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**Symposium: Battlefields and Resistance to Colonisation**

*Abstract Package*

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***Frontier Landscapes: Reading the Archaeological Record and Writing a History of Colonial Settlement in the Oliphants River Valley, South Africa***

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Although their sites and eras of inquiry often overlap, archaeologists and historians do not engage in enough cross-disciplinary dialog. This paper is an attempt to engage archaeological evidence and debates in the production of a historical narrative. Working from site reports and published interpretations, the paper uses archaeology in addition to archival sources to reconstruct the various ways that colonists, hunters and herders moved in the landscape, used natural resources, and created specific human habitations in the rugged Cedarberg Mountains of the Western Cape.

Archaeological evidence suggests the Oliphants River Valley in the Cedarberg was more intensively used by pre-colonial Khoisan than contemporary documents were willing to allow. The stories of commandos, escaped slaves and abandoned farms have more resonance as tales of resistance when coupled with the archaeological record. The examination of contested issues such as land use, water rights, and the colonial labor market shows the ambitious reach but limited success of early eighteenth-century European settlers. An archaeologically-informed perspective gives voice to hunters and herders who seldom appear as actors in colonial documents. The paper argues that this colonial frontier was a fractious place where independent Khoisan people maintained space for themselves long after the first colonial intervention.

***Comparative Historical Archaeology of Three Battlefields in Lesotho and the United States***

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In recent years historical archaeology of battle sites has provided the basis for new interpretations of how events unfolded and the roles of the participants. This paper focuses on three significant battles of the nineteenth century in which indigenous peoples, the Basuto of Southern Africa and the Seminoles of Florida, defended their homelands against invading Europeans and American forces. The Second Seminole War (1835-42) was primarily guerrilla warfare in which outnumbered indigenees rarely engaged the U. S. Army in pitched battle. Only two battles, at Lake Okeechobee and along the Loxahatchee River, left sufficient artifacts to provide a meaningful analysis. Most important, for the first time the exact locations of both encounters were established. Materials recovered also provided information on the weapons used by participants. Moroosi Mountain, site of the 1879 conflict between a Basuto chief and Cape Colony forces, is well marked but so remote that artifacts still littered the area over a century later. Analysis of cartridge samples collected by the author has increased our understanding of the weapons and tactics employed.

Comparisons will be drawn between the historical struggles of native peoples, living half a world apart, to preserve their political sovereignty and cultural independence.

***Defensive territory organisation in maritime Liguria (North-West Italy) between the end of the greek-gothic war and the longobard conquest (553-643 A.D.) through the analysis of archaeological and documentary sources.***

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The historical-political events which occurred in maritime Liguria starting from the 5<sup>th</sup> century are not clear at all because they affected only a limited and decentralised part of the territory compared to the real Province of Liguria, which had larger borders than now and whose administrative and religious centre was Milan. We still do not have a very precise historical framework which enables us to understand how maritime Liguria faced the general crisis that the Roman empire was going through and we do not have a global interpretative knowledge on the local importance of fundamental historical events for the political and social set-up in Europe between the 5<sup>th</sup> and the 7<sup>th</sup> century: the invasion of German peoples, the Gothic occupation and the Byzantine reconquest, the settlement of Byzantine people and the final Longobard occupation and domination.

This paper aims at analysing, through archaeological and documentary sources, the image of maritime Liguria in the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> century and what kind of solutions the Byzantine empire worked out to defend itself and to keep its control over the coastal landings of maritime Liguria.

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***ARCHAEOLOGICAL IMAGE OF THE COLONIZATION ON THE INDIAN RANQUEL WORLD. ( XVIII - XIX CENTURIES, THE DRY PAMPA, ARGENTINA).***

Dr Alicia Haydee

The cultural contact and the inter-ethnic conflict produced between the Ranqueles and the colonist peoples are studied from the perspective of the Historical Archaeology. During the XVIII and XIX centuries that aboriginal group had adopted the horse complex and was socially organised in hereditary chieftain lasted up to 1879 when over there took place the ethnic disturbance produced by the military persecution and extermination.

Although the archaeological investigation is supported over in the analysis of the material record produced by the aboriginal form of life, the abundant historical sources existence methodologically allow us to fuse the archaeological look with the available document information. The excavation of any sites, the analysis of the archaeological record and the study of the environmental distribution of the assessment have provided data about, of subsistence and socio-political strategies, elaborated for the resistance to the dominance. Especially, is keep in mind the following aspects: 1- the predominate raw matters and the not traditional objects; 2- the aboriginal assessments location and theirs relations with the access at the different season resources; 3- the trade interchange with other aboriginal groups and the colonists; and 4- the circulation roads, the spatial mobility and the efficiency for the territorial control.

***'Tahangarh: A Less Known 10 -11<sup>th</sup> Century Fort'***

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Our country is known for its rich heritage which is, in fact enriched archaeological sites - proto-historic period to latest ones. Number of sites are studied by our archaeologists and perhaps equal number of sites are still less known or unknown. Here, in this monograph, we are planning to highlight one of the less known archaeological sites of HISTORICAL ARCHAEOLOGY.

More than a century back in 1882-83 it was visited by General A.Cunningham and after this it was buried in our texts only. After a very long period we traced and relocated the site of the fort and planned to highlight its features and importance. It is a very rich 10 -11<sup>th</sup> century fort.

We have planned to sketch its features as it is surviving and this study will be illustrated by photographs and ground plans. In his presentation we will not give our interpretation while

describing the monuments. Its historicity will be proved by scattered textual information and of course gaps will be filled by live inscriptions only.

The study will be divided into: Introduction, monuments, inscription and conclusion.

### ***Colonization in the Greek Bronze Age?***

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There is much archaeological evidence of the presence of Minoan and of the Mycenaeans in the Aegean Sea and beyond, in Eastern as well as Central Mediterranean, during the second millennium BC. This is a well-documented phenomenon in Aegean studies. The extent and the nature of this however, have been a matter of prolific discussion and interpretation since the first discoveries. The early conception of a large scale colonization in the Aegean, especially of the Mycenaean mainland as well as the islands by Minoan settlers at the very beginning of the Late Bronze Age, originally suggested by Arthur Evans, the excavator of Knossos, has been the subject of a basic revision in the next decades. The existence of colonies of more limited scale, however, has been maintained, and is still postulated in the last studies, especially in the case of the islands, e.g. Kea, Melos, Thera, Kythera and Rhodes, respectively with the settlements of Aghia Irini, Phylakopi, Akrotoro, Kastri and Triandha, where extensive Minoan influences have been revealed in the excavations. The same 'pax minoica' should include also some parts of Asia Minor, particularly Miletus, where recent excavations by a German team have uncovered rich evidence for Minoan presence, including remains of wall paintings and written documents – a Mycenaean presence, is attested as well, at a slightly later date. The colonial interpretation should concern some additional places outside the Aegean sea, as far as the shores of North Africa, if we have to keep to the original interpretation of the miniature painting of room 5 in the West House at the same site of Akrotiri –the famous 'fleet fresco' on the south wall and the defence of a settlement on the north frieze- as illustrating an episode in the history of Minoan colonization.

The picture, however, seems to have been largely built –rather unconsciously in most cases- on the model of early Greek colonization in the succeeding late Geometric and early Archaic periods, in the eighth and seventh centuries, as illustrated mainly by archaeological data, on later Greek written sources (especially the well known concepts of 'thalassocracy' as argued in recent papers), if not on still more misleading modern models of late nineteenth and early twentieth century date –not unlike the very conceptions of Bronze Age Kingdom and palaces that have been largely inspired by much later contexts.

The paper proposes an investigation in the different contexts in the Aegean, aiming at a tentative definition of the main specific features and at establishing a hierarchy in the various degrees of foreign presence abroad. The forms of that presence, as can be reconstructed from the archaeological contexts in their broadest sense, is a first criterion, with the possibility to distinguish between episodic visits of Aegeans in foreign countries, in connection with diplomatic relations, longer or more regular

contacts of artistic nature ( the case of travelling craftsmen, as investigated in a lot of recent contributions) or of commercial or economic nature (especially for purchasing raw materials), and semi-permanent or permanent residence of a small community engaged in various activities. The nature and quantity of the material remains of foreign presence is another indication and an important distinction here is given by the identification of movable items, such as wall paintings or architectural features. Research has been stimulated in the case of the latter by recent discoveries of Minoan or Minoanizing paintings in Egyptian(Avaris?Tell el Dab'a) and Levantine contexts(Tell el Kabri) of middle second millennium date.

Written documents provide also much valuable evidence, as illustrated by the recent discovery of inscriptions of Minoan type on the island of Samothrace in the Northern Aegean, close to the Thracian shores. The administrative content of the documents gives evidence not only of the use of a specific foreign script abroad, but also of the use of a specific foreign administrative system and this is a clear sign of a higher degree of integration of a community of settlers, that is of a more permanent settlement. The paper argues that the situation in the Bronze Age was essentially different from that prevailing in later periods, even though differences of geographical and chronological nature are attested as, particularly between Eastern and Central Mediterranean sites and between Middle and Late Bronze Age contexts. Essential in this respect is that the main stimulus for establishing permanent settlements abroad in late Geometric and early Archaic Greece, namely the opening to new sources of supply of agricultural commodities to satisfy the needs of an increasing population – and the subsequent application of a systematic division of land in newly acquired territories that is well attested in south Italian, Sicilian and south Russian contexts of archaic and later date,- is apparently absent from Bronze Age concerns, judging at least from the well organized and apparently self sufficient system of redistribution of goods attested in the Linear B tablets of Late Bronze Age Crete and mainland Greece

### ***Showdown in the Pacific: England, Spain and Dawes Point Battery, Sydney***

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Abstract: The 1494 Treaty of Tordesillas "gave" Spain the colonial rights to the Pacific. Ratified by Britain over the next three centuries, Cook's claim of the east coast of Australia for England in 1770 was in clear defiance of the Treaty and its successors. Britain's colonisation of Sydney in 1788 pushed Spain and England to the brink of war at Nootka Sound in modern day British Columbia, Canada, in 1790. Britain flexed its military muscles over the incident, and Spain subsequently relaxed its claims , leaving the South Pacific open to Britain's colonial desires.

In 1790-91, in response to possible war with Spain, Dawes Point Battery was constructed on Sydney Harbour to protect the infant colony. It was demolished to make way for the construction of the Sydney Harbour Bridge in 1932, never having fired a shot in anger. In 1995 the site was archaeologically excavated to reveal substantial remains. These remains are currently the focus of interpretation to the public, commemorating, amongst other themes, the insecurity of the colonists, all too

aware of their distance from England and constantly watching to see for sign of the enemies of the British Empire.