

northern Australia, and part reflection about the business of making historical archaeology, this book breaks new ground in some important directions. Among its many attractive aspects (not least of which are some sly observations and some excellent writing) the most appealing is that it is a book about self and about archaeology which does not diminish either. Schrire's personal journey, unlike the vapid posturing we have been getting used to, is interesting and consequential. Part of the reason for this is that Schrire can write, but the most important reason is that she clearly understands that by exploring her own history in South Africa and in Australia, she develops a richer understanding of the process and meaning of colonialism which we all can share.

This great theme is developed at a number of levels and through the articulation of the traditional databases of the historical archaeologist place, artefacts, written documents, oral histories, and ethnohistories. Schrire knows this material well and her history of the Dutch East India Company (VOC) is full of sharp asides and amusing anecdotes. She also appreciates the human face of the late 17th century world economy with the poor of northern Europe leaving their bones in Africa and places as far East as the Arafura Sea. Schrire also writes powerfully about the Khoikhoi and of the consequences of contact for women such as Eva. Part fiction and fact, Eva's story humanises the reality of contact in a way which does much more than give empowering voice to the indigenes, it also allows us to reflect more deeply about the business of interpretation in historical archaeology.

This is exemplified in her straightforward reporting of the site of Oudepost 1, which she excavated as a centrepiece of her investigations into the archaeology of colonialism in the Cape. We have an extended discussion of how the site was located, excavated, and analysed. There is the usual drama of dating the site and trying to get the clay pipes to do as they are supposed to, but then Schrire shifts gear and seeks (through fiction) to get to the essence of what Oudepost 1 might have meant to the people who lived there and those who traded with them. This story is not some post modernist fantasy, nor some mechanical application of vogue social theory to an "intractable" archaeological record, but a genuine act of the imagination. Love it or hate it, be pro or anti Collingwood's notion of empathetic reconstruction, but you can't ignore it.

Of course there is much to disagree with and many points to debate about Schrire's account of the archaeology of contact and of colonialism, but this is to be expected in a book which challenges and moves the reader. In my view Schrire has produced a valuable contribution to historical archaeology, but an even more valuable contribution to our collective understanding of the recent history of South Africa.

DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.5334/bha.07218>

VI. Activities of Various Academic Gatherings Related to the History of Archaeology

Saturday, 22 November 1997 at the British Academy, a session entitled "Grahame Clark and World Prehistory" will be held. Readers of the BHA might be interested in a paper by Professor Desmond Clark for the session "Introduction to Grahame Clark and World Prehistory." Professor Clark's paper will survey the impact of Grahame Clark and the study of world prehistory. The session at the British Academy will be jointly sponsored by the Prehistoric Society and the British Academy.

David Browman sends word of the upcoming Gordon R. Willey History of Archaeology Symposium to be held during the 63rd Annual Meeting of the Society for American Archaeology, 25-29 March 1997:

Biennial Willey Symposium

Sponsored by the Society for American Archaeology History of Archaeology Committee

Symposium Title: Historic Views of American Archaeology's connections to Europe before World War I.

Chairmen: David L. Browman and Stephen Williams

Symposium Abstract: The question of the impact by European ideas of prehistory on the development of American archaeology, with an exploration of the connections between ideas being discussed in Europe and contemporaneous development of American archaeological agendas, limited to the epochs prior to the first generation of university-trained American students, forms a major theme of discussion for this session. The session has a deliberate focus upon early American scholars with linkages to the northeastern United States.

Papers:

Bruce J. Bourque (Maine State Museum). The Peabody Museum's role in founding Gulf of Maine Archaeology. Harvard's involvement with Maine archaeology began in 1858 under the sponsorship of the naturalist Louis Agassiz and continued through the tenures of the first three directors of the Peabody Museum: Jeffries Wyman (1866-1874), Frederic Ward Putnam (1874-1915) and Charles C. Willoughby (1915-1928). Along the way, these men and others from the museum broke considerable new ground. Some of this work had international significance, such as pioneering research into prehistoric coastal adaptations; the founding of Japanese archaeology, and the introduction of the famed 'Red Paint' culture at the World's Columbian Fair in 1893-1894. But they are responsible too for some less well-known innovations. These include the stratigraphic excavation of a shell midden in 1886 and a comprehensive survey and testing program along the Maine coast during the 1890s.

Harvey M. Bricker (Tulane). George Grant MacCurdy, a pioneer of American palaeoanthropology. George Grant MacCurdy pioneered the recognition of palaeoanthropology as an integral part of American anthropology. Early in this century, MacCurdy used his wide personal knowledge of European sites and scholars to produce for American readers a series of reviews and didactic summaries of the major European palaeoanthropological writings, both substantive and methodological. This thorough preparation led to the start of his own fieldwork in 1912 and to the founding in 1921 of what became the American School of Prehistoric Research. Field training offered by the ASPR helped make it possible for American anthropologists to be significant contributors to palaeoanthropology.

David L. Browman (Washington University-St. Louis). Henry Chapman Mercer and the influence of European paleontology. Mercer employed and published explicit stratigraphic excavation techniques in Mexico in his search for Paleoindians two decades before the work of Manuel Gamio and Franz Boas. His research on the same topic in the 1890s in the U.S. Northeast may have influenced the methods of other researchers. In addition, the intellectual roots of the technique appear to come from French paleontology via Marcellin Boule and Albert Guadry, and can be traced most likely back via the French connection to William Pengelly.

Hilary Chester (Southern Methodist University). Frances Eliza Babbitt, Frederic Ward Putnam, and the "American Paleolithic" debate. (300 word abstract received; sent back for reduction, and registration payment. Will forward assuming it arrives prior to September 10)

Alice Kehoe (Marquette). In the beginning all the world was America: Daniel Wilson's construction of prehistoric archaeology. Daniel Wilson, first to use the word "prehistory" in English (1851) and deliberately the creator of a science of prehistoric archaeology (*Prehistoric Man* 1862, 1865, 1876; *Archaeology*, 9th Encyclopaedia Britannica 1878), combined archaeological experience in Scotland prior to his emigration in 1853, with field trips and examination of American collections after settling in Toronto. Subsuming all human cultural productions under his mentor Robert Chambers' Law of Variety-Production, Wilson readily compared and could equate American Indian artifacts with prehistoric European material, amalgamating the American material into the corpus of prehistoric archaeology developed in mid-19th century Europe to exemplify the Enlightenment's universal history.

John E. Kelly (Illinois-Urbana). Charles Rau: formative developments in St. Louis as meaning and direction in the career of a 19th century archaeologist. Most may be familiar with Rau's career (1876-1887) as the first curator in the Department of Antiquities at the Smithsonian Institution. Earlier in 1846 he was a young emigre to the St. Louis area and brought with him an educational background in geology. His fifteen years in the region were a critical part of his career, in the various investigations he conducted and the interaction that he had with other educated Germans. In this presentation I will focus on the context of his St. Louis experience and the outcome particularly the nature and contribution of his publications after he left for New York City in 1861.

David Oestreicher. The European roots of the Walam Olum: Constantine Samuel Rafinesque and the intellectual heritage of the early 19th century. For 160 years, the Walam Olum—the controversial Lenape Indian migration epic—exerted considerable influence upon North American archaeology. Though some scholars had long doubted its authenticity, the Walam Olum was only recently exposed definitively as a hoax. This presentation examines how Constantine Samuel Rafinesque drew largely from the theories of European scholars to construct his fraudulent epic. It reviews how most of these scholars grappled with reconciling the Biblical account of human origins with conflicting scientific data then emerging, and how Rafinesque incorporated their conclusions into the hoax in an effort to resolve the mystery of American Indian origins.

Stephen Williams (Harvard). Whence came the American Indians? — The tyranny of sources. The question of where the American Indians came from and when and how they arrived in the New World is one of the greatest puzzles on our intellectual scene, beginning with Columbus' mistaken notion that he had discovered the East Indies. Further enquiry into the topic took place in the 16th century, culminating about 1600 with the works of two Spanish clerics. For the next 250 years, until the 1850s, numerous scholars dealt with the question. Archaeological proofing came after 1800 by a number of scholars, culminating just before the Civil War in strongly racist arguments. This enquiry will focus on the type of arguments utilized therein.

Terry A. Barnhart (Eastern Illinois).

Robert Bettinger (UC-Davis). Discussant

VII. Announcements/Sources Relating to the History of Archaeology

Tim Murray sends word of the publication of two books that have "the transformation in the writing of the history of Australian archaeology." The first is by Tom Griffiths and is titled *Hunters and Collectors*. This volume is a history of antiquarian study on the prehistory of Australia's indigenous population and covers the period between the 19th century and the beginnings of a professionalised archaeology. It is a subtle analysis which focuses on the social and cultural context of antiquarianism - particularly in terms of Austra-