WORLD ARCHAEOLOGICAL CONGRESS
CULTURAL HERITAGE MANUAL SERIES

Claire Smith
Heather Burke

Digging It Up Down Under

A Practical Guide to Doing Archaeology in Australia

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DIGGING IT UP DOWN UNDER: A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO DOING ARCHAEOLOGY IN AUSTRALIA
Claire Smith and Heather Burke

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Digging It Up Down Under

A Practical Guide to Doing Archaeology in Australia

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Published in conjunction with the World Archaeological Congress

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UNDEDICATION

As usual, this book is not dedicated
to Jo Smith or Robyn Walmsley

Foreword

Digging it up Down Under is the first book in a new series of *Global Cultural Heritage Manuals* being published by Springer. The aim of this series is to provide the essential information needed to conduct archaeological fieldwork in various parts of the world. This series of hands-on field manuals have been written for both undergraduate and graduate students, and for emerging professionals. Each book constitutes a step-by-step guide to undertaking and successfully completing cultural heritage fieldwork in a particular country or region.

The *Global Cultural Heritage Manuals Series* fills the need for a cohesive series of regional field manuals for archaeologists. While there are a number of useful books that provide an introduction to archaeological techniques, these books tend to focus primarily on conditions in North America or Britain, and this makes them of limited value to archaeologists working in other parts of the world.

The *Global Cultural Heritage Manuals Series* fills this gap, not only through providing information specifically crafted to the ethical, legislative and environmental conditions of each region or country, but also by providing the detailed advice on the complex process of undertaking archaeological fieldwork in different parts of the world. The books in this series are structured so they guide practitioners through the entire archaeological process, from research design and obtaining funding, visas and permissions, to site recording, analysis, report writing and other forms of publication. In addition, these books are written to give a sense of what it is like to live in these countries, and to provide an introduction to national lifestyles and the character of specific archaeological communities. In Australia, for example, the archaeological community is relatively small—around 550—and this makes for quite different dynamics to those in countries such as the USA or Japan, which have much larger archaeological communities.

Perhaps archaeology's greatest strength—and its greatest weakness—is that it can be undertaken throughout the world. From one point of view, if you can do archaeology in one country, you can do it anywhere. But, of course, this view is simplistic, as the way in which archaeology is conducted in different parts of the world can vary greatly. Certainly, legislative frameworks and ethical requirements vary enormously, as do the political contexts within which archaeology is conducted. Even basic techniques can vary according to region and if you're not from

a particular area it can be a difficult business working your way through the local systems. Sometimes, even getting access to museum collections can seem like a huge challenge. This series will help archaeologists to address such challenges, as the authors are local archaeologists who understand the legislative, policy and ethical requirements of archaeological fieldwork, as well as the international context and constraints of culture heritage practices in their part of the world. As a result, the complete set of manuals in this *Series*, tackling a range of coherently spelled out issues, will provide the archaeological community worldwide with a competent overview of issues that structure any fieldwork and make archaeologists aware that the circumstances they happen to work in are only one set of conditions out of the many that their colleagues encounter in other parts of the world.

It is this interest in promoting ethical, responsible archaeology globally that made the *Global Cultural Heritage Manuals Series* suited to being a World Archaeological Congress (WAC) book series. WAC is a non-governmental, not-for-profit organization and is the only archaeological organisation with elected global representation. Membership is open to archaeologists, heritage managers, students and members of the public (see www.worldarchaeologicalcongress.org). WAC is committed to promoting the scientific investigation of the past and to redressing global inequities in archaeology through scholarly programs, conferences, and publications. Perhaps most importantly within the context of this series, WAC seeks to promote ethical archaeological practice, a frank acknowledgement of the political contexts within which research is conducted, and the protection of cultural heritage worldwide. It has a special interest in helping Indigenous peoples, minorities and those living in economically disadvantaged countries to develop the measures needed to protect their cultural patrimony.

While the volumes in this series will be of value to archaeologists seeking to undertake projects or fieldwork in a foreign country, we also expect that these books will be used in archaeology and anthropology departments to deepen student understanding of archaeological practices around the world. These books should also be of use to cultural heritage professionals within each country or region, and we expect that they will be taken into the field by archaeologists and others undertaking heritage fieldwork. In addition, the techniques outlined in these books will be of use to non-government organizations, historical societies and other local community groups interested in understanding the archaeological process and recording their heritage sites responsibly.

Claire Smith, Heather Burke, Parth Chauan, Arkadiusz Marciniak
Series Editors

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