

Example of a Student's Field Journal Entries

Day II

02/02

Rise and Shine 0600. Made a trek into town for brekky and lunch supplies w/ Mark, Britt, Louise Holt, and Maddy M. Noticed front section of Streaky Bay jetty was ripped apart and planks replaced. This would undoubtedly present a challenge to Team #2. We were required to navigate to Scaele Bay. Our crew included the Agents of Destruction plus Mark and Emily Jateff. We missed 1 turn which required a U-turn.

Equipment:

magnetometer	3 drawing boards
camera	3 GPS
cable ties	2 metal detectors
7 measuring tapes	2 range poles
hammer	12 wooden stakes
2 bundles of pink flags	green tape
2 First Aid Kits	binoculars
2-way radios	2 drawing kits
2 compasses	tool box

N arrow

Tasks:

1. Relocate Beach Site 1 as described and detailed in Jateff's 2009 report.
2. Extend surveys E and W.
 - a. Visual
 - b. 2 person teams with metal detectors
 - c. Flag anomalies
 - d. Investigate anomalies with magnetometer
3. GPS position significant anomalies.

Normal magnetometer readings for region = 57,000 – 60,000 nT (nanoTeslas)

Arrived near Yanerbie Beach, parked van near shed. Upon assembling and learning to operate metal detectors we discovered both batteries were flat. NEVER assume they are charged. Walked 1 kilometer NW along beach using a handheld GPS to locate Site #1 coordinates as laid out in the 2009 report by Jateff. Set up a 30m x 60m grid and took/recorded magnetometer measurements in nano Teslas (nT). Illustration in hard copy of field notes.

Took GPS UTM positions of each corner of the grid in UTM WGS S84, except SW. Walked and took mag and GPS readings every 2m and spaced tracks by 2m. Mag readings were recorded on A3 graph paper while the GPS was recorded in notebooks to be transcribed to an Excel spreadsheet. Mag must be facing N for an accurate reading. Got as far as 26m on the 60m tape along the N side. Sam and I operated the mag.

Emily advised us in setting up grids:

- Set up all 4 corners to ensure 90 degree on inside corners
- GPS mark each corner
- Back measure to double check measurements
- Begin survey from SW corner because SOP

No accidents or incidents of note.

Visited a whaling station from the 1840s in "Trial Bay," now known as Scaele Bay. Mark pointed out copper sheathing from salvaged wrecks, charred bricks, blue ceramics, and glass from beverage bottles, which indicate inhabitation during the 1800s. Major target of the station was Southern Right Whales. Also investigated former tryworks, pit houses, and a channel where whales were hauled up the beach to be cut into manageable pieces.

Good websites = bom.gov.au tide-times.com.au

Work got tough by 1400 as winds increased and the rising tide affected our work area. Encroaching waters made it difficult to read tape measures and secure the dummy ends of the tapes. Tomorrow we plan to start earlier to maximize work time prior to the tidal influx and wind.

Day III

03/02

Up and at 'em 0600. Locked, loaded, and on the road again by 0700. Arrived at Yanerbie Beach 0730. Mark, Emily, and John observed rough surf off the beach where we are working on Site #1. No snorkeling today because churns up sediment that makes it difficult to spot traces of the wreck. Good thing to look out for in the future.

Tasks Completed:

1. Reassembled grid and completed the mag survey.
 - a. Mag readings in nT and GPS readings on the mag spots.
2. With a complete grid, we collected the GPS position of the SW corner.
3. Shallow excavation with spades to ground truth the anomalies as ship remains.

Challenges:

1. Unfortunately, we skipped mag/GPS tracks at 32m and 36m. Luckily we caught the mistake before too long.
2. The rising tide flooded and filled our excavation pit before we could thoroughly investigate the anomaly. We photographed the sources of the anomalies.

Excavation Pit (aka sand castles) over mag anomalies revealed 3 major points of interest. Intrusive, not destructive. Mud map of site within hard copy of field notes. Iron sulphide and iron oxide remnants of fasteners/bolts. All impressions of iron objects were cleaned and photographed as best as we could. With such a small cluster of artefacts, this may suggest a chunk of a vessel came to rest on the beach. Depending on which section of the vessel it was, the portion could have floated a long way. This means the majority of the vessel may or may not be located off the rock reef. Off-roaders and local beach-walkers asked about our work on the beach today. Good opportunity for the dissemination of initial data to the public.

Took a field trip to Smooth Pool as a reward for a hard day's work 1400-1500. It was especially refreshing to snorkel and the investigate the reef as well as native fish and sealife.

Tonight:

- Enter and update data collected today.
- Play with mag plot software to produce a contour, topographic-esque graphic of Site #1.
- Briefing and Shipwreck Detectives episode.
- Chat with Amer Khan and David Nutley of DEH about possible individual assessment utilizing sidescan sonar.

Tomorrow:

- Not going to Scaele Bay due to harsh weather.
- Working on individual projects instead.
- Diving at the Streaky Bay jetty to help Sam with her photography project in the morning.
- Plug data into software program.

Weather:

Low tide = 1002. Strong wind warning S/SW 20-30 knots in the morning easing to 18-23 knots in the evening from S/SE

Quote of the Day:

"I'm eating with 3 Australians and a Texan and they send the Danish girl to do the barbequing."
-Petra