

the field by himself, either during his search for rock art, or during his excursions with the Anthropological Society of New South Wales. Those not in this category were donated by others including W.W. Thorpe, W.R. Harper, C. Barrett, G.A. Hately, A.S. Kenyon and G. Bunyan. The location from which each item was obtained was marked on the artefact. This applied even to the smallest of points. Many of the items can be cross-referenced with the photograph and manuscript collection.

Of particular interest to this paper is a subset of 96 stone artefacts from the Lapstone Creek Rockshelter. There are also photographs of the excavation activity at the shelter and field notes classifying the items found, the layers within which they were found and the names of the persons who participated in the excavation. All these items and material are labelled 'Emu Plains Cave' or 'Emu Cave', now known to be the same cave as the 'Lapstone Creek Rockshelter'.

George Bunyan (b.1879–d.1967)

George Bunyan lived at Emu Plains where he was the local butcher. He could not help but notice the evidence of Aboriginal culture that existed in the region where he lived. He became intensely interested in what he saw and, as a hobby, set about collecting artefacts and discovering caves once inhabited by Aboriginal people. At some stage this activity brought him into contact with Bernard Hornshaw and the two families became close friends. Together, Hornshaw and Bunyan collected many artefacts from around the Emu Plains region and they jointly investigated many caves. Bunyan enjoyed close relations with local farmers who gave him permission to search for artefacts on their land. One very successful technique was to search along the fencelines where farmers threw rocks that might interfere with ploughing, sowing and harvesting operations (Norma Ritchie, pers. comm., 2003; Lyndell Shaw and Colin Hornshaw, pers. comm., 1995, 2005).

Bunyan was invited into local schools to talk to children about the field evidence of Aboriginal culture, and school groups were often taken to his home to see his artefact collection (Norma Ritchie, pers. comm., 2003). He was in fact so free with access to his collection, with little or no supervision, that much of the collection was pilfered and lost over the years (Norma Ritchie, pers. comm., 2003). On the death of Bunyan in 1967, Ritchie (Bunyan's grand-daughter and shown as a young girl in Figure 1) became custodian of the collection. Unfortunately, most of it 'disappeared' when she put it into storage for several years. What remained was donated to the Nepean District Historical Society and some items have found their way into the Australian Museum collection.

Hornshaw's field notes and photographs record that Bunyan accompanied him on at least 13 of his field trips. Bunyan also donated photographs and artefacts to the Hornshaw collections.

Clifton Cappie Towle (b.1888–d.1946)

Clifton Towle held a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Sydney and worked with the New South Wales Railways. He was an active member of the Anthropological Society of New South Wales and, together with W.W. Thorpe, was responsible for the Society's formation in 1928 (Anthropological Society of

New South Wales 1931a). Like Hornshaw, Towle's knowledge of Aboriginal culture, art and artefacts was acquired through private reading and his own field observations. He acquired a significant collection of both wood and stone Aboriginal artefacts many of which he donated to Hornshaw's collection. Towle also donated numerous photographs to Hornshaw's photograph collection. These photographs show that Towle travelled widely in his search for Aboriginal artefacts, including far western New South Wales and southwestern Queensland. On his death Towle's artefact collection was bequeathed to the Australian Museum.

Unlike Hornshaw, Towle published widely, particularly in *Oceania*, *Victorian Naturalist*, *Mankind* and *Proceedings of the Royal Society of New South Wales*. Hornshaw's field notes record that Towle accompanied him on at least three of his field trips.

L.H. Preston

Little is on record about Preston except that he lived at Kingswood, which is not far from Emu Plains. Hornshaw's field notes and photographs record that Preston accompanied him on at least two of his field trips. Provenance cards show that Preston donated a number of stone artefacts to Hornshaw's collection, artefacts he had excavated from caves in the Emu Plains area with the assistance of George Bunyan.

The Professional

Frederick David McCarthy (b.1905–d.1997)

A detailed biography of Frederick McCarthy can be found in McBryde (1998) but a few landmarks of his career are given here. Fred McCarthy left school at the age of 14 and soon found himself working at the Australian Museum as a library assistant. However, over the ensuing years he gained a broad spectrum of experience in a variety of scientific departments at the Museum. Despite his lack of formal qualifications he took over as head of the Ethnology Department on the sudden death of William Walford Thorpe in September 1932 and proceeded to successfully complete the work necessary to qualify for a Diploma in Anthropology from the University of Sydney in 1935. He held the museum position until 1964 when he became the first principal of the Australian Institute of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (AIATSIS), a position he held until his retirement in 1971.

McCarthy was an active member of the Anthropological Society of New South Wales. At the time of the Lapstone Creek Rockshelter excavation he was Honorary Secretary.

McCarthy knew Bunyan, Hornshaw, Towle and Preston. Hornshaw's field notes record that McCarthy accompanied him on at least two of his field trips. McCarthy also donated photographs to Hornshaw's collection. Furthermore, McCarthy was also aware of the existence of significant private collections of Aboriginal artefacts. For example, McCarthy (1948) records that he had examined implements in the private collections of both Towle and Bunyan that had been retrieved from along fencelines in the Emu Plains area after having been exposed by agricultural activities such as ploughing. With respect to Preston, McCarthy (1934:240) records that he was taken by Preston to be shown a rockshelter at Emu Plains.