

VIII. Doctoral dissertations

From **Megan Price**, Oxford University:

Town and Gown: Amateur and Academic Oxford 1850–1900

*The foundation of the discipline of British Prehistoric Archaeology OR
‘The professionalization of a pastime’*

Between 1850 and the end of the nineteenth century, British archaeology started to develop as a separate academic discipline, detaching itself from its earlier antiquarian ancestry. At this time social and intellectual relationships between amateurs and professionals were crucial. Many individuals became enmeshed in shifting scientific and ideological beliefs as the impact of evolutionary thought permeated both academic and public opinions. Using evidence from the City and University of Oxford, my thesis focuses on the formal and informal links that existed between amateurs and professionals of both ‘town and gown’. I evaluate the contributions made to the study of British prehistory by those who were to become nationally and internationally known archaeologists, such as Arthur Evans (1851–1941), and neglected enthusiasts such as H. M. J. Underhill (1855–1920), whose work has yet to be fully examined and appreciated.

Chapter 1: Approaches to the Historiography of Archaeology

Chapter 2: Victorian Britain 1850–1870 Science, Society and Religion

Chapter 3: Nineteenth Century Oxford: Social, Cultural, and Intellectual Issues

Chapter 4: Oxford: Intellectual/Scientific Societies ‘Gentlemen and Players’

Chapter 5: The Social, Intellectual and Philosophical World of Henry Underhill 1855–1920

Chapter 6: The Underhill Collection: From Druids to Details

Chapter 7: Prehistoric Archaeology at Oxford

Chapter 8: Conclusion

Appendix I

The Underhill Collection of lanternslides-prehistory and Roman Britain. Timeline for Henry Underhill.

Appendix II

Bibliographies of nineteenth century gentlemen and players (approximately 50). Timelines and charts for events in Oxford 1850–1900. Map of Oxford showing position of University property and residences of gentlemen and players.

From **Hilary Soderland**, Cambridge University:

A Century of Values Reflected in the Evolving Concept of Heritage:

United States federal archaeology law and Native American heritage from 1906 to the present

While the discipline of archaeology centers on the material remains of the past, the construction of that past is interpreted in the ever-changing present. That construction

intrinsically is influenced by contemporary social, political, cultural, and ethical mores. The meaning and inferences ascribed to the archaeological record also have been shaped profoundly by law; however, legal historical inquiry within the discourse of archaeology is far from the traditional course of study.

My dissertation utilizes a diachronic framework to illustrate the impact of law on archaeology in order to assess how the historiography of archaeology law demonstrates the evolution in heritage, as to what warrants protection, who has legal standing to participate in that determination, and how that past is accorded a place in history. The interplay between this temporal framework and among the dialectic of legislation, its implementation, and contemporaneous values not only elucidates the course that the concept of heritage has taken to reach its present status but also facilitates an understanding of the changing complex relationship between the federal government and Native Americans.

It has been almost a century since law in the United States has regulated relics of the past. Federal legislation is examined through case studies representing significant legislation from 1906 to the present. The archives of the United States Government serve as the textual record for the history of those laws and provide the foundation for the construction of their legislative histories. Legislative histories are crucial instruments in the temporal contextualization of law, capturing the influences of contemporary values on law. The examination of case studies reveals the shift in the balance of power that determines authority over the past and how particular subjects are positioned within historical representation. Moreover, such an interdisciplinary approach historicizes archaeology and provides the means to trace the effect of heritage law that defines how archaeology is characterized today – transformed from a discipline focused on objects to one focused on cultures.

IX. Upcoming conferences

From Margarita Diaz-Andreu:

HISTORY OF ARCHAEOLOGY: THE DURHAM PERSPECTIVE

Workshop 17 May 2006

Venue: Birley room (room #205 in the Archaeology Department)
(map of Durham University on www.dur.ac.uk/map)

Time: from 2.15 pm to 6 pm

The Department of Archaeology supports an active and varied range of staff with innovative research projects on the history of archaeology. The aim of this workshop is to highlight some of the major proposals put forward by members of this group.

Programme:

2.15 pm Introduction – Margarita Díaz-Andreu and Lois Armada

Part I – Chairman: Chris Scarre

2.20 pm Anne O'Connor, "Interdisciplinary Histories of Science and Intellectual Networks: