



# The Australian Archaeology Skills Passport

Tracking your experience to equip you for the future

The Australian National Committee for Archaeology Teaching and Learning (ANCATL) is proud to launch the first iteration of the *Australian Archaeology Skills Passport*. In the same way that a passport shows where you have been on your travels, so too does a skills passport; it provides a record of your journey through your archaeological training. It also offers advice on the next steps in your professional journey.

Based on the highly successful UK model developed by David Connolly, our approach has been broad-scale, integrative and discipline wide. Informed by the continuing skills gaps identified in ANCATL's Profiling the Profession surveys, the passport provides greater transparency to trainers, students and employers on what practical skills are needed within the discipline and when and how these are to be provisioned.

The passport will be available in both hard copy and open access digital form. Digital *skills sheets* will be housed online with the Australian Archaeology Association, providing guidance on how a candidate is to be assessed for each skill within the three tiers of experience: that a skill can be completed under *full* supervision, *moderate* supervision, or *no* supervision.

## Intended Outcomes

### Students and Practitioners

- Provides students with a **clear guide** as to what is expected of them as a professional archaeologist.
- Directly linked to the national **benchmarks** for archaeology honours degrees.
- Emphasises **critical skills shortages** within the sector that professionals can target for professional development.

### Aboriginal Site Officers and Rangers

- **Recognition** of the importance and value of practical experience and knowledge.
- Encourages the **equal weighting** of experience gained during *life* and *study*.
- Supports **alternate entry methods** into the discipline.
- Can be used to support applications for further **employment** in the sector.

### The Public

- Can be used in **primary and secondary school** contexts.
- The open access format can **contribute to curriculum** focussing on Australian archaeology, the First Australians and contemporary Australian culture.
- The passport can contribute to promoting **greater understanding and appreciation** of the longevity and complexity of Australian culture.

## 2020 Skills List

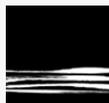
Group A skills are those which a graduate is expected to have had at least some initial experience in upon entry into the workforce. Group B skills are those which can be targeted for Professional Development.

GROUP A SKILLS	GROUP B SKILLS
<b>Excavation and survey</b>	<b>Field Skills and technical equipment</b>
Awareness of site types and distribution	Geophysics and remote sensing
Built heritage survey	GIS, spatial analysis and data management
Excavation trench layout	Physical site conservation and management
Field recording	Rock art analysis
Geomorphology and site formation processes	<b>Professional Skills</b>
Principles of excavation	Heritage management planning
Principles of field survey	Policy development
Rock art recording	Project management
Site safety	Significance assessment
The use of excavation hand tools	Statistical analysis
<b>Field Skills and technical equipment</b>	Teaching/training
Artefact recovery, cataloguing and storage	<b>Laboratory skills</b>
Data entry and archiving	Archaeobotany
Dumpy and staff	Ceramic analysis
Global Navigation Satellite Systems	Conservation of artefacts
Historic artefact identification	Dating techniques
Lithic artefact identification	Glass artefact analysis
Map Reading	Human skeletal identification and analysis
Photography	Lithic artefact analysis
Sample collection procedures	Metal artefact analysis
Section drawing	Microscopic sediment analysis
Site plans	Osseous and shell technology identification
Total station	Residue and use-wear analysis
<b>Professional Skills</b>	Small finds analysis
Analytical writing	Zooarchaeology
Collaboration	
Cultural awareness	
Desktop assessment	
Stakeholder engagement	
Working knowledge of relevant legislation	

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For more information, please contact: [ancatl@australianarchaeology.com](mailto:ancatl@australianarchaeology.com)