

Archaeological Ethics in Print: An Annotated Bibliography

Archaeologists working in a wide range of contexts have produced a now massive literature on ethical issues in archaeology, and all the major archaeological societies have statements on ethics relevant to these discussions. Unfortunately, we could not include every publication and statement on archaeological ethics. What follows is a short and selective list of sources that may be a useful point of departure for internet users who are interested in this literature. If you know of recent publications or would like to add a reference of your own, please feel free to email your suggestion to Chip Colwell at: jcolwell@indiana.com

The following bibliography represents contributions by Janet Levy, Alison Wylie, and some of the students and faculty of the Archaeology and Social Context program at IU (annotations and comments are so noted by contributor=s initials).

Chip Colwell, Indiana University
Janet E. Levy, University of North Carolina, Charlotte
Lena Mortensen, Indiana University
Anne Pyburn, Indiana University
Karen Vitelli, Indiana University
Richard Wilk, Indiana University
Alison Wylie, Washington University, St. Louis
Julie Zimmer, Indiana University

Recent Publications

- 1998 *International Journal of Cultural Property*. Vol. 7, number 1.
C.C.—*A special issue focusing on ethical considerations and cultural property. This issue is an exciting compilation of articles dealing with everything from differentiating law from morality to examining the perspectives of archaeologists, collectors, and museum personal to individual case histories. In addition, there are reprints of nine ethics codes, conference reports, and book reviews.*
- 1997 *Journal of Non-Renewable Resources*. Vol. 6, number 2.
C.C.—*See the two articles addressing current archaeological issues are of special interest (One written by R. Elia, and the other by K. Vitelli and A. Pyburn).*

Biolsi, Tomas and Larry J. Zimmerman (eds.)

- 1997 *Indians and Anthropologists: Vine Deloria Jr. and the Critique of Anthropology*. University of Arizona Press, Tucson.
C.C.—*Both anthropologists and non-anthropologists examine the relationship between the discipline and the Native American community. This book focuses on how the undulating relationship between these two groups has changed in the last*

quarter century i.e., since Vine Deloria=s Jr.=s 1969 release of Custer Died for Your Sins-- a scathing and controversial critique of anthropologists. This collection includes a chapter by Vine Deloria Jr. himself.

Edson, Gary (ed.)

1997 *Museum Ethics*. Routledge, London and New York.

Errington, Shelly

1998 *Death of Authentic Primitive Art and Other Tales of Progress*. University of California Press, California.

J.Z.—A book exploring the different conceptions of the history of primitive art, Nationalism, modernization and development that utilizes a cultural past.

C.C.—This book does not directly address the issue of archaeological ethics. However, Errington successfully explores the issue of how westerners present and conceive of the “primitive” and the past. The book is therefore extremely relevant to archaeologists (and anthropologists) for their complicity in creating “the primitive” through the presentation of material culture.

Hitchens, Christopher, Robert Browning and Graham Binns

1997 *The Elgin Marbles: Should They Be Returned to Greece?* (2nd ed.). Verso, London and New York.

O=Keefe, Patrick J.

1997 *Trade in Antiquities: Reducing Destruction and Theft*. UNESCO and Archtype, Paris and London.

Schmidt, Peter R. and Roderick J. McIntosh

1996 *Plundering Africa=s Past*. Indiana University Press, Bloomington and Indianapolis.

C.C.—A compilation of essays relating the history of Sub-Saharan Africa=s material culture from colonial times to the present. See F. Shyllon=s review in the International Journal of Cultural Property listed above.

Swidler, Nina et. al (eds.)

1997 *Native Americans and Archaeologists: Stepping Stones to Common Ground*. Alta Mira Press, Walnut Creek.

C.C.—This book explores some of the complicated issues surrounding the relationship between Native Americans and archaeologists. Unlike Indians and Anthropologists, the authors of this volume predominately work in non-academic settings (e.g., CRM, and tribal archaeologists) which creates an interesting perspective.

Statements on Ethics, Codes and Guidelines

American Anthropological Association

- 1997 *Principles of Professional Responsibility*. AAA, Washington, D. C.
J.L.—*The code for the largest anthropological organization; the PPR can be acquired from the AAA, 4350 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 640, Arlington, VA 22203. (Or found at <http://www.ameranthassn.org/ethcode.htm>)*
C.C.—*The intention of this code is to foster discussion and education, in addition to providing anthropologists with tools to engage in developing and maintaining an ethical framework for all anthropological work.*@

Archaeological Institute of America

- 1991 Code of Ethics. *American Journal of Archaeology* 95 :285.
1994 *Code of Professional Standards*. (Both codes can be found at <http://www.archaeological.org/ethics.html>)
C.C.—*The second code was established to supplement and expand, but not replace the earlier statement.*

Australian Archaeological Association (AAA)

- 1994 Code of Ethics of the Australian Archaeological Association (Members' Obligations to Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People). *Australian Archaeology* 39:129.

Canadian Archaeological Association (CAA)

- 1997a Statement of Principles for Ethical Conduct pertaining to Aboriginal Peoples. *Canadian Journal of Archaeology* 27: 137-138. (Also available at <http://www.canadianarchaeology.com/caa.files/ahc/eprinciples>)
1997b Constitution and By-laws. As posted on the CAA website: <http://www.canadianarchaeology.com/caa.files/constitution>

Cassell, Joan and Sue-Ellen Jacobs (eds.)

- 1987 *Handbook on Ethical Issues in Anthropology*. American Anthropological Association Special Publication #23, Washington, DC. (Also found at <http://www.ameranthassn.org/sp23.htm>)
J.L.—*Chapters outline the history of the AAA=s code of ethics, provide case studies, and suggest ways to teach ethics.*

Champe, J. L., et. al.

- 1961 Ethics for Archaeology. *American Antiquity* 27:137-139.

Davidson, Iain

- 1991 *Notes for a Code of Ethics for Australian Archaeologists Working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Heritage*. Australian Archaeological Association.

Institute of Field Archaeologists

1985 (ratified), 1988 (amended) *By-laws of the Institute of Field Archaeologists: Code of Conduct.*

ICAHM Charter

1993 In *Antiquity*. June 1993 67(255):402-404.

Lynott, Mark J. and Alison Wylie (eds.)

1995 *Ethics in American Archaeology: Challenges for the 1990's*. Washington, D.C.: SAA Special Report.
C.C.—An in-depth analysis of the revised SAA Code of Ethics. See below.

New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA)

1993 Code of Ethics. *Archaeology in New Zealand* 36:183-4.

Society for American Archaeology

1996 *Principles of Archaeological Ethics*. SAA, Washington, 900 Second St., NE, Suite 12, Washington D.C. 20002-3557. (Also found at <http://www.saa.org/AboutSAA/ethics/prethic.html>)
C.C.—This code represents the culmination of five years of hard work which begun with the SAA Ethics in Archaeology Committee. The format of the SAA code is unique from other codes with eight principles that cover archaeologists= behavior general terms rather than in specific rules for behavior.

Society for Historical Archaeology

1990 Ethical Positions, Article VII, SHA.

Society of Professional Archaeologists

1991 Code of Ethics. *Guide to the Society of Professional Archaeologists*, available from SOPA (Can also be found at <http://www.smu.edu/~anthrop/sopa.html>).
C.C.—SOPA has joined with the SAA, SHA, and the AIA to form the Register of Professional Anthropologists (ROPA). However, ROPA=s and SOPA=s Code of Ethics are one and the same.

World Archaeological Congress

1990 *World Archaeological Congress: First Code of Ethics* (Members Obligations to Indigenous Peoples), Barquisimeto, Venezuela. (Can also be found at <http://wac.soton.ac.uk/wac/ethics/ethics.html>)

Discussions and Commentaries

Alexander, Brian

1990 Archaeology and Looting Make a Volatile Mix. *Science* 250:1074-1075.
A.W.—This is a discussion and, in part, a critique of Donnan=s publication of looted Moche material in National Geographic; see Donnan=s reply, below.

Arnold, Barto J. III

- 1978 Underwater Cultural Resources and the Antiquities Market. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 5:232.

Atwood, B. and J. Arnold

- 1992 *Power, Knowledge and Aborigines*. Latrobe University, Australia.
J.Z.—Contains several good theoretical articles on archaeological discourse and practice, including one on how prehistory is conceptualized.

Bass, George F.

- 1979 The Men Who Stole the Stars. *Sea History* 12:30.
1985 Archaeologists, Sport Divers, and Treasure Hunters. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 12:256-258.

Bator, Paul M.

- 1983 *The International Trade in Art*. University of Chicago Press, Chicago and London.

Berlo, Janet C. (ed.)

- 1992 *The Early Years of Native American Art History: The Politics of Scholarship and Collecting*. University of Washington Press, Seattle.
J.Z.—On early collector-anthropologist relations; paradigm-making and myth-making; ethnoaesthetics; and marketing the affinity of the primitive and the modern.

Bray, T. L. and T. W. Killion (eds.)

- 1994 *Reckoning with the Dead: The Larsen Bay Repatriation and the Smithsonian Insititute*. Smithsonian Insititute Press, Washington.

Bulmer, S.

- 1991 Archaeology and Indigenous Rights: The World Archaeological Congress' Code of Ethics from an Archaeologist's Point of View. *Archaeology in New Zealand* 34:54-58.

Champe, J. L., D. S. Byers, C. Evans, A. K. Guthe, H.W. Hamilton, E. B. Jelks, C. W. Meighan, S. Olafson, G. S. Quimby, W. Smith, and F. Wendorf

- 1961 Ethics for Archaeology. *American Antiquity* 27:137-139.
C.C.—One of the earliest collective statements on archaeological ethics. A must read for those interested in the development of ethics in archaeology.

Chase, Arlen F., Diane Z. Chase, and Harriot W. Topsey

- 1988 Archaeology and the Ethics of Collecting. *Archaeology* 41:56-60.
J.L.—The emphasis is on looting and the international antiquities market, written by specialists in Mesoamerican archaeology.

Cleere, Henry (ed.)

- 1992 *Archaeological Heritage Management in the Modern World. One World Archaeology*, Vol. 9. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Coggins, Clemency

- 1969 Illicit Traffic of Pre-Columbian Antiquities. *Art Journal* Fall:94-98.

Cook, B. F.

- 1991 The Archaeologist and the Art market: Policies and Practice. *Antiquity* 65:533-537.
J.L.—Empahsis on looting and international trade and responsibilities of museums, written from the British perspective.

Cummings, Calvin R.

- 1986 *A Matter of Ethics*. In *Underwater Archaeology: Proceedings of the 14th Conference on Underwater Archaeology*, edited by C. R. Cummings, p. 1-5, Fathom Eight, San Marino, California.
1988 *National Professional Standards and Guidelines for Underwater Archaeology*. In *Underwater Archaeology: Proceedings of the 16th Conference on Underwater Archaeology*, edited by J. P. Delgado, pp. 46-52. The Society for Historical Archaeology.

Davis, Hester

- 1986 Public Archaeology Forum: Statement of Purpose. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 13:115-119.
A.W.—for ongoing discussion of ethical issues in archaeology, see regular contributions to Public Archaeology Forum in subsequent issues of JFA; this feature takes over from Preservation and Rescue, initiated by Thomas King several years earlier.

Donnan, Christopher B.

- 1991 Archaeology and Looting: Preserving the Record. *Science* 251:498.

Elia, Ricardo J.

- 1991 Popular Archaeology and the Antiquities Market: A Review Essay. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 18:95-103.
1992 The Ethics of Collaboration: Archaeologists and the Whydah Project. *Historical Archaeology* 26(4):105-117.
1993 A Seductive and Troubling Work. *Archaeology* 46(1):64-69.
A.W.—This is a critical review of Renfrew's book on Cycladic figurines; see Renfrew's response (below).

Fagan, Brian

- 1993 The Arrogant Archaeologist. *Archaeology* 46(6):14-16.

Fluehr-Lobban, Carolyn (ed.)

1991 *Ethics and the Profession of Anthropology: Dialogue for a New Era*. University of Pennsylvania Press, Philadelphia.

J.L.—Emphasizing cultural anthropology, this book provides a good history of development of codes of ethics within anthropology and chapters on various ethical controversies. There is one chapter specifically about archaeology concerns confidentiality of state site files.

Gathercole, P. and D. Lowenthal (eds.)

1994 *The Politics of the Past*. One World Archaeology, Volume 12, Unwin Hayman, London.

Geisecke, Anne G.

1985 Management of Historic Shipwrecks in the 1980s. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 12:108-116.

Gerstenblith, Patty

1995 Identity and Cultural Property: The Protection of Cultural Property in the United States. *Boston University Law Review* 75(3):559-688.

Gill, David and Christopher Chippindale

1993 Material and Intellectual Consequences of Esteem for Cycladic Figures. *American Journal of Archaeology* 97(4):601-660.

Goldstein, Lynne and Keith Kintigh

1990 Ethics and the Reburial Controversy. *American Antiquity* 55:585-591.

J.L.—The authors are leaders in development of reburial and repatriation legislation and in development of workable relations between archaeologists and American Indians.

Green, Ernestene L.

1984 *Ethics and Values in Archaeology*. Free Press, New York.

J.L.—An essential collection of articles about many ethical issues, including CRM, looting, reburial, museums, etc.

Greenfield, Jeanette

1995 *The Return of Cultural Treasures* (2nd Ed.). Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

C.C.—The recent release of the second edition shows little change from the first. However, the book remains a good source of information on examples of past cases of repatriation, as well as currently unresolved ones.

Grimes, R. L.

1986 Desecration of the Dead: An Inter-religious Controversy. *American Indian Quarterly* 10:305-318.

Hamilton, Christopher

- 1991 *The Whydah Project and Archaeological Ethics: A Non-issue*. Paper presented at the annual meetings of the Society for Historical Archaeology.

Harrington, Spence P. M.,

- 1991 The Looting of Arkansas. *Archaeology* 44(3):22-31.
A.W.—*This issue of Archaeology includes a series of discussions of looting in Arkansas as a special feature.*

Hastorf, Christine and Ian Hodder

- 1991 Archaeology and the Other. *Anthropology UCLA* 18(1):1-11.

Herscher, Ellen

- 1984 The Antiquities Market: News and Commentary on the Illicit Traffic in Antiquities. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 11:79-96.
A.W.—*See also several other articles appearing in JFA volumes 10(3), 11, and 14(2).*
- 1987 International Council of Museums Adopts Code of Ethics. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 14:213-215.

Johnson, E.

- 1973 Professional Responsibilities and the American Indian. *American Antiquity* 38: 129-130

Journal of Field Archaeology

The Antiquities Market. Boston University.

J.L.—*JFA is published quarterly. The Antiquities Market section provides information about legislation, conferences, publications, and current problems relevant to looting and the antiquities market.*

Joukowsky, Martha Sharp

- 1991 Ethics in Archaeology: An American Perspective. *Berytus: Archaeological Studies* 39:11-20.

Kaiser, Timothy

- 1990 The Antiquities Market. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 17:205-210.
- 1991 The Thieves of Time and Their Accomplices. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 18(1):87-89.

Kaplan, Flora (ed.)

- 1994 *Museums and the Making of Ourselves: The Role of Objects in National Identity*. Leicester University Press, London.

King, Thomas F.

- 1985 The Whydah and the Ethics of Cooperating with Pothunters: A View. *SOPA News* 9(3-4):1-3.
A.W.—See also a rebuttal from W. B. Lees and subsequent discussion in *SOPA News* volumes 9(6) and 15(8/9).
- King, Thomas F., Patricia Parker Hickman, and Gary Berg (eds.)
1977 *Anthropology in Historic Preservation: Caring for Culture=s Clutter*. Academic Press, New York.
K.V.—Appendix A, pp. 197-302, includes the texts of U.S. AStatutes, Procedures, and Associated Memoranda@ from 1906-1977.)
- Kleiner, Fred S.
1990 On the Publication of Recent Acquisitions of Antiquities. *American Journal of Archaeology* 9:525-327.
- Klesert, Anthony L. and Alan S. Downer (eds.)
1990 *Preservation on the Reservation: Native Americans, Native American Lands, and Archaeology*. Navajo Nation Papers in Anthropology, #26, Navajo National Historic Preservation Department, Flagstaff.
J.L.—A large volume with archaeologists, government administrators, lawyers, and American Indian representatives contributing. Focuses on legislation and ethical issues relevant to the relationships between archaeologists and American Indians.
- Leone, Mark P. and Robert W. Preucel
1992 Archaeology in a Democratic Society. In *Quandaries and Quests: Visions of Archaeology=s Future*, edited by LuAnn Wandsnider, pp. 115-135. Center for Archaeological Investigations, Occasional Paper No. 20, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale.
- Lynott, Mark J.
1997 Ethical Principles and Archaeological Practice: Development of an Ethics Policy. *American Antiquity* 62(4):589-599.
- Layton, Robert (ed.)
1989a *Who Needs the Past?: Indigenous Values and Archaeology*. One World Archaeology, Volume 5, Unwin Hyman, London.
1989b *Conflict in the Archaeology of Living Traditions*. One World Archaeology, Volume 8, Unwin Hyman, London.
- Lowenthal, David
1997 *Possessed by the Past: The Heritage Crusade and the Spoils of History*. Free Press, New York.
J.Z.—On personal legacies/collective legacies; the purpose of heritage; the practice of heritage; and rivalry and restitution.

McBryde, Isabel (ed.),

- 1985 *Who Owns the Past?* Oxford University Press, Melbourne.
J.L.—Chapters on ethical dilemmas about who controls archaeological material. Provides an Australian perspective to complement American experience.

McGhee, R.

- 1989 Who Owns Prehistory? The Bering Land Bridge Dilemma. *Canadian Journal of Archaeology* 13:13-20.

Marcus, George and Fred Myers (eds.)

- 1995 *The Traffic in Culture: Reconfiguring Art and Anthropology.* University of California Press, California.
J.Z.—On marketing ethnic arts; art as illuminative of power relations; and anthropologists' entanglement with art traders, museums, and markets.

Messenger, Phyllis Mauch

- 1989 *The Ethics of Collecting Cultural Property: Whose Culture? Whose Property?* University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque.
J.L.—Chapters about legislation and ethics; focuses on debates about control of archaeological resources by differing parties, including scholars, museums, descendants, and national governments.

Meyer, Karl E.

- 1973 *The Plundered Past: The Traffic in Art Treasures.* Atheneum, New York.

Miller, George L.

- 1992 The Second Destruction of the Geldermalsen. *Historical Archaeology* 26(4):124-131.

Moody-Adams, Michele

- 1997 *Fieldwork in Familiar Places: Philosophy, Culture, and Morality.* Harvard University Press, Cambridge.
J.Z.—The basic theme of this book is about how to approach seemingly irresolvable moral disagreements and move beyond the mire of cultural relativism and the disability of culturally induced moral blindness to better understanding decision making.

Muensterberger, Werner

- 1994 *Collecting: An Unruly Passion.* Princeton University Press, Princeton.
J.Z.—Psychological perspectives on why people collect; history of collecting in the renaissance and other ages.

Pendergast, David M.

- 1991 And the Loot Goes On: Winning Some Battles, But Not the War. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 18:89-95.

Powell, S., C. E. Garza and A. Hendriks

- 1993 Ethics and Ownership of the Past: The Reburial and Repatriation Controversy. *Archaeological Method and Theory* 5:1-42.

Price, H. Marcus III

- 1991 *Disputing the Dead: U. S. Law on Aboriginal Remains and Grave Goods*. University of Missouri Press, Columbia.
J.L.—Summarizes both state and federal legislation about repatriation and reburial and provides a personal perspective on implementation by an author who is both a lawyer and an anthropologist.

Renfrew, Colin

- 1993 Collectors are the Real Looters. *Archaeology* 46(3):16-17.

Rosen, L.

- 1980 The Excavation of American Indian Burial Sites: A Problem in Law and Professional Responsibility. *American Anthropologist* 82:5-27.

Rosenswig, Robert M.

- 1997 Ethics in Canadian Archaeology: An International, Comparative Analysis. *Journal of Canadian Archaeology* 21:99-114.
A.W.—See Wylie's response, below.

Ruppe, Renold (moderator with panelists: Donald Keith, Daniel Lenihan and Larry Murphy, Warren Reiss)

- 1989 *Ethics in Nautical Archaeology*. Archaeology in solution: Proceedings of the 17th Annual Conference on Underwater Archaeology, edited by J. W. Foster and S. O. Smith, pp. 134-136.

Schmidt, Peter and Thomas Patterson (eds.)

- 1995 *Making Alternative Histories: The Practice of Archaeology and History in Non-Western Settings*. School of American Research, New York.

Silverman, Sydel and Nancy J. Parezo (eds.)

- 1992 *Preserving the Anthropological Record*. Wenner-Gren Foundation for Anthropological Research, New York.

Smith, George S. and John E. Ehrenhard (eds.)

- 1991 *Protecting the Past*. CRC Press, Boca Raton.
J.L.—Many chapters, by archaeologists, lawyers, museums curators, and government administrators about multiple issues in the protection of archaeological resources: legislation, organizations, public education, looting, relations with American Indians, etc.

Stocking, George

- 1985 *Objects and Others: Essays on Museums and Material Culture*. History of Anthropology, vol. 3. University of Wisconsin Press, Madison.
J.Z.—A critical history of early museum anthropology; formation of “primitives” and ethnic art as cultural commodity. Includes an essay by Handler on Quebec’s patrimony, and an essay by Bruce Trigger on the trends in the history of archaeology.
- Stone, P. and R. Mackenzie
- 1994 *The Excluded Past: Archaeology in Education*. One World Archaeology, Volume 17, Unwin Hayman, London.
- Thomas, Nicholas
- 1991 *Entangled Objects: Exchange, Material Culture, and Colonialism in the Pacific*. Harvard University Press, Boston.
J.Z.—On theories of value; the indigenous appropriation of European things; and the European appropriation of indigenous things.
- Tubbs, Katherine Walker (ed.)
- 1995 *Antiquities: Trade or Betrayed: Legal, Ethical and Conservation Issues*. Archtype Books, London.
- Vitelli, Karen D.
- 1981 The Ethics of Collecting: Afterthoughts on the Responsibilities of Archaeologists. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 8(1):88-89.
- 1982 Antiquity Assets. *Journal of Field Archaeology* 9(2):274-276.
- Vitelli, Karen D. (ed.)
- 1996 *Archaeological Ethics*. Alta Mira Press, Walnut Creek.
C.C.—A collection of articles from Archaeology magazine covering a wide range of topics including looting, war, affected peoples, reburial, etc. An excellent (and readable) introduction to many of the problems facing archaeologists today.
- Wylie, Alison
- 1996 Ethical Dilemmas in Archaeological Practice: Looting, Repatriation, Stewardship, and the (Trans)formation of Disciplinary Identity. *Perspectives on Science* 4(2):154-194.
- 1997 Contextualizing Ethics: Comments on Ethics in Canadian Archaeology by Robert Rosenswig. *Journal of Canadian Archaeology* 21:115-120.
- Woodall, J. Ned
- 1990 *Predicaments, Pragmatics, and Professionalism: Ethical Conduct in Archaeology*. Special Publication Number 1, Society of Professional Archaeologists.
- Zimmerman, Larry

- 1994 Sharing Control of the Past. *Archaeology* 47(6):65, 67-68.
- 1992 Archaeology, Reburial, and the Tactics of a Discipline=s Self-Delusion. *American Indian Culture and Research Journal* 16(2):37-56.
- 1986 On Meighan and the Ethics of Reburial. *Anthropology Newsletter* 27(2):2, 12.
C.C.—On a general note, Zimmerman is an important figure among those debating the reburial and repatriation issue. He was among the first group of academic archaeologists to be vocally pro-repatriation not to mention pro-reburial.

Zimmerman, Larry and L. Bruguier

- 1994 Indigenous Peoples and the World Archaeological Congress Code of Ethics. *Public Archaeology Review* 2(1):5-8.

