Overview

This topic provides direct experience in historical archaeological field methods, including general site recording, plan and section drawing, oral history recording, document analysis and artefact analysis.

The topic will contain some lecture and workshop content, but will mostly be directed towards teaching students the in-depth practical recording and assessment skills necessary for professional historical archaeological practice.

In 2015, the Historical Archaeology Field School will be run in conjunction with the Derwent Valley Council and the Friends of Willow Court in New Norfolk, Tasmania, at the site of the historic Willow Court, Australia’s oldest continuously used lunatic asylum.

From 1827 New Norfolk was the home of Willow Court, Tasmania’s first Asylum, which later became known as the Willow Court Training Centre and part of the Royal Derwent Hospital. The Asylum operated continuously in the one location until 2000. “The Barracks” is the original and oldest part that can still be viewed today.

Assessment

Field schools are a problem-based learning environment. Essentially all field work is a problem (or a sequence of problems) that you need to solve, so your assessment will be based around practical issues that will require a range of problem solving skills. Each instance you go into the field you will be faced with similar issues and problems, so use this opportunity to refine your skills.

Participants

There are no prerequisites for this field school and we welcome applications from people of all nationalities and anyone over the age of 18. Acceptance into the field school is not guaranteed, however, as there are limited places, so please apply early.

We expect this field school to be of particular interest to:

- Students of historical archaeology, cultural heritage studies and other related fields
- Avocational archaeologists
- Anyone interested in Australia’s colonial past, the history of lunatic asylums or the history of New Norfolk and Tasmania.
Costs

Non-Flinders University Australian Participants (domestic short course participants)
a. AUD$1750 tuition fee (inclusive of GST).
b. There may be an additional field work cost associated with accommodation and food. THIS WILL BE ADVISED.

Overseas Participants (international short course participants)
a. AUD$3000 tuition fee (inclusive of GST).
b. There may be an additional field work cost associated with accommodation and food. THIS WILL BE ADVISED.

Readings


Piddock, S. nd. The New Norfolk Hospital for the insane. Susan Piddocks overview NN (PDF 168KB) (automatic download)

Contact us

If you need further information about this short course, or the wider project, please contact the Topic Coordinator and Project Director:

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