

On Commercial, Compliance, or Contract Archaeology

Richard Hutchings

How neoliberal states steward heritage landscapes—particularly Indigenous heritage landscapes—is the subject of the winter issue of the *International Journal of Historical Archaeology*. The special issue, titled “Contract Archaeology,” is guest edited by Cristóbal Gnecco and Adriana Schmidt Dias and includes eleven articles that contribute significantly to our understanding of the late modern heritage environment, particularly as it concerns the institution of cultural resource (or heritage) management (CRM/CHM) in North and South America. Focusing on capitalism and the resource-state nexus, the authors make the case for ending archaeology as it most commonly practiced today. The general consensus is that archaeology/CRM is a technology of government designed to clear heritage from the landscape to make way for economic development. Rich Hutchings and Marina La Salle conceive of the discipline/practice as neoliberal statecraft and disaster capitalism. The *IJHA* special issue (Volume 19, Issue 4) can be found online here: <http://link.springer.com/journal/10761/19/4/page/1>.

It contains the following titles:

- On Contract Archaeology (Cristóbal Gnecco, Adriana Schmidt Dias)
- Archaeology as Disaster Capitalism (Rich Hutchings, Marina La Salle)
- Archaeology and the Logic of Capital: Pulling the Emergency Break (Yannis Hamilakis)
- *Contratiempo*: Contract Archaeology or a Trench in the Battle for the Dead (Alejandro Haber)
- Contract Archaeology in South Africa: Traveling Theory, Local Memory and Global Designs (Nick Shepherd)
- Mega-Mining, Contract Archaeology, and Local Responses to the Global Order in Argentina (Ivana Carina Jofré)
- Neoliberal Multiculturalism and Contract Archeology in Northern Chile (Patricia Ayala Rocabado)
- Dystopian Archaeologies: the Implementation of the Logic of Capital in Heritage Management (Nicolas Zorzin)
- Development Projects, Violation of Human Rights, and the Silence of Archaeology in Brazil (Loredana Ribeiro)
- At that Edge: Archaeology, Heritage Education, and Human Rights in the Brazilian Amazon (Marcia Bezerra)
- Contract Archaeology and Indigenous Peoples: Reflections on the Brazilian Context (Fabiola Andréa Silva)

Access to these articles necessitates a prohibitively costly subscription or one-time user fee; readers lacking but desiring access should contact the Institute for Critical Heritage and Tourism at icht.bc@gmail.com.

Bio: Rich Hutchings directs the Institute for Critical Heritage and Tourism (ICHT) and just completed his posting as Research Fellow with Vancouver Island University’s Institute for Coastal Research. His book *Maritime Heritage in Crisis: Indigenous Landscapes and Global Ecological Breakdown* is set to be published later this year by Routledge.