

# Report of the Committee for Archaeology 1997-8



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## Report of the Committee for Archaeology

1997-8

University of Oxford

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#### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1997-8**

The University's Review of Archaeology, announced in the Chairman's Report last year, took place earlier this year and had reported by the beginning of the new academic year. Coherence of structure and a distinctive identity for Archaeology at Oxford were urged upon us in a wide-ranging, thoughtful and helpful report. Many of the strengths of Archaeology at Oxford were recognized, including the high standard of research and the success of the recently established Honour School of Archaeology and Anthropology. The recommendations in relation to teaching, examining and research were cogent and are steadily being put into effect. It was, however, highly unlikely that the first serious attempt to rationalize the organization of Archaeology at Oxford would escape controversy, particularly at a time when the governance of the University as a whole is undergoing radical re-appraisal. Such proved to be the case. We shall have to wait until next year to see what the final decisions on organization and structure are to be. It is not going to prove easy to bring archaeologists currently divided between many faculties and sub-faculties, as well as other bodies, together within a single constitutional unit.

ROGER MOOREY

#### **THE UNIVERSITY'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL UNITS**

##### ***2.1. Under the Committee for Archaeology***

##### ***Under the Committee for Archaeology***

##### **Institute of Archaeology**

36 Beaumont Street, Oxford, OX1 2PG (01865) 278240; Fax (01865) 278254

- Professor B.W. Cunliffe, Professor of European Archaeology, Director of the Institute
- Professor R.R.R. Smith, Lincoln Professor of Classical Archaeology and Art
- Professor E.M. Steinby, Professor of the Archaeology of the Roman Empire
- Dr J.J. Coulton, Reader in Classical Archaeology
- Dr H. Hamerow, Lecturer in Medieval Archaeology
- Dr D.C. Kurtz, Lecturer in Classical Archaeology
- Dr J. Lloyd, Lecturer in Roman Archaeology
- Dr G. Lock, Lecturer in Archaeology
- Dr M. Mango, Lecturer in Byzantine Archaeology

Research Assistants

- Mr R. Osgood
- Dr N. Pollard

#### Research Associates

- Dr P. Armstrong
- Dr M. Ballance
- Dr J. Bardill
- Ms A. Claridge
- Dr M. Henig
- Dr J. Mackenzie
- Dr D. Miles
- Dr K. Painter
- Miss G. Seidmann
- Dr S. Sherratt
- Dr N. Spencer
- Dr J. Toms

#### Research Staff

- Ms E. Cameron (Conservation)
- Dr P. de Jersey (Celtic Coin Index)
- Ms V. Fell (Conservation)
- Dr P.M. Kenrick (Corpus of Arretine pottery stamps)

Preparations for the construction of the Sackler Library required that the Squash Court, which had provided storage and working space for the Institute, was vacated and these activities temporarily relocated in a basement in George Street. This has inevitably caused some disruption but the new working area is now functioning and will continue to meet our needs until new purpose-built facilities become available in the basement of the Sackler Library entrance area in 2000.

To improve accommodation for computing the slide room and computer room were switched. This has provided far more space for computing (though still not enough!) and as part of the move the slide collection has been rehoused in hanging files and selected areas have been considerably enhanced.

The Institute book collection has benefited considerably from a bequest of books from the library of Professor Stuart Piggott. A selection of Professor Piggott's papers have also been given to the Institute.

There were two staff changes during the year. Ian Cartwright replaced Alison Coveley in the Photographic Department and Dr Nigel Pollard was appointed as research assistant to Professor Steinby in succession to Ms Amanda Claridge who has now become a research associate of the Institute.

The research programmes carried out by Institute staff continue to attract a high level of outside funding enabling us to maintain fieldwork in Britain, France, Italy and Spain and to continue our two major interactive archive programmes: the Celtic Coin Index and the *Corpus Vasorum Arretinorum*.

#### **The Beazley Archive**

Ashmolean Museum, Cast Gallery (01865) 278083

- Archivist - Dr Donna Kurtz (Wolfson College)

The photographic collection of the 'paper archive' has been used by more than thirty visiting foreign scholars during the year. New photographs have been acquired from a variety of sources. The library has benefited from gifts and purchases. The 'electronic archive' continues to develop and diversify. The database of Athenian pottery now has 63,000 records and 16,500 watermarked images available on the web ([www.Bezley.ox.ac.uk](http://www.Bezley.ox.ac.uk)). About 200 institutions worldwide have requested password access. Computers with an IP address registered in the University of Oxford do not need a password. The launch of the web service in spring 1998 was announced in a brochure sent to 600 institutions. More than 1000 of Beazley's 1500 drawings have been digitized for the web; each is linked to the relevant records in the database.

The Beazley Archive's multi-media programs about the University's collection of plaster casts from the antique (History of the Collection, How Casts are Made, Catalogue), begun in 1992, are now available in the Cast Gallery and on the web. The interactive catalogue has more than 400 casts; details of place and date of discovery of the sculpture from which the cast was made are given, in addition to in-house cataloguing information. New multi-media programs for the web are being created for Greek Painted Pottery and Impressions of Engraved Gems. They are designed for teaching, with bibliographies, maps, and lists of museum catalogues consulted.

All images on the web site are protected with watermarking technology from Datamark (UK) and IBM (USA). The electronic programs are directed by the Beazley Archivist. Dr Thomas Mannack is responsible for the Pottery Database, Florence Maskell and Ian Hiley for the Cast, Pottery, and Gem web pages, Veronique Davis for image processing, Greg Parker for technical support. The Beazley Archive wishes to thank Dr Jonathan Moffett (Ashmolean Museum), OUCS, the Department of Engineering Science, and the University Telecommunication Manager for additional advice, also Dr Claudia Wagner, Karl Harrison, and William Wootton for voluntary work on the projects during the year.

The Beazley Archive is advising *Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae* and *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum* on computerization and digital imaging. It is also developing web pages for *Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum* on instruction from the British Academy. Under the auspices of the Faculty of Literae Humaniores it jointly sponsored the lectures of Dr Margot Schmidt (Basle) with the Archive for the Performances of Greek and Roman Drama. It also held a video-conference with the University of Pennsylvania on archaeological exploration in the area of the Black Sea and continued the Socrates exchange program with the University of Thessaloniki.

### **Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art**

6 Keble Road, Oxford, OX1 3QJ (01865) 283033; Fax (01865) 273932

- Professor M.S. Tite, Director, Edward Hall Professor of Archaeological Science
- Professor R.E.M. Hedges, Deputy Director, Lecturer in Archaeological Science

Research Assistants

- Dr A. Allsop
- Dr R. Bailey
- Mr C. Doherty
- Miss S. Hall
- Dr T. O'Connell
- Dr P. Pettitt
- Dr C. Ramsey
- Dr M. Richards
- Mr C. Salter

The Research Laboratory has continued to undertake research in radiocarbon dating, luminescence dating, biomolecular archaeology and ceramic, vitreous materials and pigment studies.

The output of the Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit was increased during the past year to over 1800 dates. Notable dating projects included direct dating of late Neanderthal and early anatomically modern human remains, dating the Upper Palaeolithic colonization of Germany by *Homo sapiens sapiens* and establishing the chronology of the Creswellian and Late Glacial archaeology of Britain.

Luminescence dating research has been reactivated with the appointment of two postdoctoral research fellows for a 2-3 year period. New extraction methods have been developed for the luminescence dating of archaeometallurgical slags that have the potential for significantly increasing the dating precision.

A NERC grant has been awarded to study diet and dietary transitions during the Neolithic in Britain using stable carbon and nitrogen isotopes. Studies have continued on the isotopic compositions of tissues from modern populations under controlled diets, with the aim of gaining insights into the reconstruction of ancient diets.

A new project has been started to investigate the production methods and properties of the different types of pottery glazes used in the Near East during the period from c.1500 BC through to AD 1500. Work has continued on the investigation of the pottery and the pattern of early rice cultivation in Sarawak, and has been completed on the investigation of the production of vitreous materials from 18th dynasty Egypt and on the scientific study of Hellenistic wall-paintings.

### **Isotrace Laboratory (RLAHA)**

Nuclear Physics Building, Keble Road, Oxford, OX1 3RH (01865) 273444, 273489; Fax: (01865) 273418; Email: [Gale@ph.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Gale@ph.ox.ac.uk); [Stosgale@ph.ox.ac.uk](mailto:Stosgale@ph.ox.ac.uk)

- Professor N.H. Gale, Director, Professor of Archaeological Science
- Dr Z.A. Stos-Gale, University Research Lecturer and Honorary Research Fellow in the Department of Ancient History and Archaeology, University of Birmingham
- Dr R. Clayton, Leverhulme Research Assistant

### **Research Technicians:**

- N. Annetts (1997)
- N. Boulton (1998)

## Ph.D. Student (University of Birmingham):

- Maria Kafaya

## Research Sponsors

Institute for Aegean Prehistory (INSTAP, New York), Leventis Foundation (Nicosia) and the Leverhulme Trust

### *Research projects in 1997-8*

- **Bronze Age metal sources and trade**

The main topic of research in the Isotrace Laboratory in the years 1997-8 was centred on the sources of raw materials for production of metals and pigments in the ancient Mediterranean and the patterns of their exploitation and trade. To facilitate this research lead isotope analyses of hundreds of ore samples from known ore deposits were conducted and published in consecutive volumes of *Archaeometry*. Particular prominence was given to the question of the source of copper used for the production of the Bronze Age copper 'oxide ingots', being the largest traded ingots of smelted copper (25-30 kg in weight) traded in the Mediterranean in the second half of the second millennium BC. The copper deposits and ancient slag heaps on the island of Cyprus were surveyed and a thorough lead isotope characterization of 'Cypriot copper' has been undertaken.

The isotopic characterization of copper, lead and silver sources has been extended to research on the isotopic characteristics of tin minerals. A thorough program of lead isotope and chemical analyses of all copper and tin ingots (over 500) from the thirteenth century BC Uluburun shipwreck is under way.

The geochemical study of ores and ingots was carried out in parallel with lead isotope analyses of Bronze Age copper, silver and lead artefacts from Bronze Age sites in the Aegean and Eastern Mediterranean. The patterns of metal sources used in different parts of this region at various periods of the Bronze Age were investigated. Additionally a study of changes in metal supply for one site (Asine in the Argolid) has been undertaken, from the Early Bronze Age to the Roman period. Lead isotope analyses of metals from the Varna cemetery and Bulgarian copper ores have been completed and published.

- **New isotopic characterization of materials**

A preliminary study of variations of tin and copper isotopes in copper and bronze has been carried out. These projects are not conclusive at present and will continue.

- **Technological investigation of Bronze Age copper smelting**

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Elemental mapping of Bronze Age copper crucible slags has been made in collaboration with the members of the University of Oxford SPM PIXE facility and the University of Cyprus to investigate the use of crucibles and types of minerals used. The analysed crucibles came from sites in Bulgaria, Cyprus and the



Aegean.

- **Lead isotope analyses of glass and glazed pottery**

Lead isotope analyses of a range of materials carried on a Byzantine shipwreck excavated by Bass, Serce Limani, were carried out in the Isotrace Laboratory. Analyses of glass, glazed pottery and metals (lead, silver, copper and bronze) added much information to the reconstruction of the trade route of this ship and the possible origin of the crew.

- **Lead isotope and elemental analyses of pre-coinage silver hoards**

A project initiated by Professor Balmuth has been started investigating sources of silver from the pre-coinage silver hoards ('Hacksilber'). A number of samples from silver hoards from Ekron, Tel Migne and other Mediterranean sites have been analysed for their lead isotope composition to identify the origin of this metal.

- **Analyses of lead white pigment**

A series of lead isotope analyses of lead based white pigment used for painting medieval Norwegian wooden altars revealed that lead from England was used for these paints.

- **Technological investigation of Minoan faience**

PIXE and lead isotope analyses of faience plaques from Knossos (courtesy of the Ashmolean Museum) provided a new insight into Minoan technologies. Further samples of faience from the site of Akrotiri on Thera will be analysed for comparison.

- The Isotrace Laboratory also undertakes lead isotope service work.

During 1997/1998 service work was provided amongst others for the Smithsonian Institution, and the University of Oslo.

### ***Under other departments***

#### **Environmental Archaeology Unit (University Museum)**

Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PW (01865) 272983; Fax (01865) 272970

- Dr M.A. Robinson, Director (HBMC), University Research Lecturer
- Mrs G.V. Campbell (HBMC)
- Miss R. Pelling (OAU)

Work has now been completed in the ARC gravel pit at Yarnton. Deposits have been sampled in relation to a Middle Bronze Age causeway across a palaeochannel. Some Middle Bronze Age wells were also investigated. Good progress has been made on the analyses of macroscopic plant remains from earlier seasons of excavation on this site. Samples have been processed from the Stanwick Roman Villa. A review has been completed of archaeoentomological work in southern England for English Heritage.

Work continues on developer-funded excavations of the Oxford Archaeological Unit. These have included a major medieval site in the centre of Reading with extensive waterlogged deposits. Analysis of carbonized plant remains from sites on the Maidenhead to Windsor Flood Relief Channel has raised the possibility that Saxon colonists from the German North Sea coast, who still cultivated emmer wheat, re-introduced this cereal to the Thames Valley.

A third season of fieldwork was carried out at Pompeii in conjunction with excavations by the University of Reading/British School at Rome on the House of *Amarantus* and excavations by the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut Rom on Regio VIII, Insula 4. Two students were taken to assist on the projects. A visit was made to Normandy to collect samples from the Iron Age coastal settlement at Nacqueville. Fieldwork was also undertaken in the Fezzan Desert of Libya.

Five Archaeology and Anthropology undergraduates were employed for a total of 28 weeks as vacation workers. Dr Robinson gave a paper on Neolithic insect faunas to the Neolithic Studies Group in London.

### **Materials Science-Based Archaeology Group** (Department of Materials)

Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PH (01865) 273728/273779; Fax (01865) 273794

- Dr J.P. Northover (Senior Research Fellow)
- C.J. Salter (Research Fellow)
- Dr B.J. Gilmour (Academic Visitor)

Archaeometallurgical research is based jointly in the Department of Materials where the Materials Science-Based Archaeology Group has its home, and in the Research Laboratory for Archaeology where the Cameca SEMPROBE is located. There is also a strong link with the Scanning Proton Microprobe group of the Department of Materials. The physical situation of archaeometallurgy is set to change with a scheduled move to a larger space in the Department of Material's new facility at Begbroke Manor.

The research is concerned with all aspects of the metallurgical process, from smelting to metal finishing, and from the first use of alloys in the fifth/fourth millennia BC to the Industrial Revolution and beyond. The themes of research are both archaeological and metallurgical. In archaeology the research is driven by the needs of archaeology with post-excavation and museum-based projects involving the characterization of the products and residues of past metallurgical processes. The results are used to explore the place of metals in ancient economies and societies, how they were made, used, traded, and recycled, how their properties were understood, and what processes were associated with their deposition and survival in the archaeological record. In metallurgy the requirements of archaeology drive development of methodologies for microanalysis and metallography, and are also promoting research into the very long term stability of microstructures.

The programme of analysis of Scottish Late Bronze Age metalwork has continued and may be developed into an interdisciplinary project on the contents and contexts of Scottish Late Bronze Age hoards. A similar approach to hoard analysis has been undertaken with the Waterden hoard, an EH-funded Late Bronze Age deposit from Norfolk associated with the ritual destruction of weapons and carried out jointly with



Norfolk Archaeology. A further major post-excavation project is on La Tène period cemeteries in the Traisental in Austria in conjunction with the University of Vienna. A new European collaboration has been established with the University of Trento in Italy on Chalcolithic metallurgy on the southern face of the Alps.

Using our robust typology for iron slag the throughput of post-excavation assessments has been maintained, and the products of a variety of furnace types identified. The successful programme of iron smelting with the Snowdonia National Park is continuing with significant publications now beginning to result. The complexity of ancient iron and steel products becomes ever more apparent as is demonstrated by the work on objects from the Anglo-Saxon cemetery at Barrington, Cambridgeshire, recently published. Examination of Islamic crucible steels has been developed to include a Materials Part II project on their characterization.

Numismatic analysis has focused on Celtic potin coins and Roman coins of the fourth century.

A D.Phil. project on the development of non- and minimally-destructive analysis of archaeological bronze and gold/silver alloys using the scanning proton microprobe is underway. The Part II project for 1997-8 looked at aspects of the ageing of silver, and one on crucible steel has been set up for 1998-9.

### **Scanning Proton Microprobe Unit**

Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PH (01865) 273367; Fax (01865) 273418

- Dr G.W. Grime (Senior Research Fellow)

This unit was merged with the Department of Materials in August 1997 and a close link developed with the Materials Science-Based Archaeology Group. One aim, to which a D.Phil. studentship is devoted, is to develop quantitative non-destructive and near-non-destructive analysis of large and complex artefacts using the external beamline. This includes step-wise laser ablation of beam size spots to build up a three dimensional model of the patina and the uncorroded metal beneath. It is intended to enhance this work by provision of a computer controlled stage. A second objective is to use the mapping facility of the microbeam as a metallographic tool, especially for the study of cross-sections through the corrosion crusts on artefacts.

The SPM unit is a member of an EU COST programme on ion-beam analysis in archaeology and hosted one of the regular meetings on the topic of ion-beam analysis in archaeometallurgy.

### **The Donald Baden-Powell Quaternary Research Centre (Pitt Rivers Museum)**

60 Banbury Road, Oxford, OX2 6PN (01865) 274722

- Professor D.A. Roe (Professor of Palaeolithic Archaeology)

Though there have been less research students in residence this year, the Centre has remained extremely busy, coping as best it can with the changed circumstances following the loss of the caretaker post last year. Members of the Pitt Rivers Museum's gallery staff in the adjacent Balfour Building have done their best for us, taking over the

cleaning duties and answering the door when available to do so, but the situation has steadily deteriorated throughout the year, with their own numbers declining. It is no use pretending that we are still able to operate on the scale that we once did, but that, unfortunately, is a situation about which we ourselves can do little: only an increase in expenditure on the Centre by the University would really solve the problems, since neither our expertise nor our willingness to perform our role has declined.

Not all the news is bad, fortunately. External appreciation of the Centre remains strong: the teaching and research concerns of Palaeolithic Archaeology and Quaternary Research are by nature world-wide, so we have never been short of contact with the lands that lie beyond the Oxford Ring Road. Generous gifts to the University by CSA (Company Services Associates Ltd) have enabled our former Research Student Dr Julie Scott-Jackson to begin in Michaelmas Term 1997 a well-funded four year Research Fellowship at the Centre, in which she will continue her very interesting work on the high-level Lower Palaeolithic sites of the Clay-with-Flints areas of the English Chalk Downlands, while next year a fully funded CSA Graduate Studentship will enable Miss V. Winton to begin doctoral research on a topic within the same broad field. We are extremely grateful to CSA for their heart-warming vote of confidence. Visitors who came to the Centre this academic year for substantial periods of time included Mr Mikolaj Urbanowski, from Warsaw University, holder of a Stephan Batory Trust/Foreign & Commonwealth Office Scholarship at Plater College, to study the Early Palaeolithic of Britain and Western Europe; Dr Jordi Hernandez Gasch, from Barcelona University, working on Mallorcan Prehistoric Archaeology; and Professor Ofer Bar-Yosef, of Harvard University, working on a number of Palaeolithic projects. Other overseas visitors included Professors Lars Larsson (Sweden), Gi-Kil, Lee (South Korea), David Lordkipanidze (Georgia), Naama Goren-Inbar (Israel), Michael Walker (Spain) and Marcel Otte (Belgium).

The two long-running major research projects associated with the Centre both continued throughout the year, the Stanton Harcourt 'ARC Oxford Mammoths Project', directed by Dr K. Scott and Mrs C. Buckingham, and work on the Prehistoric Archaeology of the Balearic Islands, directed by Dr W.H. Waldren. The latter this year had what some might regard as the honour, and others the misfortune, to be featured in a Channel 4 Television 'Time Team' Programme, a distinction or disaster which had befallen the Mammoths Project a couple of years earlier. Both projects have otherwise prospered in their different ways.

The Friends of the Pitt Rivers Museum's generous and much valued voluntary assistance in the Centre's Library has continued throughout the year: Dr John Crammer, Mrs Joy Crammer and Mrs Jane Christie-Miller have been coming in to do this work, and everything is now looking startlingly well organized and in fine order, though they have not yet quite finished their task. We are extremely grateful to them for all their hard work, which they are kind enough to say they actually enjoy: it was nice that they provided a brief account of their side of the story in the Friends' *Newsletter*.

### **Department of Antiquities (Ashmolean Museum)**

Beaumont Street, Oxford, OX1 2PH (01865) 278020/278023

- Dr P.R.S. Moorey, Keeper (Near East and Cyprus)
- Mr M.J. Vickers, Senior Assistant Keeper (Cretan, Greek, Etruscan, Roman and

Byzantine) and Reader in Classical Archaeology

- Dr A.G. Sherratt, Senior Assistant Keeper (European Prehistory) and Reader in European Prehistory
- Dr A. MacGregor, Senior Assistant Keeper (Dark Ages, Medieval and Early Modern)
- Dr H. Whitehouse, Assistant Keeper (Egyptology)
- Dr A. Roberts, Collections Manager
- Mr M. Norman, Chief Conservator

At the beginning of the academic year the refurbishment of the Petrie Room was completed with the installation of a redesigned display of the Egyptian Predynastic collections, including the Min statues. Following the creation of the new von Bothmer Gallery for the reserve Greek collections in 1996-7 the displays in the Beazley Gallery were refurbished using much of the late nineteenth century furniture originally installed there during 1997-8. The famous Metrological Relief, formerly in the Randolph Gallery, is now mounted on the East Wall of the Beazley Gallery, whilst the West Wall accommodates a display of Greek epigraphy, including inscriptions from the Pusey House Collection.

### **Heberden Coin Room (Ashmolean Museum)**

Beaumont Street, Oxford, OX1 2PH (01865) 278058

- Professor D.M. Metcalf, Keeper (Byzantine and Early Medieval)
- Mr N.J. Mayhew, Senior Assistant Keeper (Medieval and Modern coins, and Medals) and Reader in Numismatics (Keeper from 1.10.99)
- Dr. C.J. Howgego, Assistant Keeper (Roman)
- Dr. W.L. Treadwell, Assistant Keeper (part-time) (Islamic)
- Mr. H.S. Kim, Assistant Keeper (Greek)
- Dr. C.E. King, Research Assistant (Roman and Celtic)
- Dr. P. Nightingale, Research Assistant (Leverhulme Trust grant)
- Mr S. Album, Sackler Fellow (Islamic)
- Mr V. Heuchert, HRB/Funding Councils' Institutional Fellow (Roman provincial coinage project)

The Coin Room, which is one of the leading international centres of research in numismatics and monetary history, houses a systematic collection of about a third of a million coins, medals, and tokens. The staff are involved in teaching at both undergraduate and graduate levels.

### **Cast Gallery (Ashmolean Museum)**

Beaumont Street, Oxford, OX1 2PH (01865) 278079

- Professor R.R.R. Smith (Curator)

Private funds were raised in collaboration with the Centre for the Study of Greek and Roman Antiquity at Corpus Christi College for a new three-year post for a Researcher in Ancient Greek and Roman sculpture. Julia Lenaghan was appointed in October 1998 and work has begun on a large database that will eventually make research and photographs of ancient sculpture readily available on the World Wide Web. The initial impetus of the project was to catalogue fully the extraordinary cast collection in the

Ashmolean Cast Gallery as well as the extensive collection of photographs of the late Sir John Beazley. Each entry in the database consists ideally of: 1) photographs of an ancient object from all four sides; 2) measurements, provenance, date, current location, size, and status of preservation of the object; 3) an annotated bibliography, a summary of the previous research, and our own brief commentary. It is intended that photographs of objects from the Art Market and in private collections will be added to the database further enhancing its usefulness. The new archive is based in the Cast Gallery.

Work was started on a major project to reconstruct in plaster a fine statue of an old fisherman of the Roman period from Aphrodisias. Casts taken from the original fragments, now in Turkey and Berlin, are being assembled in collaboration with Cliveden Conservation. A new mould of the torso was made allowing us to experiment with the alignment of the figure. The finished reconstruction of the statue will eventually be displayed in the Gallery. Other display projects have included a Hellenistic theatre mask that was cast and painted in the Gallery. The polychrome colouring was based on a mosaic depiction from Rhodes. The mask is now on display beside a new donation box.

With the help of the museum the Gallery purchased a dehumidifier for the casts - principally for the casts of the Roman grave reliefs currently housed in the back stairs storage area. This is part of a programme to improve environmental conditions for casts not currently on display. The basis of a telemetric environmental monitoring system was also purchased with help from the museum and a grant from the South East Museums Service (SEMS), the result of a successful joint application with the Department of Antiquities. This will give more accurate readings and allow environmental data to be co-ordinated between museum buildings. Preliminary work was started on a proposed art exhibition to be held in the Cast Gallery in Trinity Term and summer 1999. It will show some of the artwork of visiting artists over the last four years.

### ***General activities***

#### **Seminars, Lectures and Conferences**

Sponsored by the Committee or by members of staff, in addition to the normal lecture programme.

*German for Archaeologists* (Miss G. Seidmann)

- One week's intensive course

*Hillfort Study Group* (G. Lock, Chairman of HFSG)

- Day Conference

*Ancient Architecture Discussion Group* (J.J. Coulton)

- Eleni Armpis  
Three major Asklepios sanctuaries: Epidaurus, Kos and Pergamon
- Naja Armstrong  
Round Temples of the Roman Republic
- Tyler Bell  
Reconstructing the late Roman signal stations of the North Yorkshire coast

- Jim Coulton  
Planning without a Theodolite (or GPS!)
- Jim Coulton  
Masonry Enclosures in the Countryside of Lemnos and Balboura
- Janet Delaine  
Tents, pavilions, and vaults in Roman architecture
- Frédérique Llanduyt  
Architectural Connections in SW Anatolia during the Hellenistic Period
- John Lloyd  
Temples of Samnite Italy
- Marlia Mango  
"Town planning" in a non-urban setting: the case of Androna, Syria
- Judith McKenzie  
The Egyptian-style Temples of Ptolemaic and Roman Egypt
- Judith McKenzie  
Civic Architecture in Roman Egypt
- David Milson  
The Syrian Architect Mark Kyrus (d. 420 C.E.)
- Nigel Pollard  
Architectural Romanities of Dura-Europos?
- Arthur Segal  
The Temples of the Basalt Country of Syro-Palestine in the 2nd cent. C.E.
- Marina Yeroulanou  
Athenian Architecture outside Attica

#### *Greek Archaeology Group*

- Sir John Boardman  
Excavating Al Mina
- Don Evely  
Minoan Metalwork: Sketching an Industry
- Noel Gale  
Oxhide Ingots and Shipwrecks: Trade in Metals in the Late Bronze Age Mediterranean
- Chris Gosden  
Archaeology, Anthropology: a Meaningful Relationship
- Sinclair Hood  
Memories of Emporio, Chios
- Lynn Meskell  
Writing the Body: Institutions, Discourses and Corporeality
- Lucia Nixon  
Morris's Classical Greece: a "Classic" Debate?

#### *Lectures organized by Graduate Archaeology at Oxford and the Committee for Archaeology*

- Barry Cunliffe  
Gifts from the Goddess
- Niall Finneran  
Later Prehistory in the Axum Region, Tigray Province, Northern Ethiopia
- Roberta Gilchrist

- Gender and the medieval castle
- Chris Gosden  
Landscape and History in Iron Age Britain
- Martin Henig  
Roman art and culture
- Pippa Henry  
Archaeology: The Next Generation - Beyond the Time Team
- Lynn Meskell  
Oh My Goddess. Ecofeminism and Egyptian Figurines
- David Petts  
Death and Burial in the Early Medieval West
- Sarah Semple  
Beacons and Vikings: crisis in Yatesbury, Wiltshire, c.1000
- Ellen Swift  
Regionality in Personal Ornament in the Later Western Empire

### *Medieval Archaeology Seminars*

- Paul Blinkhorn  
Middle to Late Saxon Pottery Technology
- Esther Cameron  
Anglo-Saxon leatherworking: techniques and traditions
- Damian Goodburn  
Late Saxon and Anglo-Scandinavian Timber Buildings and Structural Woodwork
- Pippa Henry  
The Late Saxon Textile Industry
- Ian Meadows  
The 'Helmet Burial' at Wollaston, Northants
- John Newman  
The Horse Burial at Lakenheath, Suffolk, and its Context
- Andrew Reynolds  
Anglo-Saxon Burials and Boundaries
- Chris Scull  
The Buttermarket Burials, Ipswich
- Pernille Sørensen  
The Jutes in Kent? A Reassessment

### *Oxford Seminar in Classical Archaeology - Ancient art and its local audiences (R.R.R. Smith)*

- Christopher Hallett (Seattle)  
The Roman nude
- Tonio Hölscher (Heidelberg)  
Mythological imagery, history, and social values in Archaic Greece
- Marlia Mango (Oxford)  
Mythological mosaics of the Greek East in Late Antiquity
- Julian Raby (Oxford)  
A sense of humours: Hellenism and Islam in the frescoes of Qusayr 'Amra'
- Anthony Snodgrass (Cambridge)  
The 'Homer effect' in the interpretation of early Greek art
- Nigel Spivey (Cambridge)



- The audition of Laocoon's scream
- Katherine Welch (New York)  
Portraits of Pompeian men and women: style, social identity, and architectural setting
- Paul Zanker (Rome)  
Greek myths in Roman tombs: Roman mythological sarcophagi and their intended viewers

#### *Roman Republican Seminar (Trinity Term)*

#### *Seminars in Ancient Numismatics (C.J. Howgego and H.S. Kim)*

- Volker Heuchert  
Civic coin designs of the Antonine Period
- Koray Konuk  
Persian elements and influences on the coinage of Caria

#### *Other Lectures*

- Karen P. Foster (Yale)  
Volcanic imagery in the ancient Near East  
(organized by S. Sherratt)
- Professor Marie-Henriette Gates (Bilkent University, Turkey and Visiting Scholar at the McDonald Institute, Cambridge)  
Current Excavations at Cilician Kinet Höyük (Turkey): A Bronze and Iron Age Port in the Eastern Mediterranean  
(organized by Lucia Nixon)
- Dr. Karen Høilund Nielsen (Institute of Archaeology, University of Århus)  
Scandinavian Animal Art Style II and its Social Context  
(organized by H. Hamerow)
- Dr. Karen Høilund Nielsen (Institute of Archaeology, University of Århus)  
European Animal Art Style II: A Memory of Migration?  
(organized by H. Hamerow)

### **Publishing Activities**

#### *Journals*

- *Anglo-Saxon Studies* (Institute)
- *Archaeometry* (Research Laboratory)
- *Archaeological Computing Newsletter* (Institute)
- *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* (Institute for Blackwells)
- *Journal of the History of Collections* (Ashmolean Museum)

#### *Monographs Oxford University Committee for Archaeology Monographs*

- *46 Romney Marsh. Environmental Change and Human Occupation in a Coastal Lowland*  
J. Eddison, M. Gardiner and A. Long (eds.)

### **REPORTS FROM PERMANENT ACADEMIC STAFF**

## Prehistory

**Dr C. Gosden**, Pitt Rivers Museum, 64 Banbury Road, OX2 6PN.

He lectured in undergraduate and M.St. courses on The Nature of Archaeological Enquiry, Regional Studies in Material Culture, People Environment and Culture. He is also co-ordinating the cataloguing of archaeological holdings in the Pitt Rivers Museum from Europe, concentrating on the Cypriot material. He completed a book on Archaeology and Anthropology, in addition to writing up fieldwork in Turkmenistan and the Berkshire Downs. He continued a Leverhulme-funded project on material culture and colonialism in Papua New Guinea and visited collections of material from Papua New Guinea in the Museum der Kulturen in Basel and the Australian Museum, Sydney. He was Acting Director of the Pitt Rivers Museum during Michaelmas and Hilary Terms. He was external examiner at the Institute of Archaeology in London. He sat on the editorial boards of *World Archaeology*, *Archaeology in Oceania* and the Cambridge University Press *World Archaeology* series. He was a member of the Council of the Prehistoric Society.

Current research interests are:

Archaeological approaches to time, the archaeology of landscape, archaeology and colonialism, the links between archaeology, history and anthropology in the Pacific.

Specific research projects include:

- The Archaeology of West New Britain, Papua New Guinea
- The origins of agriculture in Turkmenistan
- Hillforts of the Ridgeway Project
- Colonialism and material culture in Papua New Guinea

**Derek Roe** was granted the title of Professor of Palaeolithic Archaeology in the 1997 Recognition of Distinction Exercise. He gave a full programme of lectures and classes for graduate and undergraduate audiences at Oxford, as well as a number of lecture-demonstrations for parties of visiting students from other universities. He was an invited speaker at a day symposium on British Palaeolithic Archaeology organized by the Oxford University Department for Continuing Education, and gave a public lecture on Early Humans in Oxfordshire, at the Oxford County Museum. He continued his research involvements with the Early Palaeolithic in Iberia and the British Palaeolithic: details are given elsewhere in this report. He continued to be Hon. Director of the Donald Baden-Powell Quaternary Research Centre, and to serve on (*inter alia*) the Editorial or Advisory Boards of three international archaeological journals, on the Archaeology Advisory Committee of the National Museums & Galleries of Wales, and on the Scientific Advisory Panel of the Irene Levi-Sala CARE Archaeological Foundation.

Research projects:

Professor Roe continued his research involvement with the Earlier Palaeolithic of southern Spain, and with the British Palaeolithic.

1. There has been no fieldwork this year in the Orce Basin, though it is expected to resume shortly, so contact has mainly consisted of work on reports which the Spanish team is producing. Publication of the Orce 1995 International Conference volume is now

expected to take place early next year.

2. In Britain, Professor Roe studied and reported on various recently discovered Palaeolithic artefacts including those from the important Middle Pleistocene site at Stanton Harcourt, which is being excavated by Dr Katherine Scott and Mrs Christine Buckingham, both of the Donald Baden-Powell Quaternary Research Centre. A number of further artefacts have come to light at Stanton Harcourt this year, as well as many more large vertebrate remains and much environmental information. The excavation has now begun the final stage of rescuing what can be saved, thanks to an extension of the project's funding, before the domestic rubbish landfill finally engulfs the site, which will happen some time during 1999.

**P.J. Mitchell** University Lecturer in African prehistory and Curator of African archaeology, Pitt Rivers Museum

He lectured for the undergraduate degree in Archaeology & Anthropology and co-ordinated the Honour Moderations courses *Introduction to World Archaeology* and *Evolution, Environment and Culture*, as well as serving as Chairman of Examiners for the M.St. in Anthropological Archaeology, an examiner for the M.St. in World Archaeology and organizer of the third Archaeology & Anthropology Open Day. He also served as Chairman of the Sub-Faculty of Archaeology, Secretary of the Management Committee of the School of Anthropology and Museum Ethnography and (in Trinity Term) as Tutor for Admissions at St. Hugh's College. He continued to write up fieldwork from previous seasons' excavations and field survey in Lesotho and carried out a further season of archaeological fieldwork at the Later Stone Age site of Likoeeng in the Lesotho highlands in July/August 1998. This year's excavation, conducted in collaboration with Dr Ruth Charles (Department of Archaeology, University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne) focused on expanding the area excavated in 1995 and on investigating the older levels at the site. Ten Oxford students were able to take part in the project, which was funded by the British Academy, the University of Oxford, the Swan Fund, the Society of Antiquaries of London, the Prehistoric Society and St. Hugh's College, Oxford. He was elected to the Council of the British Institute in Eastern Africa and became a member of the Editorial Board of *World Archaeology*. In April he lectured in Brussels for the International Certificate in African Archaeology, a Socrates Project sponsored course attended by four Oxford students. He also lectured at Oxford Brookes University and at the University of the Witwatersrand, and was invited to speak to the South African Archaeological Society in both Johannesburg and Pietermaritzburg during visits to South Africa.

Current research interests are:

The relations between cultural and environmental change among hunter-gatherer societies, the evolution of the cultural systems of southern African hunter-gatherers and the study of prehistoric exchange networks.

Specific projects include:

- Hunter-gatherer landscapes of the Lesotho highlands
- Later Stone Age archaeology of the Phuthiatsana Basin, Lesotho

*European*

## **Barry Cunliffe** Professor of European Archaeology

Three fieldwork-based programmes were undertaken this year. In May two coastal sites, one Neolithic and the other Roman, were examined on the island of Guernsey. In July work continued at the promontory fort of Le Yaudet (Côtes-d'Armor), Brittany exposing an area occupied from the Late Iron Age to the late medieval period. This was followed in August by the excavation of a Roman villa at Grateley South in Hampshire as the second stage of the *Danebury Environs Roman* programme. Much of the year has been spent in completing for final publication the *Guadajoz Project* and the *Danebury Environs Programme*. The final texts of both are now going through the reviewing process and it is anticipated that they will go to press next year.

Visits have been made to archaeological sites and museums in France and Holland and around the Black Sea. A seminar was given at the Smithsonian in Washington and a course of lectures at the University of Leiden.

Professional activities outside the University include Governorship of the Museum of London, membership of the Ancient Monuments Advisory Committee of English Heritage, membership of the Discovery Programme Council (in Ireland), general editorship of *Internet Archaeology* and membership of the Scientific Archaeology Strategy group of NERC.

Current research interests are:

Social and economic change in the first millennium BC in Europe. The present emphasis is on Atlantic trading systems, cultural interactions and state formation in southern Iberia and social hierarchies in central southern Britain.

Specific research projects include:

- The Danebury Environs Roman Project
- The Le Yaudet Project, Brittany
- The Wessex Hillforts Project

**Dr A.G. Sherratt** Reader in European Prehistory and Senior Assistant Keeper in the Ashmolean Museum

Andrew Sherratt delivered the Human Context and Society Distinguished Lectures at Boston University, under the title *Evolution and History: long-term change in human societies*, on the subject of Enlightenment and Romantic models of the past; he also lectured at Harvard. He gave a lecture in Amsterdam on the beginnings of farming, in the interfaculty lecture series on Global History. He gave the plenary address at the annual UCLA meeting on Indo-European Studies, called *Echoes of the Big Bang*, and visited the UCLA Anthropology Department and the Getty. He presented four programmes for Channel 4 entitled *Sacred Weeds*, reporting a series of controlled experiments with culturally important psychotropic plants (*Amanita muscaria*, *Salvia divinorum*, *Hyoscyamus niger* and *Nymphaea caerulea*).

As well as lecturing for the degree in Archaeology and Anthropology, he again acted as Chairman of Examiners for the FHS, and gave two seminars in the School of Geography.

Current research interests are:

Early farming and the transition to urbanism; the intellectual history of archaeology; cultural transmission and long-distance exchange routes; shamanism and psychotropic substances; global change.

**Helena Hamerow** University Lecturer in Medieval Archaeology

Lectured in early medieval archaeology for the University and gave invited lectures at the Universities of Cambridge, Poznan and Groningen, as well as this year's Hassall Lecture at Rewley House, to be published in *Oxoniensia*. Also presented a seminar paper to Oxford's Medieval Society. Took up the editorship of *The Archaeological Journal* and joined the editorial teams of the *Oxford Journal of Archaeology* and *Early Medieval Europe*. Work on a book on early medieval settlements in north-west Europe is nearing completion, thanks to a term's leave. Has also begun research into a large metal-detector assemblage of Anglo-Saxon, high-status metalwork from Sutton Courtenay, which will form the basis of future fieldwork. Continued to act as an external examiner for the University of York, to serve on the Oxford Archaeological Unit's Academic Committee and to act as Secretary to the Sub-Faculty of Archaeology.

Current research interests are:

Early medieval settlements in north-west Europe, 400-900, in particular crop and animal husbandry, buildings, pottery, craft production, and territorial formation.

Specific research projects include:

- Anglo-Saxon settlement at Sutton Courtenay, Oxon

**A.G. MacGregor** Senior Assistant Keeper in the Department of Antiquities, Ashmolean Museum

Continued to serve as Director of the Society of Antiquaries and as co-editor of the *Journal of the History of Collections*; elected Chairman of the Finds Research Group 700-1700. He was elected a Fellow of St. Cross College and was awarded a D.Litt. by the University of Durham. He remains a member of the *comité de lecture* of the journal *Anthropozoologica* and lectured to a conference in Turin on Animal Management and Demography through the Ages. Current research topics include publication of the eighteenth-century catalogues of the Ashmolean and the re-display of the Museum collections in the 1820s-1850s.

*Roman*

**E.M. Steinby** Professor of the Archaeology of the Roman Empire

The final volumes, IV and V, of the *Lexicon Topographicum Urbis Romae* were prepared for print. Some results of the ongoing research on the Via Triumphalis necropolis in Rome were presented in papers delivered at a seminar at the Open University, Milton Keynes, and at a colloquium organized by the Deutsches Archäologisches Institut, Rome. The Finnish, partly Oxford-based team working on Roman building activity has produced a number of papers for publication.



Current research interests are:

The topography of ancient Rome; the necropolis of the Via Triumphalis in Rome; politics and ideology in the building history of Republican Rome; the excavations at Lacus Iuturnae, Rome; Roman brickstamps and building industry.

**J.A. Lloyd** University Lecturer in Roman Archaeology

Fieldwork continued in the Sangro valley, Italy in August/September. He continued to serve on the Council of the Society For Libyan Studies and as its Head of Mission.

Current research interests are:

Town and country in the central Mediterranean lands (particularly Italy, Libya and Greece).

Specific projects include:

- The Sangro Valley Project (Italy)
- Euesperides Excavations (Libya)

**R.R.R. Smith** Lincoln Professor of Classical Archaeology and Art

Professor Smith lectured for the University on Greek sculpture, Greek and Roman wallpainting, and Greek and Roman art (Introduction), gave graduate classes on Hellenistic and Roman sculpture, and organised a seminar for graduates and faculty on 'Ancient Art and its Local Audiences'. He gave a seminar paper to the Oxford Ancient History Seminar; papers at conferences in Ankara and Berne; two invited lectures at Edinburgh University; and a series of three lectures at Cologne University. He also gave fund-raising lectures in London, Paris, and New York. In the summer he directed an eighth season of archaeological research and excavation at Aphrodisias in Caria (SE Turkey).

Current research interests are:

Greek and Roman portrait sculpture, the art and archaeology of Asia Minor in the Hellenistic and Roman periods.

Specific projects include:

- Aphrodisias Excavations

**Dr J.J. Coulton** Reader in Classical Archaeology

Dr Coulton continued to serve as Secretary to the Harmsworth Trust at Merton College (responsible for Junior Research Fellowship and Graduate Scholarship competitions), and as a member of the Publications Committee and monographs editor for the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara (four monographs published in 1998). He served as an examiner for Greats, for Ancient and Modern History, and for the M.St. and M.Phil. in Classical Archaeology. He also examined doctoral theses for the Committee for Archaeology and for the University of Birmingham. The planned excavation at Phylla, Euboea, in collaboration with the Chalkis Ephoria, was cancelled for administrative



reasons on the Greek side, but he made substantial progress on the publication of the 1996 season, in collaboration with Dr E. Sakellarakis of Athens, and Dr I.R. Metzger of Chur. He continued work on the final publication of the Balbura Survey project, and in September travelled in the northern Peloponnese.

Current research interests:

- Greek and Greco-Roman architecture
- Archaeology and history of Lycia
- Greek fortification

Specific projects include:

- The Balbura Survey
- The Phylla Fort Project

### **D.C. Kurtz** Reader in Archaeology and Beazley Archivist

Lectured, tutored, and supervised six graduate students and chaired graduate examinations for the Faculty of Literae Humaniores. Her work on the history of the University's collection of plaster casts from the antique, including a core catalogue of more than 800 pieces in the collection prepared by Florence Maskell, has been completed and is being prepared for publication.

### **Dr M. Mango** Lecturer in Byzantine Archaeology and Art

Dr. Mango taught for the M.Phil. and M.St. degrees for the Committee for Archaeology and the Committee for Byzantine Studies, and co-convened two termly seminars, following a term (Michaelmas) of sabbatical leave during which she completed work on a book and started a new field project in Syria. She also gave papers to the Ancient Art, Byzantine Studies, and Medieval Islamic Seminars, and to the Ancient Architectural Discussion Group. She acted as Chairman of Examiners for the M.Phil. and M.St. in Byzantine Studies and as an Assessor for the M.St. in Classical Archaeology at Oxford. She was invited to give a paper at a symposium at Dumbarton Oaks in Washington, and seminar talk at the British Museum. She also served as Secretary of the Oxford Amorium Advisory Committee for the British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara. She continued to cover UK publications on Byzantine archaeology and art for *Byzantinische Zeitschrift* and to serve on the Board of Directors of the American Associates of the Saint Catherine Foundation, Inc. in New York.

Current research interests are:

Urbanism in the eastern provinces of the Empire, Byzantine trade, late antique secular architecture and art.

Specific projects include:

- The Androna (Al-Andarin) Excavations in Syria

**Michael Vickers** Reader in Classical Archaeology, Senior Assistant Keeper, Ashmolean Museum

Curated the Ashmolean's Greek and Roman collections and served as Convenor of the Classics Sub-Group of the Sub-Faculty of Archaeology. He re-organized the Beazley Gallery at the Ashmolean before taking sabbatical leave April-September 1998. In December, he gave the Ashley Clarke Memorial Lecture for Venice in Peril. In April, he visited museums and archaeological sites in Georgia under the British Academy/Georgian Academy of Sciences Exchange scheme, and in July and August was co-director of the Oxford-Batumi Pichvnari excavation on the Black Sea coast of Georgia.

Current research interests include:

Ancient material values and metrology. Euesperides, Pichvnari excavations.

*Egyptian and Near Eastern*

**P.R.S. Moorey** Keeper of the Department of Antiquities, Ashmolean Museum

He has continued to teach, lecture and supervise for the Committee for Archaeology, of which he is currently chairman and to supervise for the Faculty of Oriental Studies. He served as acting-director of the Ashmolean Museum from 1 October 1997 to 31 May 1998. He completed seven years as President of the British School of Archaeology in Jerusalem when it merged with the British Institute at Amman to form the new Council for British Research in the Levant.

Current research interests are:

Catalogue of the Ancient Near Eastern Terracottas in the Ashmolean Museum; early state formation in Egypt and Mesopotamia.

**H.V. Whitehouse** Assistant Keeper in the Department of Antiquities, Ashmolean Museum

She taught and supervised for the Faculty of Oriental Studies and Sub-Faculty of Archaeology, examined for the École du Louvre, and lectured to day schools at Bristol University and in the Ashmolean Museum.

Current research interests are:

Protodynastic Egypt; drawing and painting in Roman Egypt; seventeenth-century drawings of Roman paintings and mosaics; the post-pharaonic reception of Egyptian antiquities.

Specific projects include:

- Recording and publication of Roman paintings on the site of Kellis (Dakhleh Oasis, Egypt)

*Numismatics*

**D.M. Metcalf** Keeper, Heberden Coin Room, Ashmolean Museum

Professor D.M.Metcalf lectured at Kasteel Hernen, Nijmegen, on cross-cultural

influences as reflected on Crusader coins, at Leyden University on the Byzantine/early Islamic transition period in Syria, in Nicosia on the thirteenth-century deniers of the Lusignan dynasty, and in Lisbon on the gold coinage of the Sueves. Professor Metcalf retired in September 1998.

**N.J. Mayhew** Senior Assistant Keeper and Reader in Numismatics, Heberden Coin Room, Ashmolean Museum

Mr N.J. Mayhew returned from study leave in April 1997. While on leave he lectured at Bristol University, and at the International Numismatic Congress in Berlin. He taught for the Modern History Faculty on the debasements of Philip IV of France, and examined a D.Phil. thesis. His work on medieval credit with Dr Nightingale on the Leverhulme Research Project continues and he edited *The Gros Tournois* volume. With others, he helps to organize the All Souls seminar series on medieval social and economic history. Mr Mayhew was made Acting Keeper from October 1998, and has just been appointed Keeper with effect from October 1999.

Current research interests are:

Medieval European numismatics and monetary history. The history of sterling.

**C.J. Howgego** Assistant Keeper, Heberden Coin Room, Ashmolean Museum, University Lecturer in Roman Numismatics

Dr C.J. Howgego became director of the major research project on Roman Provincial Coinage in the Antonine Period, which is to be based in the Heberden Coin Room. The project will run for seven years, and is to be funded in the first instance by a Humanities Research Board/Funding Councils Institutional Fellowship. Dr Howgego gave nineteen university lectures, supervised three D.Phil. students (two of whom submitted in the course of the year), and one M.Stud. student. He talked to the Oxford University Numismatic Society and to a party from the Open University. In April he began a period of sabbatical leave, during which he undertook the role of Visiting Scholar at the American Numismatic Societys summer school.

Current research interests are:

Roman Provincial Coinage; Coinage and Cultural History.

**W.L. Treadwell** Assistant Keeper (part-time), Heberden Coin Room, Ashmolean Museum

Dr W.L. Treadwell gave a course of 24 lectures entitled Early Islamic monetary history to students of the M.St./M.Phil. courses in Islamic Art & Archaeology. He supervised one M.St. dissertation, one B.A. dissertation and one D.Phil. student. He gave papers at the Arab-Byzantine workshop in the British Museum, to the After Rome seminar in Trinity College and the UNESCO conference on Samanid history in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

Current research interests are:

Bukharkhuca coinage; coinage of Iraq and Iran during the Buyid period, the Islamic mint of Merv.

**H.S. Kim** Assistant Keeper, Heberden Coin Room, University Lecturer in Greek Numismatics

Mr H.S. Kim gave sixteen university lectures on Greek coinage. He spoke to the Reading Classical Association on the topic of small change in the Greek world and to a party from Young Friends of the Ashmolean on the subject of counterfeits, forgeries, and imitations. He presented a paper on The reinvention of money in the ancient economy to the Classics Faculty of the University of Cambridge on the occasion of the twenty-fifth anniversary of M.I. Finleys *The Ancient Economy*. During the course of the year he made study visits to examine coins in the collections of Copenhagen, Berlin, and Winterthur, and he continued his enthusiastic involvement as a member of the managing committee of the Young Friends of the Ashmolean.

Current research interests are:

The development and spread of early Greek coinage; metallurgy applications to numismatics.

**C.E. King** Research Assistant, Heberden Coin Room, Ashmolean Museum

Dr C.E. King returned from seven months study leave in January during which she completed her book on the metal content of the Roman imperial coinage and the catalogue section of a book on Roman quinarii. She visited Vienna for a week in December for study purposes on a travel grant from Somerville College, supervised one D.Phil. student, lectured to a group from the Open University and gave several tutorials to an M.Stud. student.

Current research interests are:

Roman numismatics from 3rd-5th centuries AD with specific programmes on revision of *Roman Imperial Coinage* Vol. V, pt. (AD 253-268); catalogue of Roman quinarii; catalogue and analysis of a third century AD antoninianus hoard (Dorchester, Dorset, c.10,000 coins), and a late Roman hoard from N. Africa (with A. Cepas); catalogue of the coins of Valerian and Gallienus and family in the Gneccchi Collection in the Museo Nazionale, Rome.

*Archaeological Science*

**N.H. Gale** Director of the Isotrace Laboratory, Professor of Archaeological Science

Major project: Sources and trade of copper, lead, silver and tin in the Aegean Bronze Age. Investigation of the variation of natural isotopic anomalies of copper and tin. Ancient exploitation of raw materials in Afghanistan, Turkmenistan (tin, lapis lazuli) and the Balkans (copper). Sources of copper metal used in Troy and possible connections with the regions north of the Black Sea.

Archaeometallurgical fieldwork in 1997: ancient copper slag heaps and minor copper mines on Cyprus.

*Conferences and lectures:*

1. Symposium: Metals in Antiquity, Harvard September 1997

2. International Symposium 'The Aegean in the Neolithic, Chalcolithic and Early Bronze Age', Urla, Turkey, October 1997
3. Workshop on Ancient Metallurgy, Haifa, Israel April 1998
4. 31st International Archaeometry Symposium, Budapest April 1998
5. The Fourth International Conference on the Beginning of the Use of Metals and Alloys (BUMA-IV). The Japan Institute of Metals. Matsue, Shimane, Japan, May 1998.

**G.R. Lock** University Lecturer in Archaeology (Computing and statistical methods)

His time is divided equally between the Institute of Archaeology and directing the archaeology programme in the Department for Continuing Education which includes a range of undergraduate and postgraduate part-time courses. He teaches on the full-time undergraduate degree course, supervises research students and gives general courses on using computers in archaeology. Current research interests include approaches to landscape archaeology and how the use of GIS technology can fit with current landscape theory. Fieldwork based on the Hillforts of the Ridgeway project in Oxfordshire (a training excavation directed with Dr C. Gosden) and Monte Pallano in Abruzzo, central Italy (with Dr J. Lloyd) provide the practical basis for the GIS research. Other work this year has included post-excavation on material from Uffington Castle, King's Low and Queen's Low.

Dr Lock edits the *Archaeological Computing Newsletter*, is secretary of the Hillfort Study Group, sits on the Council for British Archaeology Education Committee, the Technical Panel of *Internet Archaeology* and the Management Committee of the Archaeology Data Service. Within the University he is Chairman of the Committee for Archaeology IT subcommittee.

**J.P. Northover** Senior Research Fellow, Department of Materials

Dr Northover is a Senior Research Fellow responsible for the Materials-Science Based Archaeology group in the Department of Materials and for cooperation with the Scanning Proton Microprobe Unit. His principal activities are post-excavation and museum-based studies of non-ferrous and precious metals with collaborators in a number of countries. Special projects relate to the metallurgy of the deposition of artefacts in the archaeological record, for example in the cremation of metal objects, and the integration of metallurgy and archaeology in building the biographies of artefacts. A major part of this lies in the enhancement of microscopy as an archaeological tool.

Dr Northover supervises D.Phil. and Part II students in the Department of Materials, D.Phil. and undergraduate dissertations in archaeology, and Ph.D. students at the Universities of Sheffield and Poitiers.

During the year Dr Northover presented papers at the 'Metals in Antiquity' conference at Harvard and the Bell-Beaker Symposium in Riva di Garda. He also gave invited lectures at Swedish Universities (Lund, Göteborg, Uppsala and Stockholm), and at the Technical University in Tallinn, Estonia.

**Dr Z.A. Stos-Gale** University Research Lecturer

Compilation of lead isotope and elemental data on Bronze Age Mediterranean metal artefacts leading to the assessment of patterns of metal production centres and

distribution maps.

Also: Isotope and elemental research into the earliest development of metal, glass and glaze technology, and related patterns of trade and the exploitation of mineral sources. Sources and trade in silver in pre-coinage Near East. Identification of sources of lead used in medieval and later pre-nineteenth century oil and wall paintings. Areas of interest: Europe and the Near East.

Archaeometallurgical fieldwork in 1997 and 1998: ancient copper slag heaps and minor copper mines on Cyprus.

*Project collaborators 1997-8:*

- Professor George Bass, INA Texas
- Dr Cemal Pulak, INA Texas
- Dr George Maliotis, Hellenic Mining Company Ltd, Cyprus
- Dr Sophocles Hadjisavvas, Director, Department of Antiquities, Cyprus
- Dr Lina Kassianidou, University of Cyprus
- Dr Eleni Magou, National Archaeological Museum, Athens
- Dr Adhiamantos Sampson, Ephor of Antiquities, Athens
- Professor Christos Doumas, University of Athens
- Dr Unn Plahter, University of Oslo
- Dr Carole Gillis, University of Lund
- Dr Geoffrey Grime, SPM Unit, Department of Materials, University of Oxford
- Professor Miriam Balmuth, Tufts University
- Professor Sy Gitin, W.F. Albright Institute of Archaeological Research, Jerusalem
- Dr Michal Artzy, University of Haifa
- Professor E. Galili, Marine Archaeology Branch, Israel Antiquities Authority, Atlit
- Dr John Merkel, UC London
- Dr Walter Fasnacht, Zurich

*Conferences and lectures:*

1. Supply and Circulation of Metals in Bronze Age Europe, International Colloquium sponsored by the 10th Directorate of the European Commission, Bronze Age Elites project, University of Birmingham, June 1997
2. Annual American Archaeological Society Conference, Chicago, December 1997
3. 4th Annual Meeting of the European Association of Archaeologists, Gothenburg, September 1998
4. A series of eight lectures on the history of technology of glass, metal and ceramics in November 1998, University of Oslo, Department of Conservation.

**M.S. Tite** Edward Hall Professor of Archaeological Science, Director of Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art

Lectured for the undergraduate degree course in archaeology and anthropology. Research projects in luminescence dating and ceramics, early vitreous materials and pigment studies with four D.Phil. research students being supervised in these areas. Visited Physics Department at Technical University, Munich to give a seminar and to discuss future collaboration in the study of surface treatments on early Peruvian pottery. Participated in the excavations of the early Islamic industrial complex at Raqqa, Syria



and selected samples for the lead isotope analysis of pottery glazes. Participated in the following conferences and meetings: Ceramic Technology and Production (British Museum, London), TAG Annual Conference (Bournemouth), International Archaeometry Symposium (Budapest).

### *Conservation*

**E.A. Cameron** Conservator, Institute of Archaeology

In addition to the usual work of the conservation laboratory, runs an annual short course *Conservation for Archaeologists* for students of the OUDCE's Diploma in Field Archaeology and two seminars on *Metals technology* for the OUDCE's Diploma in Applied Archaeology.

Currently researching Anglo-Saxon leather-craft, she gave a lecture entitled *Cuir Bouilli* at a meeting of the Society of the History of Medieval Technology and Science, and contributed an entry to *The Blackwell Encyclopaedia of Anglo-Saxon England*. A paper, *Pre-conquest leather on book-bindings, arms and armour*, was completed for a conference publication *Leather and Fur: aspects of early medieval trade and technology*.

Member of the International Institute of Conservation (and its archaeological sub-group), the Small Finds Research Group AD700-1700, and a committee member of the Archaeological Leather Group.

**M. Norman** Chief Conservator in the Department of Antiquities, Ashmolean Museum

Continuing work in the Ashmolean includes the conservation of material for refurbished displays and involvement in the reorganization of reserves as part of on-going preventive conservation and collections management initiatives in the Department of Antiquities. Research interests include the effects of pollutants on museum collections and he has continued a campaign of environmental pollution monitoring, in collaboration with the School of Geography, in anticipation of the implementation of the Oxford Transport Strategy, and established working links with projects on silver tarnishing in museums and the effects of carbonyl pollution on museum objects.

He sits on the Committee for Museums and Scientific Collections, has prepared papers on the conservation needs of the University's collections at its request, and is currently coordinating a project to assess the scale of those needs. He has also lectured on 'Conservation and Technology' for the Ashmolean Education Service as part of the University's PGCE course.

## **RESEARCH PROJECTS IN PROGRESS**

### ***Summary Accounts of Projects***

#### **A. Scientific investigations**

*Holocene hydrology and the alluviation of the Upper/Middle Thames, Ouse and Nene Valleys*

Dr M.A. Robinson

Work on the Thames system above Cricklade has shown that the floodplain was experiencing a rise in the water table coincidental with clearance in the Late Bronze Age but alluviation did not occur until much later. This agrees well with evidence from downstream.

Sponsor: Oxford Archaeological Unit

*Waterlogged plant and invertebrate remains from Neolithic to Bronze Age sites in Southern and Eastern England*

Dr M.A. Robinson

A paper has been written bringing together evidence for the grazing of domestic animals under woodland conditions during the Neolithic and the origins of open pastoral landscapes. The evidence for an apparent lack of grazing on some ceremonial sites was also considered.

Sponsor: English Heritage

*Charred plant remains from the Danebury Environs Project*

Mrs G.V. Campbell

A thematic overview has been prepared on the Danebury Environs sites, bringing together the results from the individual excavations. It has shown, for example, changes in harvesting techniques during the Iron Age, with cereals being uprooted in the earliest phase.

Sponsor: English Heritage

*Plant and invertebrate remains from the Project Archéologique de Nacqueville, Normandie*

Dr M.A. Robinson

Work on Nacqueville has been limited by a shortage of funds. However, full-size samples have now been collected for analysis.

*Macroscopic plant and invertebrate remains from the University of Reading/British School at Rome excavations in Pompeii*

Dr M.A. Robinson

Analysis has been completed of the pre-Roman samples from the House of *Amarantus*. They contained cereal-cleaning waste of charred chaff and arable weed seeds whereas such remains were virtually absent from the Roman phases. This suggested that grain ceased to be processed on the site as it became more fully urban in character. The range of kitchen and table waste, such as fruit stones, nut shell fragments and shellfish remains, was much reduced in the pre-Roman samples in comparison to the later phases, suggesting a less varied diet.

Sponsor: British Academy

## *Yarnton-Cassington Project*

Dr M.A. Robinson

The results of the various palaeoenvironmental investigations on the excavations in the gravel pits at Yarnton and Cassington are now beginning to be brought together for publication. It is intended to publish the results along with the archaeology in a series of period-based volumes.

Sponsor: English Heritage

### *Dating - Radiocarbon Accelerator Unit*

Professor R.E.M. Hedges, Dr C.B. Ramsey, Dr P.B. Pettitt, Dr G.J. van Klinken, A. Pike, G. Hodgins

The radiocarbon dating facility worked well throughout this year with over 1800 measurements made (half of which were for other radiocarbon laboratories). Most of the archaeological work undertaken was funded by NERC and English Heritage. The Unit was also successful in setting up a collaboration with Historic Scotland similar to that already in place with English Heritage. ORAU has continued to work collaboratively on archaeological projects on a broad geographical and chronological front both through our main programmes and through special grants. Direct dating of late Neanderthal and early anatomically modern human remains was undertaken with grants from the Louis Leakey Foundation, the Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research and the Prehistoric Society, and dating of the Middle to Upper Palaeolithic transition on Gibraltar neared conclusion. Upper Palaeolithic projects included the colonization of Germany by *Homo sapiens sapiens* and the chronology of the Cresswellian and Lateglacial archaeology of Britain. A number of Late Pleistocene faunal projects were undertaken, including the dating of large ungulates from northern Britain and aspects of the domestication of pigs in European Russia. Projects on the origins of agriculture include Abu Hureyra which has now been completed and a publication is in press, and a large project on Aksum. A large series of samples were dated from the Early to Mid Holocene environmental and archaeological sequence in the Fir Tree Field shaft, Cranborne Chase. Later prehistoric projects include preserved organic artefacts from Imperial College sports ground, London, human remains from the Lambourn long barrow, the construction and phasing of the Lavant henge, to human remains from the Neolithic temples on Malta and Bronze Age burials on Menorca. Further afield work has begun on the human colonization of Argentina and Chile, and samples were measured from the Moche Indian sacrificial site of Huaca de la Luna, Peru. A highlight of the English Heritage programme during this period was the start of a large sequence of measurements on material from Hambledon Hill, a project which is now nearing completion.

Alistair Pike has continued to work on the uptake of uranium in ancient bone. He has found new methods to use this information both to gain more reliable estimates of ages and, equally importantly, decide which bones cannot be successfully dated.

Dr G.J. van Klinken left the laboratory to set up a radiocarbon facility in Jena, Germany and he has been replaced by Greg Hodgins, a former student of RLAHA.

## *Diet*

Professor R.E.M. Hedges, Dr T.C. O'Connell, Dr M.P. Richards

Professor Hedges and Dr Mike Richards were awarded a three-year NERC grant to study diet and dietary transitions during the Neolithic in Britain using carbon and nitrogen isotopes. Dr Tamsin O'Connell continued her work on isotopic composition of tissues from modern populations, with the aim of improving our understanding of what isotopic values in archaeological bone collagen represent. Collaborative projects have been started with researchers at English Heritage, the Scottish Agricultural College, the Nuffield Orthopaedic Centre in Oxford, and the Rowett Research Institute in Aberdeen.

## *Materials analysis - ceramics, vitreous materials and pigments*

Professor M.S. Tite, C. Doherty, C. Salter, H. Hatcher, A. Shortland, I. Kakoulli, S. Paynter

Technological and provenance studies of ancient ceramics, vitreous materials and pigments have continued using, as appropriate, a combination of analytical scanning electron microscopy, thin section optical petrology, Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy and inductively-coupled plasma spectrometry. The major project, undertaken in collaboration with the University of Leicester, to investigate the pottery and the pattern of early rice cultivation in Sarawak has continued with fieldwork at and on-site examination of pottery from a range of Neolithic sites. The D.Phil. theses on investigation of the production of glass, faience and related vitreous materials during the 18th dynasty in Egypt (A. Shortland) and on the scientific analysis of the pigments, binding media and plaster ground associated with Hellenistic wall-paintings (I. Kakoulli) have been completed. A new D.Phil. project to investigate the production methods and properties of the different types of pottery glazes used in the Near East during the period from c.1500 BC through to AD 1500 has been started (S. Paynter).

The scanning electron microscope has required fairly major repairs during the past year but, in spite of these problems, the Department of Materials has agreed to continue to assist in maintaining it in exchange for continued access. Helen Hatcher has resigned her post as research technician in order to start a Ph.D. on Bronze Age Cypriot pottery at Reading University.

## *Luminescence dating*

Professor M.S. Tite, Dr A.L. Allsop, S. Hall, Dr R. Bailey, G. Adamiec, A. Gautier

Luminescence dating research has been reactivated with the appointment of two postdoctoral research fellows for 2-3 year periods. It is hoped that, at the end of this period, the facility will be more or less self-funding through a combination of earnings from archaeological and geological dating and research grants. Dr Richard Bailey has already started, replacing Sara Hall who has now resigned, and Dr Eddie Rhodes will join the group in October 1998.

The D.Phil. projects to investigate the use of modern porcelains as luminescence dosimeters for monitoring radiation accidents (G. Adamiec) and the feasibility of luminescence dating of archaeometallurgical slags (A. Gautier) have continued. An important advance in the latter project has been the development of methods for

extracting quartz particles from the slags and, hence, very significantly enhancing their luminescence sensitivity and the potential for more precise dating.

### *Non-ferrous and precious metallurgy in the European Iron Age*

Dr J.P. Northover, P. Nagy (Abteilung Ur- und Frühgeschichte, Universität Zürich, Switzerland), P. Ramsel, C. Zingerle (Institut für Ur- und Frühgeschichte, Universität Wien, Austria)

The study of copper-based and precious metal alloys from excavations and hoards of the pre-Roman Iron Age is leading for the first time to an understanding of how these metals were made and traded in a period when iron had become the dominant utilitarian metal. Material is now available to illustrate how production on individual sites was organized and what techniques were used together. Attention is also focused on cemeteries to look for associations between gender and status of individuals and the technical quality of artefacts buried with them.

### *Application of microprobe and metallographic techniques to numismatic problems*

Dr J.P. Northover, N. Mayhew, Dr C.E. King, Dr L. Treadwell, E. Besly (National Museums and Galleries of Wales)

The Cameca SEMPROBE is used to study the copper-, silver- and gold-based alloys used for a variety of coinages. Current projects involve Roman base-silver coinages of the later third century AD, the silver and base-metal coinages of medieval England, the coinage of the pre-Roman Iron Age, Indo-Greek and Islamic coinages. Very large databases of analyses have been and are being assembled in all these areas and attention is now directed to new methods for interrogating these.

### *Early metallurgy in the Upper Euphrates Basin*

Dr J.P. Northover, Dr K. Prag (University of Manchester), Dr G. Philip (University of Durham)

Microanalysis and metallography have been used to characterize the metalwork from a number of major excavations in the Upper Euphrates basin. The sites straddle political and economic boundaries of the third millennium BC during the period in which bronze became the main utilitarian metal. The results have given us a new understanding of the way in which bronze became part of the metal economy and have also focused our attention on the great importance of recycling in these early cities.

### *Metallurgy of the Danish Bronze and Iron Ages*

Dr J.P. Northover, D. Liversage (National Museum, Copenhagen), Dr H. Vandkilde (Institut for forhistorisk arkæologi, Universitet Aarhus, Denmark)

A systematic survey of the Danish bronze and pre-Roman Iron Ages integrating analysis and metallography. Principal objectives are the relationship between composition and microstructure, and the metallography of axe cutting-edges before and after use.

### *Effects of cremation on copper alloys*

Dr J.P. Northover

The effects of high temperatures on copper alloys in oxidizing, neutral and reducing atmospheres is being studied by optical metallography and by experimental replication. The results are used to determine the placement of grave goods in cremation pyres to assist in interpreting the burial rites.

*Investigation of the relationship between slag inclusion compositions and welding practice*

C.J. Salter, Dr. B.J. Gilmour

A study of the changes in slag inclusion and metal compositions that occur during the forge welding of iron. In particular those changes seen in phosphoritic/non-phosphoritic composite iron artefacts.

*Characterization of crucible steels*

S. Kennedy, C.J. Salter, Dr B.J. Gilmour, Dr J.P. Northover

A project to develop simple metallographic methods of characterizing Islamic crucible steels and relating the results to compositional variations. The results will also be compared with current theories of the formation of their microstructures.

*Application of the scanning proton microprobe to the analysis of Egyptian bronze*

Dr J.P. Northover, Dr G.W. Grime, M.H. Abraham

The requirements of museum collections have stimulated this project in non-destructive and minimally destructive analysis of ancient bronze. The aim is to use a laser to mill sub-millimetre diameter windows in the patina on selected bronzes and then use the SPM to analyse the metal as it is exposed, with the X-ray mapping facility employed to make basic metallographic observations. An experimental programme will develop the best mode of operation and assess the quality of the analyses in comparison with sample-based analysis.

*Study of the products of the experimental reproduction of the process ironworking at Bryn Y Castell and Crawellt Sites, Gwynedd*

C.J. Salter, P. Crew (Snowdonia National Park Study Centre, Maentwrog, Gwynedd)

A series of iron smelting and smithing experiments have been carried out to reproduce the metal and other iron-working debris from these important Iron Age sites. Presently, this material is being studied in an attempt to understand fully the chemistry, microstructure and mechanical properties of the different types of iron and steel produced.

*Application of combined EDX, WDX and image-analysis techniques to the study of archaeological materials*

C.J. Salter, Professor M.S. Tite



The capabilities of the SU30 semi-microprobe analyser in the Research Laboratory for Archaeology and History of Art will be developed and used to study a wide range of archaeological material. Currently, the proved ability of the machine to produce a large number of high quality chemical and topological images, together with the use of multi-media publication is being explored as a means of making the scientific data obtained in scientific studies of archaeological artefacts accessible to a more general audience.

### *Anglo-Saxon Ferrous Technology*

C.J. Salter, B.J.J. Gilmour, G. Hey (Oxford Archaeological Unit), K. Penn (Norfolk Archaeological Unit), T. Malim (Cambridgeshire Archaeology)

A systematic survey of the ferrous artefacts from a number of East Anglian and Midland sites is being carried out to determine range and distribution of various Anglo-Saxon blacksmithing skills and technologies.

### *Thermoluminescence dating of archaeo-metallurgical slags*

A. Gautier, C.J. Salter, D. Stoneham (Oxford Authentication)

The problems associated with the thermoluminescent dating of slags will be explored, with the aim to improve the technique so that it will become sufficiently accurate to be a useful archaeological tool for those cases, often associated with ancient metallurgy, where there are distinct problems associated with other scientific dating methods.

## **B. Excavations**

### *Danebury Environs Roman Programme*

Professor B. Cunliffe, R. Osgood, Julie Hamilton

A five-year programme to study Roman rural settlement in the Danebury region of western Hampshire began in 1997. The work involves field survey, documentary research and excavation. Its principal focus is on the question of continuity and land holding from the Late Iron Age to the Roman period and on the development of rural economy. In the summer of 1998 an excavation was undertaken at the Roman villa at Grateley South.

Sponsors: Hampshire County Council through the Danebury Trust, Society of Antiquaries of London, Roman Society, Haverfield Bequest and John Lewis Partnership

### *Le Yaudet (Atlantic trade in the first millennium BC)*

Professor B. Cunliffe, R. Osgood, Dr P. de Jersey and Dr P. Galliou (Centre de Recherche Bretonne et Celtique, University of Brest)

The promontory of Le Yaudet on the north coast of Brittany, near Lannion, has been chosen as the site of a long-term excavation designed primarily to examine the Iron Age and Roman culture of northern Brittany and its wider maritime context. The eighth season of excavations took place in July producing evidence of occupation spanning the period from the Iron Age to high medieval times. The most notable results this year concerned the Roman period. The Roman Landgate was discovered and the orthogonal

layout of roads identified. Part of a late Roman timber building was excavated.

Sponsors: British Academy, Direction des Antiquités de Bretagne and Département des Côtes-d'Armor

### *Guernsey and its maritime contacts*

Professor B. Cunliffe, P. de Jersey, R. Osgood

A programme of exploratory excavations was begun on the island of Guernsey as part of a research programme into Atlantic maritime exchange systems. Two sites were examined: a Late Iron Age-early Roman salt production site at Le Croq and a Neolithic sequence at Camp Varouf.

Sponsor: States of Guernsey

### *Aphrodisias Excavations*

Professor R.R.R. Smith, Professor C. Ratté (New York)

The current research project at Aphrodisias in Caria (SW Turkey) began in 1991 and aims (1) to record, document, and publish the earlier excavations carried out between 1961 and 1990, and (2) at the same time to pursue archaeological investigation of the city's urban plan, street system, and infrastructure. In the campaign of 1998 (July-August), excavations were carried out in the North Agora and the Basilica. The geophysical (electronic resistivity) survey continued in the southeastern part of the walled town and revealed the same clear grid street pattern over a dense residential area. Limited excavation and thorough documentation were also pursued in the Sebasteion and the Temple of Aphrodite. Individual research projects continued the recording, studying, and writing up of the various categories and complexes of marble sculpture from the site.

Sponsors: New York University (Institute of Fine Arts and the Faculty of Arts and Sciences), the Friends of Aphrodisias in Istanbul, Izmir, London, and Paris, and other private donors

### *The Phylla Fort Project*

Dr J.J. Coulton, M.R. Popham, Dr E. Sakellarakis (formerly of Chalkis Ephoria), Dr I. Metzger (Chur Museum, Switzerland)

This co-operative project between the Chalkis Ephoria and the British School at Athens concerns an ancient fort in central Euboea (inland from Lefkandi). A preliminary excavation in 1996 established a major occupation phase in the years around 500 BC, and strengthened the hypothesis of a garrison linked with the Athenian cleruchy of 506-490 BC. The buildings are unparalleled for this period in Greece, and provide rare information about garrison life. Material of the eighth century BC may be related to the traditions of an early 'Peloponnesian War' between Chalkis and Eretria. The excavation season planned for 1998 was cancelled for administrative reasons on the Greek side, but has been rescheduled for 1999. In the meantime study of the 1996 pottery by Dr Metzger is complete, and a full report on the 1996 season has been drafted.

Sponsors: Chalkis Ephoria (Greece), British School of Archaeology at Athens, Seven Pillars of Wisdom Trust

### *Oxford-Batumi Pichvnari Expedition*

M. Vickers, Professor A. Kakhidze (University of Batumi)

In July and August, the Oxford-Batumi Pichvnari Expedition (the first ever joint British-Georgian excavation) investigated the Greek and Colchian cemeteries at Pichvnari on the Black Sea coast of Georgia. Students from Oxford, Batumi and Tbilisi Universities participated. Twenty graves were excavated in the fifth century Greek cemetery, 36 in the fourth century Greek cemetery, and 30 in the Colchian cemetery. A notable feature was the discovery of six Roman-period (third-fourth century AD) burials in the area of the fifth century Greek cemetery. A report on the 1998 season is in preparation and a selection of finds has been acquired by the Ashmolean.

Sponsors: Department of Antiquities (Ashmolean Museum), Batumi Archaeological Museum, Craven Committee (Oxford), Jesus College (Oxford), Seven Pillars of Wisdom Trust, British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara, private benefactors

### *The Hillforts of the Ridgeway Project*

Dr G. Lock and Dr C. Gosden

Excavations were carried out on an enclosure at Alfred's Castle, as part of a long-term project to investigate the evolution of the prehistoric landscape on the Berkshire Downs. These revealed a large Roman building (either a villa or a temple) and underlying earlier features dating to either the Late Bronze or Early Iron Age. Excavations were also carried across the ditch and rampart to gain insight into the sequence of construction and its dates. The site is an exciting one, providing evidence of the Roman use of the landscape which fits into a broader pattern of villa estates and acted as a transformation of earlier patterns of use. First year undergraduate Archaeology and Anthropology students gained training in excavation techniques for two weeks, as part of their course. For the second two weeks the excavation was part of a Continuing Education Summer School.

Sponsors: Oxford University, Roman Research Trust, Society of Antiquaries of London

### *Androna (Al-Andarin) Excavations, Syria*

Professor C. Strube (Heidelberg), Dr. M. Mango (Oxford), Dr. A. Zaquq (Hama)

A new international project carrying out survey and excavation of a large non-urban desert settlement recorded as a Late Roman *mansio* on a Palmyra-Antioch trade route, and with extensive Early Byzantine remains (including 12 churches and 50 Greek inscriptions), started in 1997 with a topographical survey. The five-year programme of fieldwork continued with excavations in 1998 in the centre of the site and investigation of the water supply. Heidelberg is working on the barracks and Oxford on the public bath, both built by the same local individual in and around AD 558. The Oxford team uncovered the upper level of the bath house and found remains of its water supply system and of its original marble, mosaic and painted decoration. Dr A. Wilson and M. Decker, who are working on water and agriculture at and near the site, studied the two

large water reservoirs (one newly located) and the qanat systems supplying them.

Sponsors: Oxford team: Research and Equipment Committee (Oxford), Craven Committee (Oxford), Modern History Faculty (Oxford), St. John's College (Oxford), Near Eastern Studies Programme (Oxford)

Heidelberg team: Thyssen Foundation (Germany)

### *Excavations at Likoeeng, Lesotho*

Dr P.J. Mitchell

Sponsors: Oxford University, British Academy, Swan Fund, Society of Antiquaries of London, Oppenheimer Fund, St. Hugh's College (Oxford), Prehistoric Society

### *Vicus Augustanus (Castelporziano), Italy*

A. Claridge

The *vicus* is an unusual settlement on the Laurentine coast near Rome. Extensive but undocumented excavations during 1875-1913 uncovered three insulae and part of the Forum, whose surviving remains were surveyed and studied in 1983-92. A fourth season completed both of the new excavations which were opened in 1995 and 1996, to examine the full sequence of occupation on the site and sample its rubbish dumps.

Sponsors: Craven Committee (Oxford), Society for the Promotion of Roman Studies, British School at Rome, Tenuta Presidenziale di Castelporziano, Vicus Augustanus Trust Fund

### *The Madra Çay Delta Archaeological Project (Northwestern Turkey)*

Dr Nigel Spencer, Dr Kyriacos Lambrianides (University College London), in collaboration with Professor Ilhan Kayan (Ege University Izmir), Dr Ted Lagro (Director, Dutch Institute of History and Archaeology, Istanbul) and Mr Ben Cookson (Bilkent University Ankara, Dutch Institute of History and Archaeology, Istanbul)

The four-year collaborative venture is conducting inter-disciplinary geomorphological, archaeological and anthropological research into the coastal district of north western Turkey opposite the east coast of the north east Aegean island of Lesbos. This region has rarely been the object of detailed research, and modern political geography has led to studies of the region being carried out in almost total isolation from the north eastern Aegean islands even though the two spheres are an important part of the same study area and were linked intimately from prehistory to the present century. The current inter-disciplinary project in the area therefore tackles an important (but hitherto neglected) aspect of the region's archaeology, namely the diachronic relationship of the coast of Anatolia to the island of Lesbos opposite from the Neolithic period through the Bronze and Iron Ages to the Medieval and Early Modern era. In 1995 detailed geomorphological studies were conducted which clarified the past sea-level changes during the Holocene, focusing especially upon the relationship of sea-level change to the Early Bronze Age settlement in the region. In 1996 intensive archaeological surface survey was added to more geomorphological research, with the former being conducted at sites in the delta the occupation of which ranged from Early Bronze Age to Late

Byzantine and Ottoman. The 1997 season, just completed, also saw the introduction of archaeological excavation in addition to geomorphological sondages in two prehistoric tells. Survey work was conducted at other sites in the delta and detailed architectural studies were carried out in Ayvalik and Altinova of the standing architecture of the Ottoman period. In 1998 a study season was conducted on the Early Bronze Age and Late Byzantine/Ottoman period material. Preparation for the publication of the project's first phase (including both the archaeological and geomorphological survey work) was also begun in 1998, work which will be continued in 1999 together with limited revisitation survey work.

Sponsors: Wainwright Fund (Oxford), Craven Committee (Oxford), Meyerstein Fund (Oxford), British Academy, British Institute of Archaeology (London/Ankara), Leverhulme Trust (London), Institute for Aegean Prehistory (Oxford)

### **C. Fieldwork**

#### *Sangro Valley Project, Italy*

Dr J.A. Lloyd, Dr G. Lock, Dr N. Christie, Dr A. Wilson, Mr T. Bell

In collaboration with the Soprintendenza Archeologica dell'Abruzzo and Leicester University, a fifth and final season of fieldwork took place in August/September. The project is investigating settlement and economy in a region of south-central Italy concentrating on the later prehistoric to medieval periods. This year the focus was mainly on finds work with some excavation at Monte Pallano, a Samnite hillfort.

Sponsors: British School at Rome, Craven Committee (Oxford University), Leicester University, Society of Antiquaries of London

#### *The Balboura Survey, Turkey*

Dr J.J. Coulton, Ms P. Armstrong, Ms A. MacDonald; Dr D.H. French (Waterford), Professor M. Kiel (University of Utrecht), Professor J.M. Wagstaff (University of Southampton)

The project, concerned with the settlement history of a highland city and territory in SW Turkey, is in the final phases of publication. The pottery classification and catalogue have been completely revised, and that part of the report is near completion, except for the prehellenistic material which has been held back by ill health. Other catalogues are complete, and most of the maps, plans and diagrams are drawn. Most of the 'report' chapters, and five out of eight synthetic chapters, are in advanced draft. Others await finalization of the pottery report. Some contributions are outstanding from other contributors, and revision, editing and final preparation of some illustrations is required.

Sponsors: British Academy, British Institute of Archaeology at Ankara

### **D. Publication programmes**

#### *The Danebury Environs Project*

Professor B. Cunliffe, L.Y. Brown, C. Poole and others



Publication of an eight-year programme of excavation and fieldwork undertaken on Iron Age sites in western Hampshire.

Sponsors: English Heritage and Hampshire County Council.

*The Guadajoz Project (Andalucía)*

Professor B. Cunliffe, Dr. M.-C. Fernandez Castro (Universidad Complutense, Madrid) and L.Y. Brown

Publication of an eight-year programme of excavation and fieldwork undertaken in the Guadajoz valley, in the province of Cordoba.

*Later Stone Age archaeology of the Phuthiatsana Basin, Lesotho*

Dr P.J. Mitchell

A paper synthesizing cultural and environmental change in the late Pleistocene and Holocene of this region was accepted for publication in *African Archaeological Review*.

*Excavations and field-survey in the Lesotho Highlands*

Dr P.J. Mitchell

A further paper was published on the cultural sequence at Sehonghong Shelter (excavated in 1992) focusing on cultural and environmental change across the Pleistocene/Holocene transition. Interim reports on the 1998 season at Likoeeng have been submitted to two journals.

*The Euesperides (Libya) Excavations*

M.J. Vickers, D.W.J. Gill

The material from the Ashmolean Museum's unpublished 1952-1954 excavation at Euesperides, Cyrenaica is being prepared for publication. The Society for Libyan Studies has included a monograph in its publication programme.

Sponsors: British Academy, Society of Antiquaries of London, Society for Libyan Studies

*Roman gold*

M.J. Vickers, M. Yu. Treister

The publication of extant Roman period gold vessels.

Sponsor: Society of Antiquaries of London

*Lexicon Topographicum Urbis Romae*

Professor E.M. Steinby, editor; dott. E. Papi, bibliography and assistant editor; Dr N. Pollard, assistant editor; dott. ssa M.R. Russo, illustrations



Volumes I-IV have been published (vol. IV 1999); vol. V, comprising entries T-Z, 'Addenda and corrigenda' edited by N. Pollard and 'Indices' by M. Buonocore, should be published within 1999.

Sponsor: Regione Lazio, Rome

*La necropoli della Via Triumphalis, Roma*

Professor E.M. Steinby, dott. ssa C. Coletti, Dr M. Carre, dott. ssa M.T. Cipriano

Publication of excavations made in 1956-8 by F. Magi, and a revision of the edition of the inscriptions published in 1973 by a team directed by V. Väänänen. To be published in the year 2000 in the series *Memorie della Pontificia Accademia di Archeologia*.

*Lacus Iuturnae in the Forum Romanum, Rome*

Project director: Professor E.M. Steinby

Excavations were undertaken in 1982-5 in collaboration with the Soprintendenza Archaeologica di Roma. In 1988 the first volume, on ancient sources and material from earlier excavations was published; preliminary reports on the excavations have been published in periodicals and *Sammelschriften*. For the final excavation report, A. Claridge compiled a list of findings per strata. N. Pollard has taken over the editing of the reports on findings.

Sponsors: Suomen Kulttuurirahasto (Foundation for Finnish Culture), Suomen Akatemia (The Finnish Academy)

*Politics and Ideology in the Building History of Ancient Rome*

The project, directed by E.M. Steinby, generates from the courses in Roman topography held in 1993-4 for Finnish university students in classics, history and archaeology. Now graduates, ten of the students who took part in the courses are developing their themes into articles to be published in a *Sammelschrift*.

Sponsor: Suomen Akatemia (The Finnish Academy)

*Corpus Inscriptionum Latinarum XV.1, new edition*

Professor E.M. Steinby

The project to publish a completely revised edition of the brick stamps from Rome and neighbourhood has been preceded by editions of the stamps in Ostia and many minor collections, and by new indexes of the old *CIL XV.1*, with addenda. Material is being collected and comments prepared.

*King's Low and Queen's Low excavations*

Dr G. Lock and Dr R. Spicer (Staffordshire University)

The study and final publication of the six years of excavations at this pair of round barrows.

Sponsors: Stoke-on-Trent Museum Archaeological Society and the City Museum, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent

## **E. Corpora, Archives and Computing Systems**

*Roman Sculpture from the North-West Midlands (counties of Cheshire, Shropshire and Staffordshire)*

Dr M. Henig with T. Blagg (architectural ornament)

This fascicule of the *Corpus Signorum Imperii Romani* made rapid progress during the year. Catalogue entries for almost all the sculpture were drafted and some field trips were made. Completion is anticipated next year.

Sponsor: British Academy

*Islamic coins*

Dr W.L. Treadwell and S. Album

Volumes I and II of the Syllogue catalogue of Islamic coins in the Heberden Coin Room are due for publication before the end of 1999. A further eight volumes are planned.

*The 'Paper Museum' of Cassiano dal Pozzo*

A. Claridge (Series Editor and contributor), Dr H. Whitehouse, D. Bailey (British Museum), Dr I. Campbell (Herriot-Watt University), W. Stenhouse (UCL) and others

A catalogue raisonné of an important seventeenth-century Roman collection of drawings of antiquities and architecture, the second volume was published in February 1998 and completed texts were received for the next two (*Roman mosaics and Wallpaintings*, Whitehouse, and *Roman Inscriptions*, Stenhouse).

Sponsors: Olivetti, Getty Grant Program, British Academy, Banca Nazionale del Lavoro

*British Museum Southern African Stone Age collections*

Dr P.J. Mitchell

A comprehensive catalogue of the British Museum's southern African Stone Age collections is now in press as an Occasional Paper of the British Museum. The catalogue will also include summary information on the southern African Stone Age holdings of other UK museums. Two further refereed journal papers have already appeared and another is in press.

*The Sir Arthur Evans archive in the Ashmolean Museum*

Dr S. Sherratt

A programme of listing, ordering, storing and, where necessary, duplication of the large and heterogeneous body of Evans archival material held by the Ashmolean. The eventual aim is to make particularly that part of the archive which relates to Evans'

excavations at Knossos more readily and easily accessible to interested scholars.

Sponsor: The Getty Foundation

*Colonialism and material culture in Papua New Guinea*

Dr C. Gosden

The project is aimed at understanding the social change brought about by colonialism in West New Britain Province of Papua New Guinea over the past century. We have looked at four museum collections made by A.B. Lewis in 1910 (Field Museum, Chicago), F. Speiser in 1930 (Museum der Kulturen, Basel), J. Todd in 1933-4 (Australian Museum, Sydney) and B. Blackwood in 1937 (Pitt Rivers Museum, Oxford), plus also historical information I gathered in New Britain between 1985-92. We visited all the collections and carried out archival research in this country and Australia during 1996-8. Writing up of the project will take place during 1999.

Sponsors: Leverhulme Trust, British Academy

*Celtic Coin Index*

Dr Philip de Jersey

Digitizing of the entire collection of c.28,000 images of British Celtic coins was completed during the year. Work is now in progress on developing public access to the Index via its site on the WWW.

Sponsors: Leverhulme Trust, Oxford University (Research and Equipment Committee)

*Corpus Vasorum Arretinorum, 2nd Edition*

Dr P.M. Kenrick

Preparation of a new computerized catalogue of makers' marks on Italian terra sigillata pottery of the C1 BC -C2 AD. This year was spent on the revision and incorporation into the database of the information published in the first edition, which has been successfully concluded. The complete catalogue now contains some 36,000 entries supported by over 50,000 bibliographic references. A final year will be devoted to over-all revision of the new catalogue and its preparation for publication in book form and on CD-ROM: in March 1998 a meeting was held with Dr Rudolf Habelt GmbH of Bonn who published the first edition, and who expressed eagerness to publish the second in the same series (*Antiquitas*).

Sponsors: Ceramica Stiftung (Basel), Dr A.M. McCann and Mr R. Taggart (New York), Mrs Laura Kesel (Pittsburgh), Professor E. Ettliger and friends (Zürich)

*Roman Provincial Coinage in the Antonine Period*

Dr C.J. Howgego (Project Director), Dr V. Heuchert

The seven-year research project on Roman provincial coinage based in the Heberden Coin Room commenced in March. Information on an estimated 150,000 coins will be

stored on a database, together with digital images of each type. There are plans to make the results available as a CD-ROM and on-line, as well as through conventional publication. The project will be a collaboration between the institutional fellow, Dr V. Heuchert, who undertook a pilot study for his doctorate, and the project director Dr C.J. Howgego. The fellowship runs for four years and will be funded for a further three years by the University through the General Boards Research and Equipment Committee.

Sponsors: British Academy (Humanities Research Board), Funding Councils, Research and Equipment Committee (University of Oxford)

### *Medieval Credit in England*

Dr P. Nightingale

The Leverhulme Research Project on Credit in Medieval England 1285-1460 drew to a close in October 1998, after five years which have enabled the Research Fellow, Dr Nightingale, to complete a computerized data-base of medieval Chancery debt certificates containing over 30,000 records. A further years support for Dr Nightingales continuing work from the University Career Support Scheme enabled her work to continue in 1998-9, and she has now won five years' funding from the ESRC which will enable her to complete her study. The data-base will provide the foundation for a major monograph on medieval credit.

Sponsor: Leverhulme Trust

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## RESEARCH STUDENTS STUDYING ARCHAEOLOGY IN 1997-8

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*M.Litt./D.Phil. candidates*

Armpis, A. Eleni (St Peter's) D.Phil.

The Organisation of the Sanctuaries of Asklepios  
Coulton J.J. C.Arch 1992

Armstrong, Naja (Magdalen) D.Phil.

Roman Temples in Roman Architecture of the Republic through the Late Antique Period  
Steinby E.M.S. 1997

Baboula, Evanthia (Lincoln) D.Phil.



Metallurgy and Burial Sites in Late Bronze Age Crete  
Sherratt E.S./Northover J.P. C.Arch 1995

Bagnall-Smith, Jean M.B. (St Cross) D.Phil.

Study of Votive Material from Temple Sites in Roman Britain  
Henig M. C.Arch 1994

Baker, H.D. (Wolfson) D.Phil.

The Egibi Family Archive  
Black J.A. Oriental Studies 1992

Baumbach, Jens (St Hugh's) PRS

Heraion in Samos  
Coulton J.J. 1997

Bell, Tyler W. (Queen's) D.Phil.

The Anglo-Saxon Re-use and Reinterpretation of Roman Sites and Structures  
Blair W.J. C.Arch 1995

Borno, Hannah R. (St Cross) M.Litt.

Early-mid Anglo-Saxon Settlement Sites in the Upper Thames Region  
Lock G.R./Hamerow H.F. C.Arch 1994

Braghin, Cecilia (St Peter's) PRS

Chinese Bead Production  
Rawson J.M. C.Arch 1996

Brown, Ian W. (Keble) PRS

Distribution and Function of Iron Age Hillforts in the Welsh Marches  
Cunliffe B.W. 1996

Brown, Terence J. (Queen's) D.Phil.

A Comparative Study of Three Imperial Capitals: Trier, Milan and Ravenna  
Ward-Perkins B.R. C.Arch 1995

Cameron, Esther A. (St Cross) D.Phil.

The Technology and Development of Early Medieval Sheaths and Scabbards in  
England AD 400-1100  
Biddle M. C.Arch 1994

Christoforaki, Ioanna (Merton) D.Phil.

Patronage and Donation in the Churches of Rhodes from 1204-1522.  
Mango M. Mod. Hist. 1992



Cooley, Alison (Corpus Christie) D.Phil.

Public Space in Roman Towns through Epigraphy Art and Architecture  
Steinby E.M.S. 1997

Coolidge, Jennifer W. (University) PRS

Ceramics Analysis at Jeitun, Turkmenistan  
Gosden C.H. C.Arch 1996

Daly, Patrick T (St Cross) PRS

Landscape Archaeology/GIS in Archaeology  
Lock G.R./Gosden, C.H. C.Arch. 1997

Davies, Gordon N D.Phil.

Economic Geography of the Ancient Greek Countryside : A re-examination of  
monumental rural sites on the island of Siphnos  
Purcell N/Coulton J.J. 1994

Day, Christopher A. (Keble) D.Phil.

Predicting Archeo-Colluvium on the Berkshire Downs  
Boardman J./Lock G.R. C.Arch 1995

Day, Deborah L. (St. Cross) D.Phil.

From the Durotriges to Dorset  
Henig M.E. C.Arch 1996

Decker, Michael (St. John's) D.Phil.

Late Roman and Early Byzantine Agricultural Production and Trade  
Mango M 1997

de Moor, Iziko (Lincoln) D.Phil.

The Griffin in the Art of the Near East, Egypt and Greece down to c. 550 BC  
Boardman J./Collon D.C. Lit. Hum. 1987

Dipla, Anthi (Hertford) D.Phil.

Women in Greek Mythology: Changes in Iconography from the Archaic to Classical  
period set against the possible social context  
Kurtz D.C./ Boardman J. C.Arch 1994

Ebbinghaus, Susanne (Lincoln) D.Phil.

The Horn-Shaped Rhyton  
Boardman J. C.Arch 1993

Economou, Maria (Linacre) D.Phil.

Interactive Multimedia in Museums and Archaeological Displays  
Moffett J. A & G 1992

Evans, Thomas L. (Linacre) PRS

Development of Ethnicity in the Iron Age as reflected in 'Marnian' Culture  
Cunliffe B.W. C.Arch 1995

Finn, Christine A. (Queen's) D.Phil.

Fieldwork: Archaeology and the Poetic Past of W.B. Yeats and Seamus Heaney  
O'Donoghue J.B. C.Arch 1995

Fulle, Gunnar (Brasenose) D.Phil.

The Organization of Mass Production of Clay Artefacts in the Roman Empire  
Steinby E.M.S. 1997

Gautier, Annaig (Linacre) D.Phil.

Thermoluminescence Dating  
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