The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens was established in 1980 following negotiations with the Greek government. The AAIA is similar to other scholarly institutions in Athens maintained by major European and American countries that aim to promote ancient, medieval and modern Greek studies. To this end the AAIA provides services to its members in Australia and facilities for working Greece.

This booklet, by the Foundation Director of the Institute, Emeritus Professor Alexander Cambitoglou, outlines the “Prehistory” of the Institute and describes the events, mainly after 1962, that led to its establishment.

Cover Image: The site of Zagora on Andros.
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The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens, 2010
THE PREHISTORY OF THE AUSTRALIAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL INSTITUTE AT ATHENS

by Alexander Cambitoglou

Layout by Wayne Mullen

1 In the preparation of this booklet I received considerable help from Dr Wayne Mullen. Mr John Kalokerinos read the text and suggested some changes which I gratefully accepted.
Dedicated to those that helped over so many years...
those that are no longer with us
and those that are still alive

Κάνε το καλό και ρίξ’ το στό γιαλό
Do what is good and do not expect any return
*(A modern Greek saying freely translated)*
THE YEARS BEFORE 1962

The creation of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens in 1980 was not a sudden event that occurred unexpectedly. It was the culmination of the continuous efforts of a number of people that take us back to the years that immediately followed the Second World War and more particularly to the creation of the Department of Archaeology of the University of Sydney in 1948 by the late Professor A.D. Trendall, an eminent scholar of international repute (Plate 2). Trendall, who had been Professor of Greek and Honorary Curator of the University’s Nicholson Museum since 1939, became concurrently Head of the new Department with a very limited staff consisting of the late J.R.B. Stewart (a Near Eastern archaeologist) as senior lecturer and a part-time museum assistant.²

This was the modest beginning of the Department of Archaeology. This beginning, however, was the result of a slow but steady development, which began in 1860 with Sir Charles Nicholson, when he gave his collection to the University (Plate 1) and was continued by its early Curators, notably by Professor W.J. Woodhouse and Professor Samuel Angus. Professor Trendall, however, who followed between the years 1939 and 1954 was the first to introduce courses on

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² A technical assistant was also appointed at a later stage and also a student demonstrator and a tutor on a part-time basis.
Classical Art and Archaeology especially adapted for students taking Greek, Latin or Ancient History.³

Soon after its establishment, the Department offered two first year courses, one in Classical, the other in Prehistoric and Near Eastern Archaeology; in 1950 second year courses were also offered.⁴

In 1954 an honours sequence was introduced, but this did not work properly because of a lack of sufficient staff.

The Department had barely been established when in 1954 Professor Trendall resigned from the University of Sydney to become Master of University House in the Australian National University in Canberra and, later on, also Deputy Vice-Chancellor. His departure from Sydney was a terrible blow to the newly founded Department and especially to Classical Archaeology, which was not taught after that until 1962.

Unlike the Archaeology Department, which is comparatively recent, the Nicholson Museum, as already mentioned, was created in 1860 and has a respectable age for a University collection by any western standards.⁵

³ A course in Ancient and Mediaeval Art given by Professor Trendall and Dr A.H. Macdonald was established in 1945 and was followed by a one year course called “Ancient Art and Archaeology” which was offered until 1948.

⁴ In 1951 only the course on Prehistoric and Near Eastern Archaeology was offered, since Professor Trendall was away on sabbatical leave. Both courses were resumed in 1952 but in 1953 the course in Classical Archaeology was again interrupted because Professor Trendall was Acting Vice-Chancellor that year.

⁵ The centenary of the Nicholson Museum was celebrated with a commemorative exhibition
Since its creation it has been enriched by gifts and acquisitions resulting from contributions made by the University to foreign archaeological expeditions and by direct purchases on the international market. I should especially mention here the “Nicholson Hermes” given by the three sons of Sir Charles Nicholson (Sir Charles, the second baronet, Mr Archibald Nicholson and Dr Sidney Nicholson) in 1934, the Deissmann collection of Greek ostraka, secured for the museum by Professor Samuel Angus and part of the A.B. Triggs collection of Greek and Roman coins presented by Mrs Triggs (1938), again through the good offices of Professor Samuel Angus. Many important purchases of works of classical art were made during the early post-war years by Professor Trendall, who added a number of significant Attic and Greek South Italian vases to the collection (Plate 3). During the fifties and in 1960 to 1961, J.R.B. Stewart who had become recently the first Edwin Cuthbert Hall Professor in Near Eastern Archaeology and also Head of the Department and Honorary Curator of the Nicholson Museum, enriched the Cypriot collection considerably as a result of his own excavations on the island and from purchases on the market.6

6 The question of space for the Nicholson Museum and the Department became difficult in the fifties and Stewart put his own residence at Mount Pleasant, near Bathurst, at the disposal of the University, but his offer was rejected by the Senate.
I knew of course before my arrival in Sydney at the end of 1961 that the Nicholson Museum was a major University collection, but I recall distinctly the feeling of depression that I experienced when I first crossed its entrance door in the South West corner of the Main Quadrangle of the University. Originals and plaster casts covered with dust and cobwebs were all thrown together in three badly lit, barn-like rooms under the old Fisher library. This was the state of the Department of Archaeology and the Nicholson Museum in the beginning of 1962 and the prospects were not very bright, especially since the news that reached the University in Sydney was that Professor Stewart, whom I had met only twice, was seriously ill at his home near Bathurst. Soon after, Professor Stewart died and I had to pass on the sad news to the Vice-Chancellor, who appointed me Acting Head of the Department of Archaeology and Acting Curator of the Nicholson Museum. In 1963 the partly endowed Edwin Cuthbert Hall Chair in Near Eastern Archaeology, which had been occupied by the late Professor Stewart for only a few months, was frozen and a University Chair in Archaeology was advertised. I applied and was appointed to it in the same year.

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7 In February 1962.
8 In April 1962.
THE YEARS AFTER 1962

The Department of Archaeology

Administratively speaking the Department of Archaeology and the Nicholson Museum were in a chaotic state when I was appointed the Acting Head in 1962. But there were some very encouraging signs: firstly, in 1961 the academic staff had been increased, so that in spite of the death of Professor Stewart and one resignation, there were three newly appointed teaching members: Miss J.M. Birmingham in Near Eastern, Mr J.V.S. Megaw in European and myself in Classical Archaeology; secondly, the museum staff had been increased to include an assistant, a photographer, and a conservator; thirdly, there was in the university a good archaeological library, mainly due to Professor Trendall’s efforts. Above all, there was the fine collection of the Nicholson Museum, which could be used for teaching purposes, and the administration had just appropriated funds for its renovation.

The climate, therefore, was favourable for a thorough reorganisation, although in 1962 the working conditions and the accommodation for the members of the Department and the Museum were very bad. 10

9 In 1960 the staff of both Department and Museum consisted of a Professor, a lecturer, a technical assistant, a museum assistant and a part-time Secretary, who later became full-time.
10 These improved greatly in the course of the 1960s.
With the help of an able staff, the existence of a very hard working Secretary (the late Mrs Elizabeth B. Cameron) and the support of a helpful and understanding administration and Faculty, especially the support of the then Vice-Chancellor, Professor (later Sir) Stephen Roberts (*Plate 4*) and the Chairman of the Professorial Board and later Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Professor W.M. O’Neil (*Plate 5*), a new course was planned and in 1962 archaeology was offered as a first year subject taught jointly by the three lecturers of the Department. Full pass, honours and postgraduate courses were gradually introduced during the next few years.

My opinion from the beginning was that by virtue of our Museum, our library and the tradition of the University, the Department should concentrate on Classical and Near Eastern Archaeology and consolidate these areas before expanding to other fields. Following Trendall’s departure from Sydney, Classical Archaeology had not been taught for eight years until I arrived in Sydney at the end of 1961 and I explained to the Vice-Chancellor, when I became Acting Head of the Department, that I considered it my duty to restore the subject to its former position. My policies as Head of the Department of Archaeology during the years of the 1960s and part of the 1970s cannot be understood without this plan in mind.
However, since there was a European Archaeologist in the Department, a course was planned that was equally divided between Near Eastern, Classical and European Archaeology at pass, honours and postgraduate levels and this was gradually implemented during the next few years. European Archaeology remained in the curriculum until the resignation of Mr Megaw from the University in 1972, after which the subject was dropped. As part of the reorganisation I convinced Professor O’Neil that a second classical archaeologist was needed and with his help I secured Dr J.R. Green’s appointment, who joined the department in 1964 as a Senior Lecturer and later was promoted to an Associate Professorship (Plate 6).

Dr Green proved to be a very able member of the teaching staff and a distinguished scholar. In addition we were granted the position of a tutor. Concurrently, the policy was introduced of inviting distinguished scholars from overseas as visiting lecturers. Efforts were also made in two other directions, the library and the slide collection. A milestone in the development of the library was the purchase of the late Professor Stewart’s mainly Near Eastern and Numismatic Library (1963) and the appointment in 1974 of a part-time slide librarian.

As a result of these efforts, the numbers of students and their interest in archaeology increased and one of the manifestations of these interests was the foundation as early as 1962 of the
Archaeological Society, a body which in addition to promoting archaeological activity also acted as a liaison between students and staff. Here it is worth mentioning that the number of students who took the final examinations in Archaeology I in 1963 was 56, while the number of students to take the final examination in Archaeology I in the 1970s was up to 130. Over the years, the Department also produced a number of outstanding graduates, who did in Sydney or abroad excellent post-graduate work. In 1973, again with the support of Professor O’Neil, I secured the appointment of Dr Jean-Paul Descœudres as a Lecturer (later on a Senior Lecturer and Associate Professor) in the Department. The selection of Descœudres was made not only because he was a good scholar, but also because he had the right views about the importance of foreign languages in the discipline of Classical Archaeology (Plate 7)\textsuperscript{11}.

I should add here that a special tutorship for the Classical section of the course was granted to the Department in the 1970s, which came to have eight teaching staff members, four for the Near Eastern section and four for the Classical.

\textsuperscript{11} Foreign languages are sadly neglected both at high school and university levels in Australia. Four are the official languages (English, French, German and Italian) accepted and used in two most important current international projects in Classical Archaeology: the project of the Corpus Vasorum Antiquorum published under the auspices of the Union Académique Internationale and that of the Lexicon Iconographicum Mythologiae Classicae.
The Nicholson Museum

Comparable changes took place in the Nicholson Museum. Repair work started in 1962 preceded by the storage of the collection, of both originals and plaster casts. Lists had to be prepared before the material could be packed up. Often my colleagues and I had to cart valuable and heavy objects and when, as a result of a workman’s error (he had switched on the mains), a basement full of stored museum material was flooded (this happened immediately after my official appointment as Professor and Honorary Curator) we had to struggle to rescue priceless objects from this unexpected near-disaster. This and a burglary in 1967 which resulted in a theft of a number of Greek and Roman coins were painful experiences.

To turn the interior of a gothic revival building into a modern museum was not an easy task (Plate 8). The arrangement was the result of an attempt, on the basis of a limited budget, to display the objects to their best advantage without permanently damaging the original work of the architect. There are various ways of mounting a museum display, all equally good (or for that matter medium or bad) and of course one can aim at changing the display periodically and organising temporary exhibitions (if one has the necessary staff and funds). Arguments about principles to be followed, at meetings of the staff, were heated and inconsistent. Finally, I decided that I should
use all available knowledge and talent, but that I should take full responsibility for the final decisions regarding the display of objects.

Although the material exhibited in the Museum in the Near Eastern and Egyptian sections was chosen by Miss J.M. Birmingham, the European section by Mr J.V.S. Megaw and the Classical section by myself and Dr J.R. Green (supported by Miss Diana Wood) I took full responsibility for the exhibition in the Nicholson Museum, from the choice of colour of the walls and carpets to the position of every single object in the cases. The principles that I adopted in the display were simple: to respect the objects displayed, which were often works of art, and to avoid their cluttering in the show cases. Since the venue could not be changed I tried to overcome its most awkward features; and since I could not even choose the carpenters, who were to make new or alter old show cases\textsuperscript{12}, I should not give them tasks which they could not carry out successfully. Finally, since we lacked the necessary space, personnel and financial means for the organisation of temporary exhibitions, I aimed at a more or less permanent display (Plate 9).

The plaster casts which earlier had been described by Trendall as “covered in grime… with an emphasis on the utile rather than the dulce” were to be removed to separate premises promised by the administration. Although the new galleries and displays were

\textsuperscript{12} I was allowed to use only the University's available technical staff.
completed by 1967, the premises for the casts were never made available. They were, therefore, first offered to the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences (the predecessor of the Powerhouse Museum) which turned the offer down, before being placed on permanent loan in various high schools in Sydney, where they were badly treated.

The official opening of the new exhibition took place on 23 September 1967 presided over by the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor. Fittingly, Professor Trendall was invited to launch it.

Lack of sufficient staff was a significant issue during the years of all these changes. In 1962, in addition to the Honorary Curator, there was only an assistant, a photographer and a conservator in the Museum. In 1965 a full-time attendant was appointed and in 1968 a part-time Secretary.

Although the collection was a very important one, there were many gaps in it. A policy therefore was adopted of securing gifts. Over the years a number of privately owned objects were turned over to the Museum (Plate 10).

High specialisation is nowadays both inevitable and desirable; it has certainly affected Archaeology. Specialisation, however, can bring isolation to the point of making an academic discipline, especially in the humanities, incomprehensible and irrelevant to Society. Therefore, the receptive public must be educated and kept informed.
In this respect Professor Trendall was again the pioneer who drew the attention of the public to the collection by forming the “Friends of the Nicholson Museum”. After his departure, the group had not altogether fallen apart but rather had stagnated. After 1962 the number of its members had increased from around 75 to about 400. In return for a comparatively small annual donation the Friends were invited to a number of lectures every year, to films of archaeological content and other functions and were given an opportunity to inspect Museum objects.

Since 1963 a number of distinguished scholars lectured to “The Friends”, in addition to giving regular courses and seminars to students including Professor A.D. Trendall, Professor Sir John Beazley (Plate 11), The Hon. Sir Steven Runciman, Professor J.T. Burke, Professor Spyridon Marinatos, Dr. J.T. Coulton, Professor George Mylonas, Professor Charles Mitchell, Professor Helene Kantor, Professor J.B. Hennessy, Professor Homer A. Thompson (Plate 12), Dr Dorothy Burr Thompson (Plate 13), Professor Paul Åstrom, Dr Nikolas Yalouris and Dr John Ward Perkins.

I too gave lectures to “The Friends” from time to time on various topics, but mostly on the progress of the University’s excavations at Zagora (after 1967) and later Torone (after 1975).13

13 (See below)
Several special exhibitions were organised for “The Friends” and the more general public in the War Memorial Art Gallery of the University, including one in memory of the late Professor J.R.B. Stewart, a second with the title “Foundations of Europe” and a third, in collaboration with the David Jones Art Gallery, titled “3000 Years of Classical Art”.

Zagora, Torone and the Association for Classical Archaeology

With the Department of Archaeology and the Nicholson Museum reasonably well organised, I felt that the time had come for the mounting of an archaeological expedition and in the mid 1960s I had started looking for a site in Greece that would be appropriate for our Department from the scholarly, scientific and financial points of view. Zagora on the island of Andros was suggested to me by the late Professor Nicolas Kontoleon of the University of Athens. I accepted his advice which proved to be justified. The great British specialist of Greece during the Geometric period, the late Professor Nicolas Coldstream, who visited the site more than once during the excavation seasons commented on Zagora as follows:
“At Zagora, on the southwest coast of Andros, a stone built Geometric town of 6.4 hectares has been partly explored. Since occupation is virtually limited to the eighth century, the architecture is extremely well preserved, and no other place in the Greek world offers a clearer picture of domestic life during this period”.

An undertaking, however, of such dimensions could not have been organised without the sponsorship of the Athens Archaeological Society, which was obtained (see below), and without considerable financial support. The Australian Research Grants Committee and the University were prepared to provide funds, but these were inadequate to support the expedition. Therefore, assistance from outside sources had to be sought.

In 1966 and early 1967 a small group of interested enlightened citizens presided over by Mr (later Sir) Arthur T. George (Georgiatos) (Plate 14) became the founding members of the “Association for Classical Archaeology” which, following the approval of its Constitution by the Senate of the University, was inaugurated at a dinner at the Menzies hotel on 6 April 1967. The members of the first council of the Association were Mr N.G. Barboutis, Dr G.E. Bauer, Professor Alexander Cambitoglou, Mr James O. Fairfax, Professor Ralph B. Farrel, Mr V.J. Flynn, Mr Arthur T. George (Chairman), Mr

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Considerable contributions were made at that function in cash or pledges, which enabled us to begin the Zagora excavations in Andros. Work at Andros was carried out during four digging and four study seasons spread over the 10 years between 1967 and 1977. The finds from the excavations on the headland of Zagora were exciting and a number of reports including Zagora 1 and Zagora 2 were subsequently published and Zagora 3 is now in preparation (Plate 15).

The expedition to Zagora proved to be lucky also in another way. Its finds were not hidden away in a store room as is often the case with the finds of other expeditions. Two enlightened Andriot friends, Basil and Eliza Goulandri, were persuaded to donate to their island a museum for the display of our finds and also other, mostly chance, finds from Andros (Plates 16 & 17).

The excavations at Torone (Plates 18 & 19) were begun as a major new undertaking in 1975 and continued until 1995. Thirteen digging and ten study seasons (Plate 20) were conducted during that period and a number of long reports as well as three major works on the excavations have already been published. Two further monographs are in preparation. Currently a team under the leadership of Dr
Stavros Paspalas, is studying the material for the publication of the excavations between 1981 and 1984 (Plate 21).

Under the sponsorship of the Council of the Association for Classical Archaeology ably chaired by Sir Arthur George and supported by “The Ladies Committee” especially Lady Plowman, Lady Cassidy, Mrs Helen Findlater, Mrs Alice Morgan (Plate 22) Mrs Mary Tancred (Plate 23), Mrs Gail Comino (Plate 24), Mrs Zoe Kominatos (Plate 25) and Dr Monica Jackson (Plate 26) the Association expanded its activities establishing two important annual events: the Nicholson Museum Concerts of chamber music in collaboration with Musica Viva Australia in 1971 and the archaeological tours of Greece, South Italy and Sicily in 1973.

Some of the best chamber music ensembles in the world, like the Bartok, the Borodin (Plate 27) and the Tokyo String Quartets, performed annually for 29 years in the Great Hall of the University and the archaeological tours, combined with short visits to such Museums as the Glyptothek in Munich and the British Museum in London became very popular.
The Endowment of the Chair of Classical Archaeology

These annual events established good relations with the wider enlightened public in Sydney and earned financial and moral support for the Nicholson Museum and the Department of Archaeology. By the early 1970s a lot had been done and a great deal had been achieved. But the future of Classical Archaeology in Sydney did not seem to me to be secure.

I have already mentioned that the gap created by Professor Trendall’s departure from the University in 1954 was not filled before 1962, when a course was again introduced on the subject with my appointment as Senior Lecturer, and the financial crisis that had hit Australia in the 1970s made me think that my appointment in 1963 as Professor would not, perhaps, have occurred had the 1960s not been years of almost extravagant expansion for Australia’s universities.

Following the appointment of Dr Basil Hennessy as the second Edwin Cuthbert Hall Professor in 1973 there were in the Department of Archaeology two Professors, one in the Near Eastern section, the other, myself, who, although my title was “Professor of Archaeology”, took exclusive care of the classical section. Unlike Professor Hennessy’s chair, however, mine was not endowed, and although the number of non-professorial members of the teaching staff was
equal in the two sections, this parity was precarious. The future of the endowed Professorial Chair in the Near Eastern Section was secured. If my Chair became vacant because of resignation, retirement or death – in 1971 I had suffered a massive heart attack – the continuation or termination of the Classical Professorship would have depended on various factors, not all of them purely academic. After all, the Department of Archaeology was, and still is, not one of the large departments of the Faculty of Arts. My own disappearance from the stage and one resignation of another staff member could reduce the status of Classical Archaeology overnight to that of lectureships or even just one lectureship. Therefore, as long as the Chair I occupied remained unendowed the future of Classical Archaeology was not secure in the University of Sydney.

I tried, in vain, to convince a number of well-to-do acquaintances in Sydney, that were favourably disposed toward the study and teaching of Classics, to endow a Chair of Classical Archaeology in the University of Sydney. The only person that responded, not without resistance, was Sir Arthur T. George. A long period of negotiations between him, the then Vice-Chancellor Professor (later Sir) Bruce Williams (Plate 28) and myself finally led to a financial agreement, which although not entirely satisfactory for the University, established the permanency of the Chair and in 1978 my title was changed and
I became the first Arthur and Renée George Professor of Classical Archaeology (Plate 29). Following my retirement in 1989 I was succeeded by Associate Professor J.R. Green, who became the second Arthur and Renée George Professor (Plate 6) and following his retirement in 2003 Associate Professor Margaret Miller of Toronto, Canada, became the third, current, Arthur and Renée George Professor (Plate 30).

The Creation of the

**Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens**

The achievements discussed above did not take care of an important problem, the problem of the safe continuation of our field work in Greece without me as director. In 1967 we had initiated the first Australian archaeological expedition in that country with the excavations at the Geometric site of Zagora on the island of Andros, in spite of the fact that a permit to carry out field work in Greece could not be granted by the Greek Ministry of Culture to archaeologists from Australia, since Australia had no official cultural representation in the country. This technical legal problem had been solved in 1967 thanks to the generous assistance of the Council of the Athens Archaeological Society (Plates 31-32) and more particularly the
support of the late Professor Anastasios Orlandos, who was at that
time its Secretary General (*Plate 33*). As a result of this support the
Australian excavations at Zagora, and later on at Torone, became
possible because they were formally adopted by the Society, with the
Australian team as its agent, and were carried out with me as director
because I was one of the Society’s fellows. This point was important
because the Athens Archaeological Society carries out fieldwork only
under the directorship of one of its fellows.

This solution, which took care of the problem temporarily, was
not satisfactory in the long run, as I was very conscious of the fact
that I was mortal following the heart attack I had suffered in 1971.
Following the example of the other Foreign Schools in Athens, the
Australian cultural presence in Greece had to become formal and
permanent. An Australian Institute in Athens had to be created and for
that purpose I started work to make the concept of such an ambitious
project a reality.

Following protracted negotiations between the Greek Ministry of
Culture and the Vice-Chancellor of the University of Sydney, Professor
Sir Bruce Williams, which lasted about two years the Institute was
established by a decision of the Greek Ministry of Culture in 1980 and
formally inaugurated in the University of Sydney in April 1981.
Epilogue

The Institute is now thirty years old (*Plates 34-39*) and although it receives no Government support it is academically well-established among the other sixteen Foreign Schools in the Greek capital.

The Institute runs an office and a hostel in Athens (*Plates 40-43*), which help Australian scholars that need to carry out research in Greece. It also runs an academic programme of lectures and seminars for the academic community of Athens and a summer school in collaboration with the Department of Classical Archaeology of the University of Sydney designed primarily for Australian university students. It offers a fellowship every second year and a number of scholarships for students every year. One of its major contributions in Australia is the Visiting Professorship which brings on an annual basis a distinguished scholar from Europe or America to lecture and conduct seminars in all the major Universities of the country. Recently it has created a Visiting Professorial Research Fellowship that will bring to Australia at regular intervals for a period of a few months a distinguished foreign scholar to do his research in Sydney. It carries out fieldwork in Greece and publishes two journals. (It is partly responsible for the publication of its official journal, *“Mediterranean Archaeology”* and fully responsible for the publication of its *“Bulletin”*).
One of its most important contributions, however, is the creation of six full or part time positions occupied by archaeologists.

For its good work the Institute owes a lot to the assistance of the University of Sydney, the assistance of its members, but above all to the moral and material support of the late Professor J. A. Young (Plate 44).

Alexander Cambitoglou

Sydney, April 2010
Plate 1: Portrait of Sir Charles Nicholson, Bt
by George Koberwein, 1867
The University of Sydney, University Art Gallery UA 1961.2
Plate 2: Professor A.D. Trendall

Plate 3: Lucanian Skyphos with a depiction of Aura
Purchased with the aid of a donation from Sir Charles McDonald
Near the Schwerin Group, end of the fifth century BC
University of Sydney, Nicholson Museum NM 53.30
Plate 4: Professor Sir Stephen Roberts
University of Sydney Archives

Plate 5: Professor W.M. O’Neill
University of Sydney Archives
Plate 6: Professor J.R. Green, second Arthur and Renée George Professor of Classical Archaeology

Plate 7: Professor J.-P. Descoëtjus
Plate 8: (Above) *The great gallery of the Nicholson Museum before its renovation in the 1960s*, and Plate 9: (Below) *The great gallery after the renovation of the 1960s*
Plate 10: *Attic black figure amphora, attributed to the Antimenes Painter 525-500BC*
Gift of Mrs Mary Tancred
University of Sydney, Nicholson Museum NM 77.1

Plate 11: *Professor Sir John Beazley*
Plate 12: (Above) Professor Homer A. Thompson, Director of the excavations at the ancient “Agora” in Athens, and Plate 13: (Below) Dr Dorothy Burr Thompson
Plate 14: *Sir Arthur T. George*

Plate 15: *Zagora, View from the North-East*
Plate 16: (Above) The Archaeological Museum at Chora, Andros inaugurated in 1980. Donation of Basil and Eliza Goulandri, and Plate 17: (Below) Basil and Eliza Goulandri
Plate 18: (Above) The site of Torone
Air-view from the North, and
Plate 19: (Below) The promontory of the Lekythos
Plate 20: *Sir Arthur and Lady George arriving at Torone by helicopter*

Plate 21: *The prehistoric “goddess of Torone”*
Members of the Ladies’ Committee
Plate 22: *Mrs Alice Morgan*

Members of the Ladies’ Committee
Plate 23: (Left) *Mrs Mary Tancred,*  
and Plate 24: (Right) *Mrs Gail Comino*
Members of the Ladies’ Committee
Plate 25: (Left) Mrs Zoe Kominatos,
and Plate 26: (Right) Dr Monica Jackson

Plate 27: The Borodin String Quartet
Plate 28: Professor Sir Bruce Williams
University of Sydney Archives

Plate 29: Professor Alexander Cambitoglou, first
Arthur and Renée George Professor of Classical Archaeology
Plate 30: Professor Margaret C. Miller, third Arthur and Renée George Professor of Classical Archaeology

Plate 31: The Athens Archaeological Society
Plate 32: *The Library of the Athens Archaeological Society*

Plate 33: *Professor Anastasios Orlandos*  
*Secretary General of the Athens Archaeological Society*
Plate 34: (Left) The first premises of the Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens (1989-2005) at 125 Darlington Road, University of Sydney, and Plate 35: (Right) The Institute’s Library in Darlington Road

Plate 36: (Left) The Old Teachers’ College, University of Sydney, which housed the premises of the AAIA between 2005 and 2008, and Plate 37: (Right) The Institute’s Library in the Old Teachers’ College
Plate 38: (Above) The Madsen Building in the University of Sydney which houses the premises of the AAIA, and Plate 39: (Below) The Institute’s Offices in the Madsen Building
Plate 40: (Left) The Athens Office, exterior (second floor), and Plate 41: (Right) A room inside the Athens Office

Plate 42: (Left) The Athens Hostel, library, and Plate 43: (Right) The Athens Hostel, exterior (fourth floor)
Plate 44: *The late Professor John Atherton Young*
The Australian Archaeological Institute at Athens was established in 1980 following negotiations with the Greek government. The AAIA is similar to other scholarly institutions in Athens maintained by major European and American countries that aim to promote ancient, medieval and modern Greek studies. To this end the AAIA provides services to its members in Australia and facilities for working Greece.

This booklet, by the Foundation Director of the Institute, Emeritus Professor Alexander Cambitoglou, outlines the “Prehistory” of the Institute and describes the events, mainly after 1962, that led to its establishment.

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