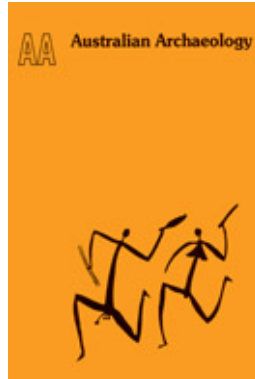


Australian Archaeology



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A RESOURCE MANUAL FOR ARCHAEOLOGISTS
REQUEST FOR HELP

As more and more archaeologists work away from universities, e.g. doing contract work, often outside their own State or region, the old network of information being spread by word of mouth is inadequate. A resource manual should be helpful during both planning and analysis stages. But we can only get it going by asking anybody who has been involved in archaeological work to be generous and share their specialists, and by asking anybody with specialist knowledge to volunteer to be included in the manual.

Please give me the name and address of anybody, professional or amateur, who is good at and interested in identifying or studying materials and aspects outside the normal experience of field archaeologists, e.g. fish bones, shells, soils, pottery, china, glass bottles, buttons, pipes, metal artefacts, obsolete machinery, in fact anything that could be found during an archaeological survey or excavation in Australia and perhaps not even mentioned in the final report because the finder could not identify it and knew of nobody who could. I know that this happens more often than we would like to think and believe that some important information is lost this way.

I would also like information about special collections that can be used for comparative purposes, be they in major institutions, in small museums or private. What does the collection contain, where is it, whom does one contact and is access restricted?

I will write to those suggested to get permission to list their names and to get details about what they can do and are willing to do, e.g. conditions relating to area, sample size, time, payment etc.

The aim is to produce one or more booklets (depending on the amount of information we get together) as cheaply as possible and to keep updating the manual.

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