

I. Editorial

This edition has a distinctly Latin American flavour. Apart from the impressive array of recent publications that are regularly advised by Daniel Schávelzon, there is a long paper on the history of archaeology in Brazil and a transcript of an interview with Emeritus Professor Warwick Bray undertaken by Pamela Jane Smith. Many of the themes canvassed in our lead paper on archaeology as ‘colonial discourse’ carry over to the discussion about Brazilian archaeology, and it is a welcome sign that historians of archaeology have begun to build on the earlier insights of Trigger and others (especially those engaged in the debate about ‘who owns the past’ that occurred during the ’80s and ’90s). Of course many of the perspectives now more widely discussed by archaeologists have long been considered by historians and sociologists following the work of Said, Chakrabarti and Bernal and it is vital that historians of archaeology focus on what is distinctive about archaeology within the broader framework of postcolonial discourse.

Naturally we continue to publish contributions to our regular sections – bibliographies, book reviews, conference reports and announcements, and notifications of new books. To this end I draw attention to the publication of the 2nd edition of Bruce Trigger’s *A History of Archaeological Thought* (2006). I hope to publish a review of this important work in an upcoming edition. We also continue to note the passing of our colleagues and it is with sadness that I publish news of so many in this edition.

As readers will be aware the BHA is not a full-time activity and the small editorial team (many thanks to Wei Ming, Susan Bridekirk and our loyal band of referees for their sterling work in 2006) try to squeeze this in amongst all our other responsibilities. Mistakes do happen and I am sincerely sorry about this. Our latest was to publish a penultimate version of Dave Browman’s contribution to 16(1). Apologies for this oversight and we will strive to make sure it does not happen again.

On a happier note I can report that subscriptions continue to rise, and that the *BHA* is becoming more visible. Please continue to bring us to the attention of your colleagues (and as important, the libraries of their universities). Communication is vitally important to the growth of our field and I am delighted to advise you of an initiative by Dr Ulrike Sommer (Institute of Archaeology, UCL) in establishing a yahoo discussion group on the history of archaeology. Those interested should contact Ulrike direct (u.sommer@ucl.ac.uk). Continuing with the link to UCL, I am also delighted to announce that Ulrike and I are organizing a 1 day meeting on the history of archaeology on the 15th February 2007 to be held at the Institute. Our theme will be: ‘Locality and place in the history of archaeology’. Please contact either of us if you are interested in attending.

Tim Murray