NOTICE OF ORDINARY MEETING

The seventh general meeting of the Society for 1977 will be held in the Museum Education Building, North Terrace, Adelaide at

8.00pm Monday 26 September, 1977

AGENDA

1. Apologies.

2. Confirmation of minutes of general meeting held Monday 22 August, 1977. A copy of these minutes is attached.

3. New members. Newly elected members to the Society will be announced.

4. Papers & Journals. Papers and journals received from other Societies and Organizations will be tabled at the meeting.

5. Films. A series of films depicting the art and culture of Japan will be screened at this meeting. They are entitled:

   (1) 'Potters of Japan' (Colour)
   (2) 'Festivals of Japan' showing religious festivals
   (3) 'Nature's Patterns' showing Artists' relationships to Nature.

6. October meeting. The October meeting will be held in the Napier 5 Theatre, Adelaide University on Monday 17 October, 1977 in lieu of the normal date when a special New Guinea film will be shown dealing with the Cultural Revival of the Gogodala.
Palynology or pollen analysis has recently become an important aspect of archaeological investigations. Pollen grains are male gametes of flowering plants and gymnosperms and are characteristic of the particular plant species. Thus, in most cases, the plant type can be identified from its pollen. Since plants are immobile, they are often good environmental indicators, especially when the plants from a single locality are studied collectively (i.e. a flora). It is from pollen data of a flora that climate and degree of aridity may be inferred.

Pollen, collected from an archaeological site in a similar fashion to radio-carbon samples, is macerated in a series of strong mineral acid solutions. After the mineral components of the sample have been removed, the remaining particles are neutralized and prepared for microscopic observation. The pollen grains are then identified and counted; these results are plotted as a pollen diagram which can be readily interpreted.

A good example of the use of pollen analysis in archaeological research is from the Nullarbor of Australia done by Helene A. Martin (Aust. J. Bot. 21:283-316, 1973). In this case, the former vegetation and similarly, the climate, can be deduced from the pollen data. Much insight into man's ancient habitats may be gained from comparable investigations.