research and a pointer for future endeavours. The book reviewed here is such a synthesis, the first in 23 years and, arguably, only the second such book to be published. It therefore deserves the very closest attention by anyone seriously involved in Australian historical archaeology.

Attempting to write an archaeology of Australia since 1788 is a daunting task that inevitably raises problems of what to include and what to exclude. This is mainly decided by the structure of a book and there are, perhaps, two main ways of structuring such a synthesis. The first is to discuss major themes or ideas, drawing on selected studies to illustrate the overall argument. The second is to construct a mosaic of published and other available sources, to a great extent allowing the literature to determine the shape and limits of the book. The former approach might prove a severe test of writing skills but, if successful, can reach a wide readership both within and outside the discipline area. The latter approach will demand a detailed knowledge of a massive amount of data and will produce a specialised text for a readership largely confined to the discipline, in practice it will

result in a textbook. Although attempts are sometimes made to combine the two approaches, they are rarely successful. The book reviewed here is unashamedly a textbook and it is a good one. Witness its reference list that is 44 pages of closely set small print and its index of 17 pages. Historical archaeology students be warned: this is a book that you cannot afford to ignore!

The book consists of 13 chapters, commencing with an Introduction that is apparently aimed at American and other overseas readers. Chapter 2 considers the archaeology of convictism and Chapter 3 post-contact Aboriginal archaeology. The next two chapters discuss the related subjects of shipwrecks and maritime trade, in Chapter 4, and sealing, whaling and maritime industries, in Chapter 5. The archaeology of pastoralism and agriculture is examined in Chapter 6 and that of gold rushes and precious metals in Chapter 7. The book then moves on to manufacturing and processing in Chapter 8 and to migration and ethnicity in Chapter 9. Urban archaeology is dealt with in Chapter 10 and the archaeology of daily life in Chapter 11. The book ends with a discussion of the archaeology of death, in Chapter 12, and of the twentieth century and beyond in Chapter 13 (although the stated end-point of the book is 1945). The organisation of these subjects is well handled and in general the writing is clear. This is in spite of heavy in-text Harvard referencing that in places impedes continuity.

Explicitly, the book emphasises social themes 'such as gender, status, ethnicity and identity' (p. 2), repeatedly demonstrating the ways in which archaeological evidence can contribute to our knowledge and understanding of these matters. Inevitably, this occasionally results in content that borders on the esoteric, such as pages 223–226, and in the use of specialised terms without enough explanation. It is to be hoped that the increasingly sociological orientation of much of Australian historical archaeology will not ultimately result in the obscurantism sometimes found in social anthropology. Furthermore, there is a danger of naivety in the interpretation of the circumstantial evidence that most commonly results from archaeological investigations. These remarks are not a criticism of the book but a comment on the present state of parts of the discipline as reflected in the book.

One could go further and ask what direction Australian historical archaeology might take in the next few decades. Perhaps this will be to contribute far more to environmental studies than has yet been the case, although this book does touch on some of the relevant issues. Historical archaeology has the opportunity to conduct investigations of major relevance to Australian society as it faces the challenges of the future. These could include analysis through time of such subjects as water-use, droughts, floods, erosion, siltation and changes of watercourses, salinity, pollutants, tree loss, bushfires, exotic fauna and flora, feral animals, and probably other topics. Such an orientation would require a greater emphasis on science in the training of archaeologists than the traditional inclusion of archaeology amongst the humanities has permitted, but there are signs that this is already beginning to happen. Hopefully, historical archaeology will eventually become something more than an adjunct to historical studies.

Finally, the production of this book merits some comment. In general, its quality is high: typographic errors are rare and illustration quality, with a few exceptions, is good. It was unnecessary, however, to have a five-page list of figures at the front of the book consisting of the captions for each figure in the text, rather than of abbreviated captions as is usually done. There is also the problem of this book's price. It seems to have been published only in hardback, and a bullet-proof hardback at that, resulting in a retail price of US\$129.00. Although the volume is available at a slightly lower price through a number

of online retailers, the cost could limit the extent to which the book will be read, and that will be a tragedy. It is unfortunate that an Australian publisher did not produce the book in paperback, in Australia. Nevertheless, gratitude is due to Susan Lawrence and Peter Davies for a book that will remain a benchmark of the state of the discipline at the end of the first decade of the second millennium. Without doubt, it is a remarkable achievement.

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