

		Increasing Size →																								
Land System	Species	Tree Dwelling				Non-Macropods					Ground Dwelling							Large Macropods								Number of Species
		Greater Glider	Common Ringtail Possum	Common Brushtail Possum	Koala	Southern Brown bandicoot	Long-nosed Bandicoot	Northern Brown Bandicoot	Long-nosed Potoroo	Brush-tailed Bettong	Burrowing Bettong	Rufous Rat Kangaroo	Northern Hairy-nosed Wombat	Common Wombat	Red-necked Pademelon	Unadorned Rock-wallaby	Brush-tailed Rock-wallaby	Yellow-footed Rock-wallaby	Black-striped wallaby	Agile Wallaby	Swamp Wallaby	Red-necked Wallaby	Common Wallaroo	Eastern Grey Kangaroo	Red Kangaroo	
QhMe		A	A				A	D					B	B	D	D				B	D	D				11
Carborough		A	A				A	D				D	D	B	D	D	D						D	B		11
Rewan		B	A			B	A	D		C		D	D											D	D	10
QrCp		A	A	D		B	D	D		C		C						D		D		D	D	D	D	13
Black Alley		A		D		A		A	D	A	B	B		A	D	B	D		B		B	B	B	A	B	18
Percy		D		D		D		A	D	A	B	A	D	A	B	B	A		B		B	B	A	A	B	19
BhMc			D	A		A		A	A	A	A	A	B	A	A	B	B		A		B	A		A	B	18
Skeleton		A	A	A	D	D	B	A		A		D		B	B	D	D					A	A	A	D	17
Connors		D		A	D	D		D	A	A	A	A	A		A				A	A		D	D	A	A	17
BtS		D	D	A		A		D	D	A	A	A		D	D	B	B		B		A	D		A	B	18
QuA			A	D		D	A	A		D		A	A						A	A	A	A	B	A	A	15
Cotherstone		D	A	D		A		A	D	A	D	A		D	D	A	A			B		A	A	A	B	18
Bul		D	A	A		D		D	A	A	D	A	D		B	B	B			D	B	B	B	A	B	19
AX		D	B	D		D		D	A	A	A	A	A	B	B		B		B	A	B	B	B	A	A	20
Number of Land Systems		12	8	14	2	12	6	14	8	10	10	12	8	9	11	9	10	1	7	6	8	12	10	13	12	

Table 1 Potential availability rating of Cathedral Cave mammal species in each land system.

animals are available. If this is not possible, often another species is pursued.

Comparison of GIS results against the Cathedral Cave mammal assemblage indicates that mammal acquisition is affected by components of all four foraging theory models to different degrees. Assessment of the four models shows that a species' potential availability within a land system (based on the suite of resources the land system provides to that species) as well as a person's own accessibility to a land system, generated the identified Cathedral Cave faunal assemblage (Table 1). Identification of a wide range of mammal species (i.e. 24, see Table 1) within the Cathedral Cave faunal assemblage implies that to save search time, people acquired many species they encountered. However, the minimum number of individuals (MNI) of a species identified displays a disproportionate number of Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby individuals (291; MNI 31) versus the second prevalent species, Red-necked Pademelon with 81 individuals (MNI of 18). This pattern suggests a focus on a single species whose habitat dominates the local land system. Further assessment using GIS shows that various land systems surrounding Cathedral Cave differentially provided resources that attracted the assemblage species, which in turn differentially affected Aboriginal people's species encounter rates. Accessibility, especially with respect to time/distance from the site and the rugged terrain, further affected mammal encounter rates. When combined with the implication that Aboriginal people visited Cathedral Cave to participate primarily in *Macrozamia* processing and/or ceremonial activities, the time/distance people were able to travel to acquire mammal species decreases therefore imposing further constraints on the faunal assemblage composition. These results complement previous research conclusions by suggesting marsupial acquisition probably occurred as a secondary activity from Central Queensland Highland archaeological sites. This would enable

Aboriginal people the opportunity to focus on non-acquisition activities as primary activities because the local land system provided several acquisition options to acquire the level of mammal species individual people wanted.

Note: This short report is based upon the author's doctoral thesis available for viewing at www.vvm.com/~huckerby/DOCUMENT/front.html

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Studies in the Department of Archaeology at James Cook University

Peter Veth and David Roe

School of Anthropology and Archaeology, Faculty of Social Sciences, James Cook University of North Queensland, Townsville, QLD 4811, Australia

A number of significant developments and initiatives in staffing, student participation, research activities and teaching curriculum have occurred over the last couple of years in the archaeology program at James Cook University. These are summarised as follows.

Staffing

Staff are located at both Cairns and Townsville campuses and include, as full-time academic appointments, Dr Noeline Cole, A/Prof. John Campbell, Dr Martin Gibbs, Dr Shelley Greer, Dr David Roe and A/Prof Peter Veth and, as casual appointments, Dr Alan Watchman and Mr Nigel Erskine. The

curator and casual lecturer of the Museum of Anthropology and Archaeology is Ms May Abernethy. Casual tutoring is provided by Ms Gayl Wimblett and Ms Diana Cooper and technical support by Mr Robert Palmer.

Student enrolments in 1998

First year enrolments total 170, second year subjects have attracted from 20-40 students, third year from 20-30 with 12 students completing Honours. The Masters in Cultural Heritage program is well supported with from five to 25 students enrolled in the range of core and elective subjects. There are approximately 15 full time equivalent postgraduate students currently enrolled in the Masters of Science and Arts by research and the Ph.D. by research.

Research activities

Over the last three years staff have been successful in attracting well over \$500,000 in nationally competitive research grants from the Australian Research Council, the Australian Institute of Nuclear Science and Engineering, the Australian National Centre of Excellence for Maritime Archaeology and from industry. Major research projects include:

1. Prehistory of eastern Indonesia, focussing on the Aru Islands (in collaboration with ANU)
2. Laser extraction of samples for AMS ^{14}C dating of rock surface accretions with reference to rock art
3. Systematic excavation and survey program in the Western Desert
4. The Pitcairn Project – a combined prehistoric, maritime and historic archaeological investigation of Pitcairn Island and HMS *Bounty*.

Future projects include:

1. The Mer Project – systematic survey and excavation of middens and rockshelters on Murray Island, Torres Strait
2. Comparative study of heritage and identity focussing on north Queensland, the Solomon Islands and Pitcairn Island
3. The historic archaeology of pearling in the Torres Strait.

Teaching curriculum

Given the appointment of new staff with a range of research interests and following on from major revisions of curriculum, partly assisted through a grant from the Committee for the Advancement of University Teaching, the School has been able to offer a wider range of electives while at the same time streamlining its core offerings. New awards are offered in cultural heritage studies from postgraduate certificate through to Masters level. The curriculum reflects four areas of Departmental strength as identified in both the School's and Faculty's strategic plans. These may be summarised as:

1. Archaeology of human colonisation processes
2. Studies in art and material culture
3. Critical issues in cultural heritage studies
4. The archaeology of maritime societies.

Core subjects include World Archaeology, Introduction to Archaeological Methods, Principles of Archaeological Investigation, Archaeological Field Techniques and Critical Issues in Archaeology. Electives focus on the areas of Departmental strength, as identified above, however also include regional studies in the archaeology of Australia, Oceania, Asia and Europe and field schools in rock art, maritime and terrestrial archaeology.

External research links

Staff in the Department have strong links, often expressed as formal memoranda of understanding, with external agencies which reflect current and developing research strengths. These include the Australian Heritage Commission, state and national museums within Australia, heritage agencies from Australia, Indonesia, PNG, the Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, and a number of university centres and museums based in Europe, the USA and Asia.

The University of Queensland Archaeological Project at Copán: A progress report

Jay Hall and Rene Viel

Anthropology and Archaeology, The University of Queensland, QLD 4072, Australia

Since 1993, The University of Queensland (UQ) has been carrying out research at the Maya site of Copán, Honduras, under the direction of Jay Hall and René Viel. Under the umbrella of the University of Queensland Archaeological Program in Central America (UQAPCA) research has focussed on two main projects. One, The Copán Formative Project, aims to discover the spatio-temporal extent of Preclassic or Formative settlement (ca. 1400 BC - AD 400) in order to understand the complex evolution of Classic society at this famous site. The other project involves an archaeological test of Viel's radical 'Pectoral' model of political organisation during the Classic Period (AD 400 - 800). The research is primarily funded by grants from The Australian Research Council and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (CEMCA and Commission de Fouilles) and is sanctioned by the Instituto Hondureño de Antropología e Historia.

The Copán Formative Project involved the excavation of some 45 2 x 2 m test pits in Copán's Urban Core site during 1993-95. This testing program revealed a much more extensive Preclassic occupation than previously thought (Hall and Viel 1994). However, while excavation yielded a full sequence of ceramics dating from the early Preclassic (ca. 1400 BC), no evidence of structural remains (houses, pits, burials etc.) was found. Subsequent geomorphological work demonstrated this lack to be due to destruction of settlements by torrential events and associated flooding of the Copán River (Hall and Viel 1998). This result led us to focus attention on areas less affected by flooding and during 1995-97 the expansion of test pits in the 'El Bosque' area revealed cultural features associated with an old (and wetter) landscape which was filled, levelled and covered by later Classic Maya construction. These features include an earthen platform, a collapsed house, earth ovens/kilns, pits and burials. Also, three hitherto unknown ceramic complexes were discovered (Plata, Bosque and Sebito). Occupation of this former landscape has been ^{14}C -dated to between ca. 800 BC and 100 AD. During this time span the terrain was much more undulating than today and was cut by channels and gullies. There is evidence later in the sequence that these natural channels were culturally manipulated to mitigate the river's impact and to enhance agricultural productivity. Analysis of ceramics has led to a total revision of Copán's Formative Chronology (Viel and Hall 1998) while preliminary