

School museums: The Old Schoolhouse, Merimbula

The Old School Museum at Merimbula on the far South Coast of NSW is housed in a beautiful heritage building dating from 1873. The school with the master's residence adjoining used locally quarried stone, possibly ensuring its survival as a rare example of colonial building in the era before the Public Instruction Acts.

The building is cared for by the Merimbula-Imlay Historical Society which holds an archive collection of written material, oral histories, photographs and maps. It acquires, conserves, researches and exhibits the history of Merimbula, Pambula and adjacent areas.

Among the largest objects in its collection are two splendid wooden boats, a reminder that in this area people lived and worked on waterways, the rivers and coastal lakes. Many a child must have rowed some of their way to school in earlier days.

A Conference Not To be Missed

Preparation for the historic joint conference of the ANZHESS and the ANME at the Inspire Centre from **24-27 September** at the Inspire Centre. The key date again is:

24-27 September

Victoria Redfern has been leading the organising work with her team on the Conference Events and Visits Committee.

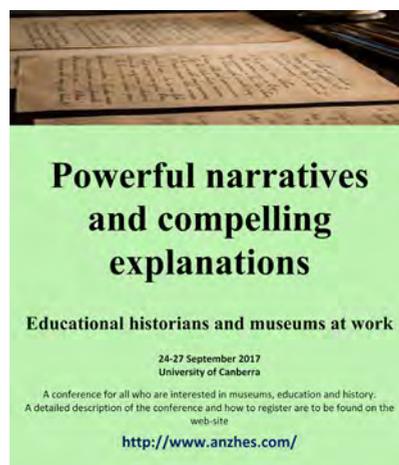
The conference is worthy of special attention. A highlight will be the Dean of the ESTeM Faculty, Professor Geoffrey Riordan, presenting the ANME Annual Lecture as a keynote address on Sunday 24th September at 6.00pm. It will be excellent to have a paper and then a monograph on teacher education in the ANME Monograph Series.

Full conference information can be found at:

www.anzhes.com

ANME celebrates twenty-one years of service to educational heritage

Editor: Dr John McIntyre



Visitor Numbers Increase

ANME's increasing public profile is attracting more visitors. They come with a variety of interests, including viewing their respective collections of items donated, research and assistance with museum practice and collections management.

The photo shows our most recent visitors (right to left) Director-General of the National Archives of Australia, Dr David Fricker and the Dean, of the Faculty of Arts and Design at the University of Canberra, Professor Lyndon Anderson and ANME's Deputy Chair, Dr Tracy Ireland, following a tour of the collection by ANME's Curatorial Adviser, Dr Geoffrey Burkhardt and Curator Hakim Abdul Rahim,



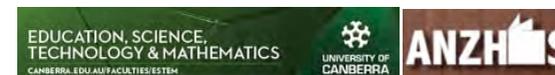
School Badges: Indicators of Belonging

The ANME has approximately 120 badges of Australian primary and secondary schools and colleges. These badges are worn to indicate that students belong to a particular school or college. Most usually take the form of a small metal shield which contains an enamelled representation of the school's colours, symbol or motif. A badge may be worn as a lapel broach, reproduced on a school blazer pocket, an official letterhead or sporting pennants and trophies.



Badges have very ancient origins, dating back to the medieval era when knights emblazoned their family colours on their shields, as a means of identifying to their friends and foes their identity. In later decades schools, colleges, universities and other institutions began to use the image of a shield containing their institution's colours and themes as distinguishing characteristics in their coats of arms. Originally, in addition to the image of an emblazoned shield, aristocratic families adopted a family motto, usually in Latin. The inclusion of motto at the base of a shield was later adopted by schools and other educational institutions. Thus today, many Australian school badges still feature a motto in Latin, however there is an increasing use of mottos in English, particularly among primary schools rather secondary schools and colleges. School

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badges often include images of opened books, and also a 'Fame or lamp of knowledge and learning' as motifs on their school's badge. The badges of church schools will often include an image of a bishop's mitre, either in the body of the shield itself or, most usually, directly above the shield—it becomes the crest in the coat of arms of the school.

—Dr Geoffrey Burkhardt, Curatorial Adviser

A footnote to this article. The Director has in his collection four rare school prize medallions dating to the early 20th century (pictured right). These medallions are made of silver and feature raised 'shields' that could be inscribed. The medallions were designed to hang from a 'fob'.

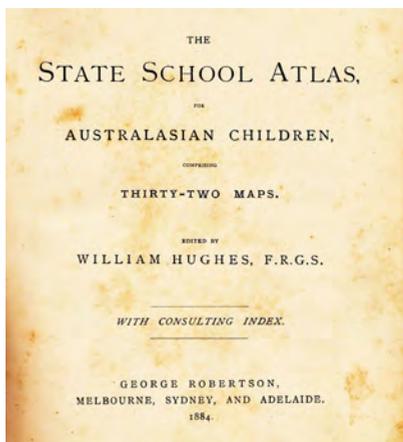


School Atlases in the ANME Collection

The Australian National Museum of Education currently has a modest collection of twenty-nine school atlases, the earliest dating from 1869 and the latest from the 1970s. The purpose of this collection is to provide a reference source for research into changes over time in aspects of the primary and secondary school geography and history curricula. When the first school atlas in the collection was published in 1869 much of the Australian, African and South American interiors had not been fully explored or charted. Antarctica had not been fully charted and the north and south poles had not yet been reached by explorers.

The names and political borders of many of the countries appearing in the nineteenth century school atlases in ANME's collection changed significantly during the century following the 1860s as may be seen from some examples. What is now Thailand was called Siam; Pakistan and Bangladesh did not exist, they were, in 1869, part of British India. Indonesia was a Dutch East India possession, Southern Rhodesia became, in the second half of the twentieth century, Zimbabwe; and much of today's Middle Eastern nations including Syria, Iraq and Jordan were, until after the First World War, all part of Turkey's Ottoman Empire.

Unlike most of the nineteenth century school atlases which focussed largely upon physical and political maps, the twentieth century school atlases devote more details and maps depicting climate, vegetation, rainfall and economic geography of world regions. For example, *Philip's Australian Commonwealth Atlas* containing 60 physical political and economic maps, vegetation and population maps of the Australian States was published in 1952 and reflects the changing emphasis in Australian secondary school geography curricula.



Among the ANME's collection are examples of classical history school atlases, useful adjuncts to the teaching of ancient history. Other atlases sometimes include landscape photographs as an aid to the understanding of contour maps, as in the case of *Philip's Commonwealth School Atlas, New and Revised Edition and Commercial Maps and Diagrams.* (1935).

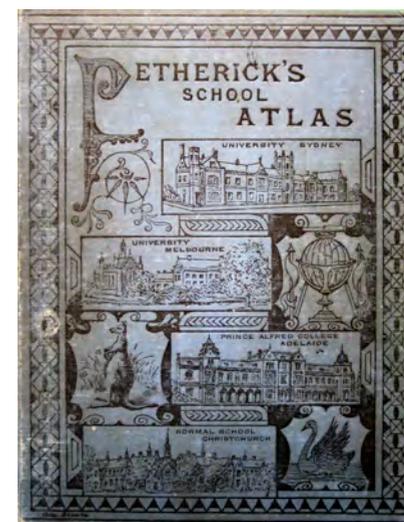


An important aim of the ANME's atlas collection is to represent, to a limited extent, the beginnings of Australian school atlas publications and publishers. School textbook publishers such as George Robertson in Melbourne and A.E. Petherick (see the atlas pictured) are among the earliest of Australian based school textbook publishers to produce atlases for schools. Collins, and Philips, the well known U.K. publishers were also competitive in the school atlas market, and later in the twentieth century Robinson became a significant publisher of school atlases.

Regarding changes in the format of school atlas publication, there has been little change over the century from the quarto size atlas, as this format appears to be the maximum size suitable for school children to carry conveniently in their school bags.

The more usual folio size publications for general world atlases, such as the *Times Atlas of the World* is too bulky and heavy for school purposes. However, Jacaranda Press, and Wheaton's publishers did print a large quarto and a folio size respectively. During the nineteenth century most school atlases were cloth bound, however by the mid twentieth century almost all school atlases were bound in cardboard covers.

The ANME is hopeful of increasing the number and variety of school atlases in its collection. There are a few titles which we are keen to add to our collection including, *The State School Junior Atlas for the use of Schools in Australia* published by George Robinson & Co in Melbourne in 1899 and edited by Philip Jones; also, *Pearson's Australasian School Atlas* (1891) and *Atlas for Australian Secondary Schools*, Macmillan, 1961.



Petherick's School Atlas, an early example

— Dr Geoffrey Burkhardt, Curatorial Adviser

The ANME Annual Lecture

Professor Geoffrey Riordan, Dean of the Faculty of Education, Science, Technology and Mathematics, will give the ANME Annual Lecture, *Mapping the History of School-Based Teacher Education.* This will be a keynote address of the ANZHES Conference on Sunday 24th September at 6.00pm.