

natural and man-made objects who, had he lived longer, would have established the Museum as a grand research laboratory and powerhouse of knowledge deserving approbation, not only from the University, but also from the entire world of science and scholarship.

A further group of papers was less of concern to the history of archaeology, though had considerable importance to the development of antiquarian studies mainly in literary and linguistic fields. Among them was one by Jonathan Wooding (University of Lampeter) on 'Lhuyd's Antiquarian Tradition and the 'British' School of Hagiogeography', and another by Mary Burdett-Jones (Aberystwyth) 'Building the Palace': Dr Humphrey Foulkes's (1673–1737)', the man who attempted to continue Edward Lhuyd's work in Wales.

A fascinating group of contributions associated with the history of 'Celticity' rounds off this survey: two on the late eighteenth, early nineteenth centuries literary fabricator and Celticist Iolo Morgannwg by Leila Salisbury (Aberystwyth University) 'Gwynfyd Calon ag Enaid': Iolo Morganwg yn Llundain', the other, an entertaining delivery by Geraint H. Jenkins (former director CAWCS Aberystwyth) 'A miracle of ingenuity and labour': Lhuyd, Iolo and Chief Justice George Hardinge'. To these should be added Marion Löffler (CAWCS) with a paper entitled 'In the Footsteps of Edward Lhuyd? Thomas Stephens and Celticity'; Scott Lloyd (Aberystwyth University) on 'Edward Lhuyd and the Arthurian Legend', and David Stoker (Aberystwyth University) on 'Barbarous Imperfect Versions': Translating the Ancient Laws'.

The event was well attended, of truly international composition, and well served the purpose of bringing together enthusiastic specialists in different aspects of Lhuyd's polymathic intellect at a truly stimulating and enjoyable event.

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VII. Upcoming conference

Shovel Ready – Archaeology and Roosevelt's New Deal For America: The 2010 Society for American Archaeology Biennial Gordon Willey Session in the History of Archaeology

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In April 2010, the Society for American Archaeology (SAA) will celebrate its 75th anniversary in St. Louis, Missouri, USA, featuring presenters that reflect on the past and contemplate the future of American archaeology.

SAA shares an anniversary with a pivotal development in American history – one that transformed, and continues to have a significant impact on, the practice of archaeology across the USA. I am speaking of the Works Progress (later Projects) Administration, better known as the WPA. The

WPA was one of the many publicly funded work programs created by the administration of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt to alleviate the crippling unemployment that characterized the USA during the Great Depression (1929–1942).

To explore the lasting legacy of the WPA and other ‘alphabet soup’ work relief programs, SAA’s History of Archaeology Interest Group, under the direction of Stephen Nash, is sponsoring *Shovel Ready: Archaeology and Roosevelt’s New Deal for America as the Biennial Gordon Willey Session in the History of Archaeology* at the 2010 SAAs. The content and timing of the session is well suited to the 2010 SAAs – and not simply because the SAA and WPA share an anniversary. The man honored by the session, Gordon Willey, was himself a New Deal archaeologist, having helped direct WPA investigations in Georgia. And, the USA (and the world) is in the midst of another major economic crisis where American archaeology – now in the guise of cultural resource management – may be dramatically influenced by government spending efforts to minimize this economic and political crisis some see as reminiscent of the Great Depression.

As organizer and chair, I will open the session with an overview of New Deal work relief programs. Archaeological investigations across the nation took advantage of virtual armies of relief workers to move tons of soil and uncover thousands of sites, ranging in size from ephemeral hunter-gatherer camps to major mound complexes. In addition to the WPA, the earlier and short-lived Civil Works Administration (CWA), of the winter of 1933–1934, demonstrated that archaeology could be successfully conducted within the framework of work relief programs. A small number of government or university-based archaeologists directed large numbers of ordinary citizens who were not formally trained in archaeology, but had skills that could be adapted from farming, coal mining, and other ‘normal’ jobs. Another work relief program, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), was devoted to the youth of America, who were tasked with creating and maintaining ‘wilderness’ areas that would provide citizens with tranquil places where they could commune with nature and forget the problems of the day. Some CCC crews also participated in archaeological investigations, including a crew of African American men who labored at the first permanent English settlement in the USA, Jamestown, Virginia.

The next four papers in the *Shovel Ready* session consider how New Deal work relief programs laid the basic foundations for archaeological practice in states across the USA. Mary McCorvie will examine how the WPA influenced the growth of Illinois archaeology. John Doershuk and John Cordell will emphasize how New Deal archaeological collections in Iowa continue to provide critical data and influence current research efforts in that state. Greg Lattanzi will consider the New Jersey Indian Site Survey that – under the direction of Dr. Dorothy Cross and the New Jersey State Museum – identified hundreds of important sites across the state and conducted significant excavations at a few of them. Finally, Janet Johnson will show how historical archaeology in Pennsylvania grew out of the WPA-funded Frontiers Forts and Trails Survey, which focused on eighteenth century fortifications associated with the French and Indian War.

In the second group of papers, presenters will direct their attention toward new analyses of sites excavated during the New Deal and issues with the collections generated by these projects. Amanda Regnier, Scott Hammerstedt, and Patrick Livingood will look at two WPA-excavated mound sites from southeastern Oklahoma, in an area where basic archaeological issues still remain unresolved due to limited excavations since the New Deal. David Dye will consider an Early Mississippian mortuary complex in Tennessee. A second site in Tennessee, that included a burial area, residential mounds, and a main village area and plaza, will be examined by Anna Lunn. Two papers from the adjacent state of Kentucky will follow. Scott Hammerstedt will discuss the interplay between WPA and modern archaeological techniques at a mound site excavated first in 1939–1940 by the WPA and again in 2002–2004 by Penn State University. Sissel Schroeder will reanalyze the Jonathan Creek site, and consider the development of innovative field methods and professional practices as archaeologists toward the end of the New Deal shifted their focus from elites and mounds to the exploration of

community patterns. Rounding out this section, Stephen Nash will examine the impact of New Deal programs on Chicago's Field Museum, which saw a shift from simple collection of cultural remains to a more scientifically oriented archaeological research program.

The third act in the *Shovel Ready* symposium will turn to archaeological investigations of the New Deal itself. All three papers in this section will examine the material traces of CCC camps. Mason Miller and John Campbell will look at CCC camps in Texas that were instrumental in creating a state park. Mark Howe, Tim Kelly, and Karen Miller will combine archaeological investigations with oral history to show how CCC camps created the infrastructure for many National Parks and National Forests in California, while incidentally preparing the men to fight in World War II. Carole Nash will draw on modern archaeological testing and remote sensing as an exercise in archaeological methodology devoted to the investigation of ephemeral sites, such as CCC camps in Virginia.

The symposium will close with a discussion by Edwin Lyon, author of the acclaimed overview of Depression-era archaeology, *A New Deal for Southeastern Archaeology* (1996: The University of Alabama Press). The overall goal of the session is to show that New Deal archaeology is not simply a relic of the past, but that current American archaeology continues to rely substantially on the results of Depression-era projects, and will clearly do so into the future. Perhaps by the SAA's One Hundred Years Anniversary we will see as well even more excavations of sites associated with New Deal endeavors.

VIII. Report on research project

The Theatre of the Past: A History of Public Archaeology

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The following is an overview of a research project on the history of public archaeology, supported by the Leverhulme Trust and located at University College London for three years from October 2009. The project is still at an early stage and I would therefore welcome comments, suggestions and (constructive) criticism from colleagues around the world.

I was, and am, convinced of the moral and academic necessity of sharing scientific work to the fullest possible extent with the man in the street and in the field. – *Mortimer Wheeler*

In Renaissance Italy, Andreas Vesalius pioneered the modern science of anatomy by dissecting executed criminals in front of an audience of students, local dignitaries and the public. Robert Boyle's groundbreaking studies of gases, in the seventeenth century, were witnessed by the aristocratic patrons of the Royal Society. While in the nineteenth century Michael Faraday used public lectures at the Royal Institution to showcase his discoveries in electronics and chemistry. Only in the last hundred years have research processes disappeared almost entirely from the public's scrutiny. Archaeology is a notable exception to this rule: excavations commonly remain visible and accessible, allowing public attention and curiosity to play an important and often forgotten role in the development of the discipline.

This project will examine the history of public audiences at archaeological sites in Britain from the mid-nineteenth century until the present. This period witnessed the emergence and growth of