

ARCHY 319

Archaeology of Australia

Winter 2019

Associate Professor Ben Marwick

bmarwick@uw.edu

Outline

What will we do today?

Introduction and format of the course

Assignments

Change or continuity?

What I do as an Associate Professor of Archaeology....

Teaching

ARCHY 109: Archaeology in Film
(last quarter)

ARCHY 309: Mainland Southeast
Asian Archaeology

ARCHY 319: Australian
Archaeology

ARCHY 482 & 486:
Geoarchaeology

ARCHY 483 & 488: Stone artefact
archaeology (next quarter)

Service

Research Locations

Mainland Southeast Asia
(Vietnam, Myanmar, Thailand,
Laos, Cambodia)

China

Australia (Western Australia,
South Australia, Northern
Territory)

South Africa (Western Cape)

Research Methods

Sediments, stone artefacts, shells



DON'T PANIC



Continuity or Change

AREAS OF EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

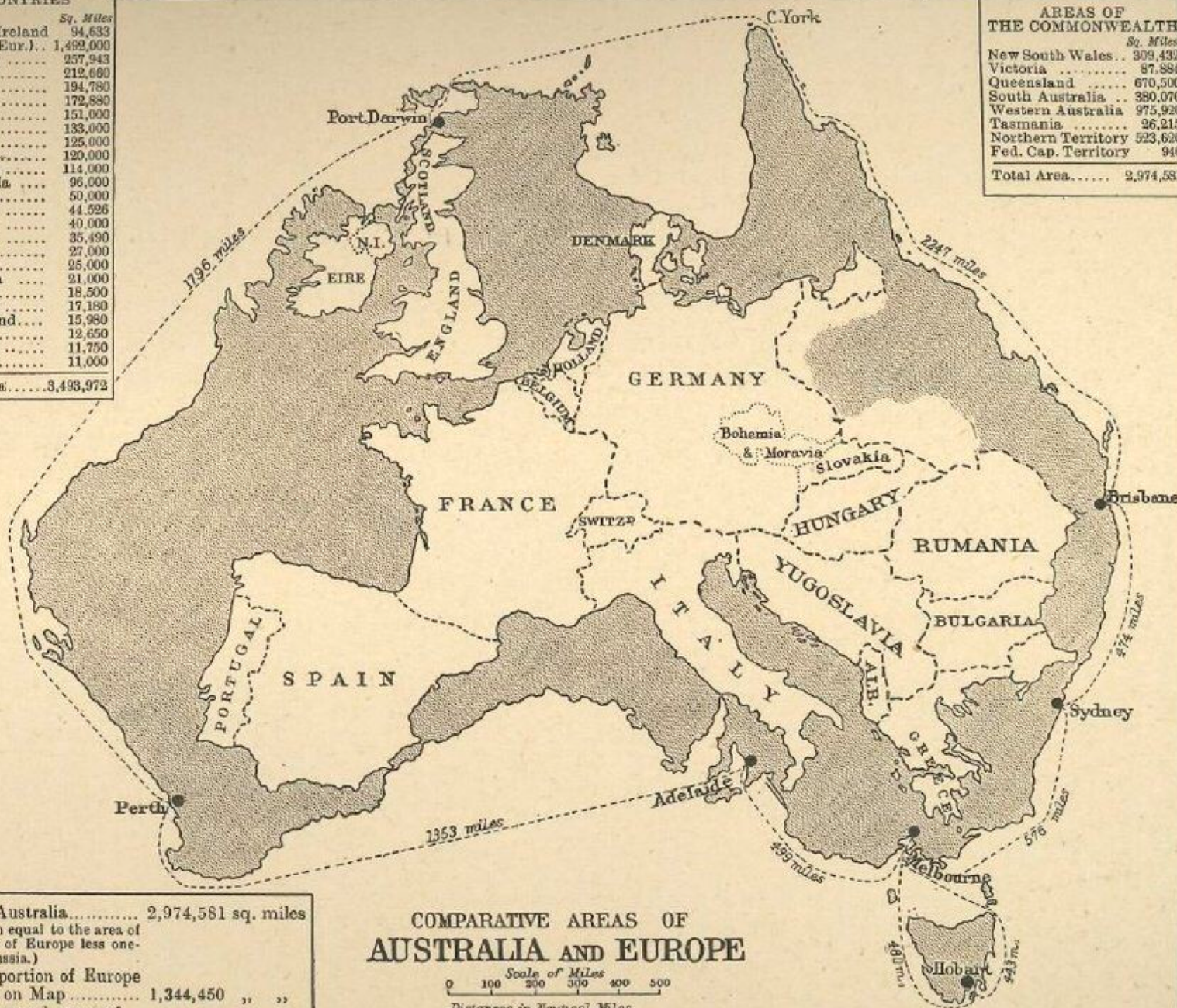
| | Sq. Miles |
|-------------------|-----------|
| G.B. & N. Ireland | 94,633 |
| U.S.S.R. (Eur.) | 1,492,000 |
| Germany | 257,943 |
| France | 212,660 |
| Spain | 194,780 |
| Sweden | 172,880 |
| Poland | 151,000 |
| Finland | 133,000 |
| Norway | 125,000 |
| Italy | 120,000 |
| Rumania | 114,000 |
| Yugoslavia | 96,000 |
| Greece | 50,000 |
| Hungary | 44,526 |
| Bulgaria | 40,000 |
| Portugal | 35,490 |
| Eire | 27,000 |
| Latvia | 25,000 |
| Lithuania | 21,000 |
| Estonia | 18,500 |
| Denmark | 17,180 |
| Switzerland | 15,980 |
| Holland | 12,650 |
| Belgium | 11,750 |
| Albania | 11,000 |

Total Area.....3,493,972

AREAS OF THE COMMONWEALTH

| | Sq. Miles |
|---------------------|-----------|
| New South Wales | 309,432 |
| Victoria | 87,884 |
| Queensland | 670,500 |
| South Australia | 380,070 |
| Western Australia | 975,920 |
| Tasmania | 26,215 |
| Northern Territory | 523,620 |
| Fed. Cap. Territory | 940 |

Total Area..... 2,974,581



| | |
|---|---------------------|
| Area of Australia..... | 2,974,581 sq. miles |
| (More than equal to the area of the whole of Europe less one-half of Russia.) | |
| Area of portion of Europe shown on Map..... | 1,344,450 „ „ |
| Mileage round coast of Australia | 6,945 miles |

COMPARATIVE AREAS OF AUSTRALIA AND EUROPE

Scale of Miles
0 100 200 300 400 500
Distances in Nautical Miles







E. B. Tyler Aet. 67

From a photograph by Maull and Fox



L. A. Morgan

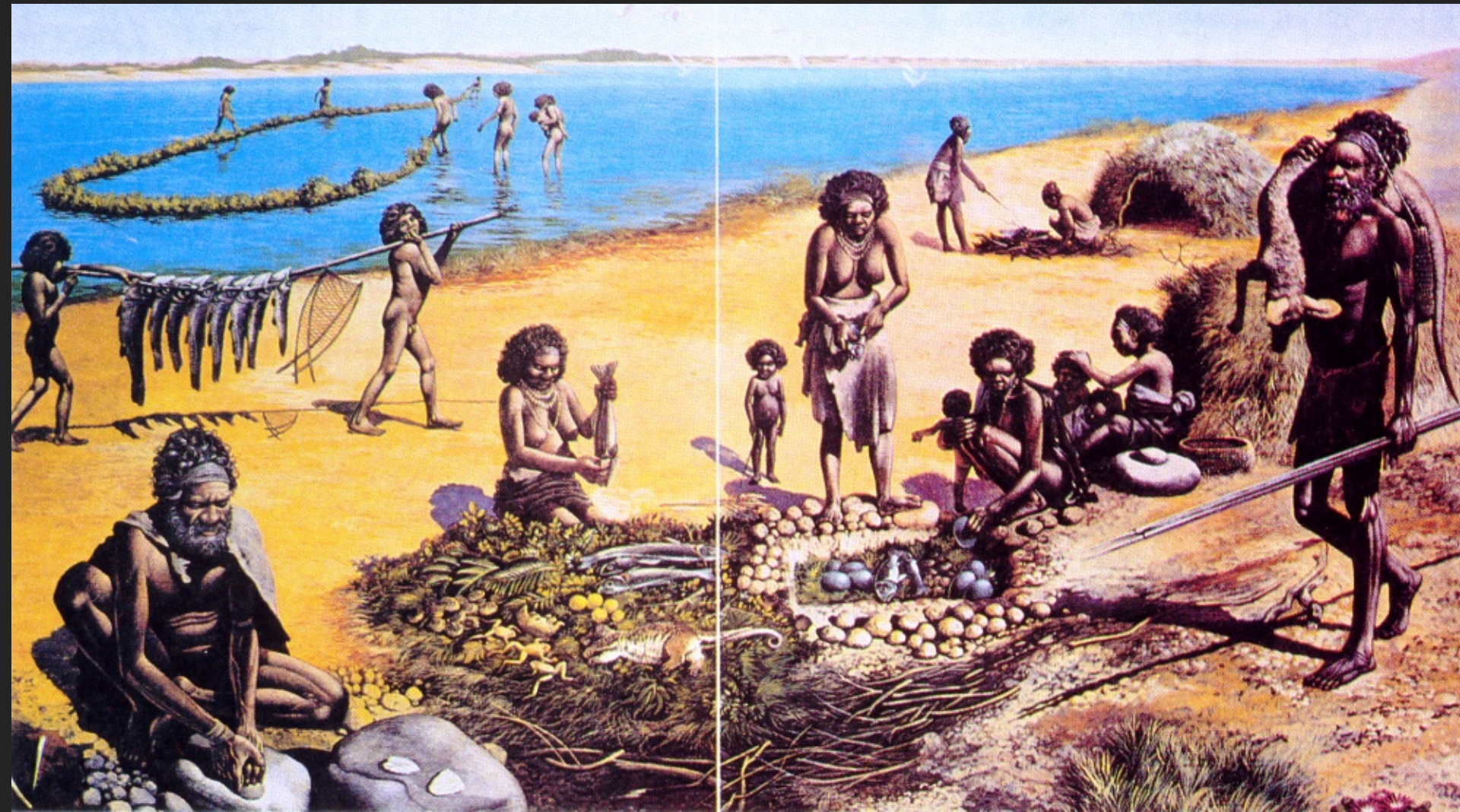
The ethnographic challenge

To avoid seeing the whole of Australian pre-history as being the same as Aboriginal life in the historic period, a hundred and fifty years ago.

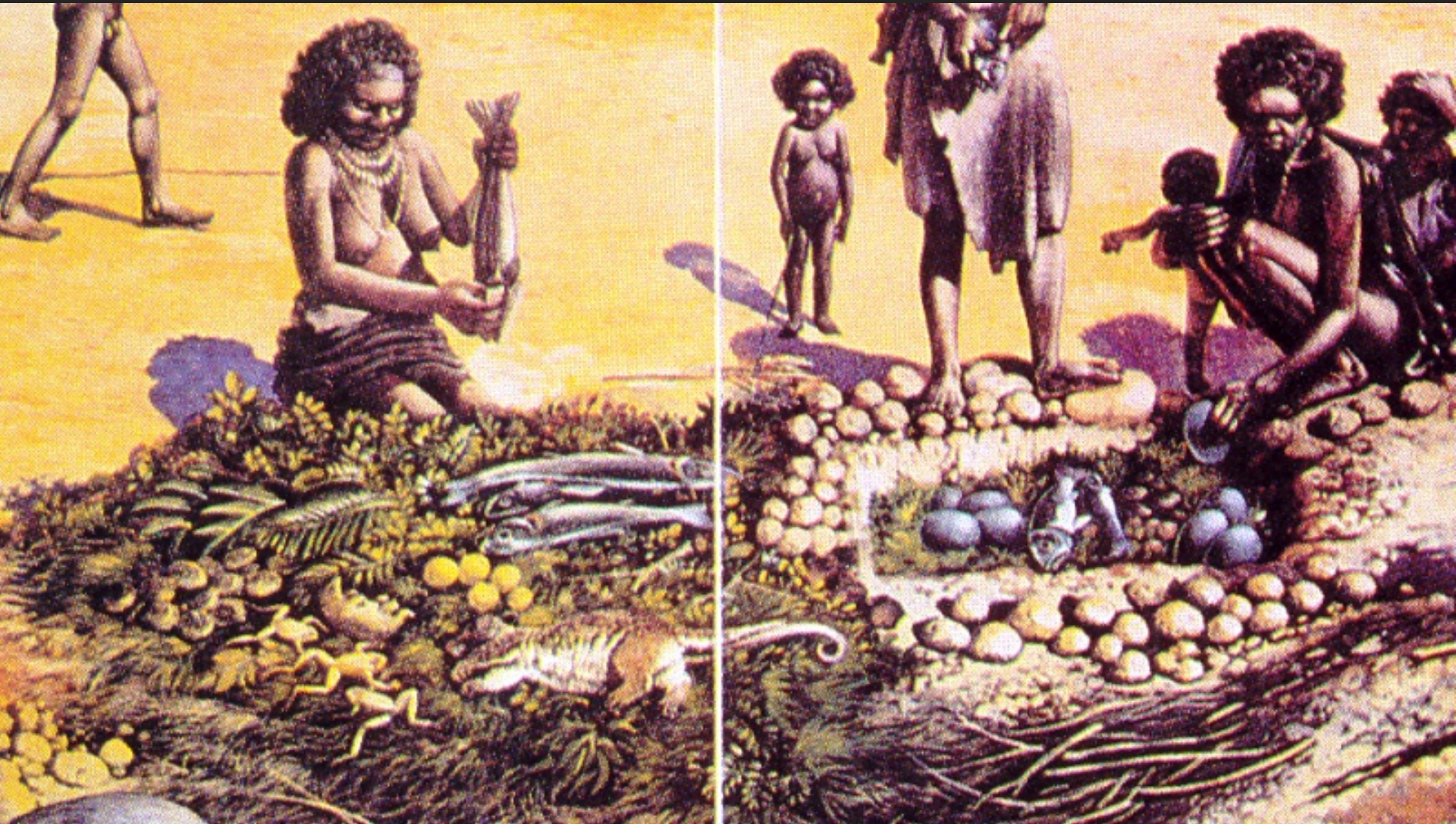


The question is: Cultural continuity or change?
What is the extent of cultural differences?

Bernard Wood's 1977 illustration of life at Lake Mungo 30,000 years ago



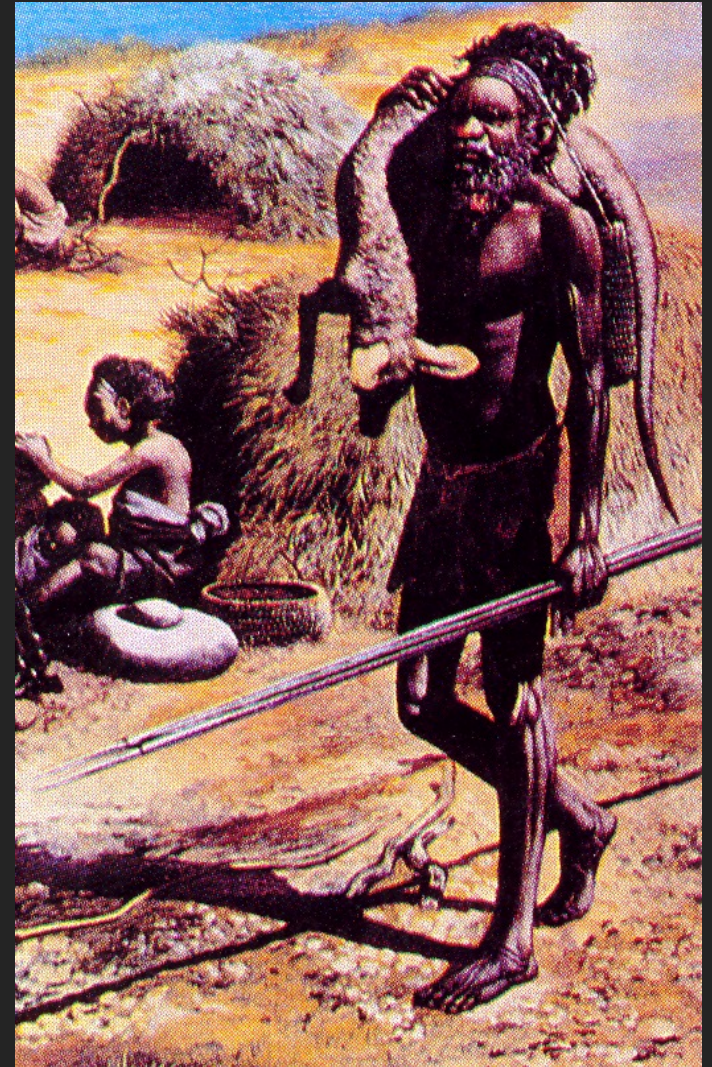
Bernard Wood's 1977 illustration of life at Lake Mungo 30,000 years ago



Bernard Wood's 1977 illustration of life at Lake Mungo 30,000 years ago



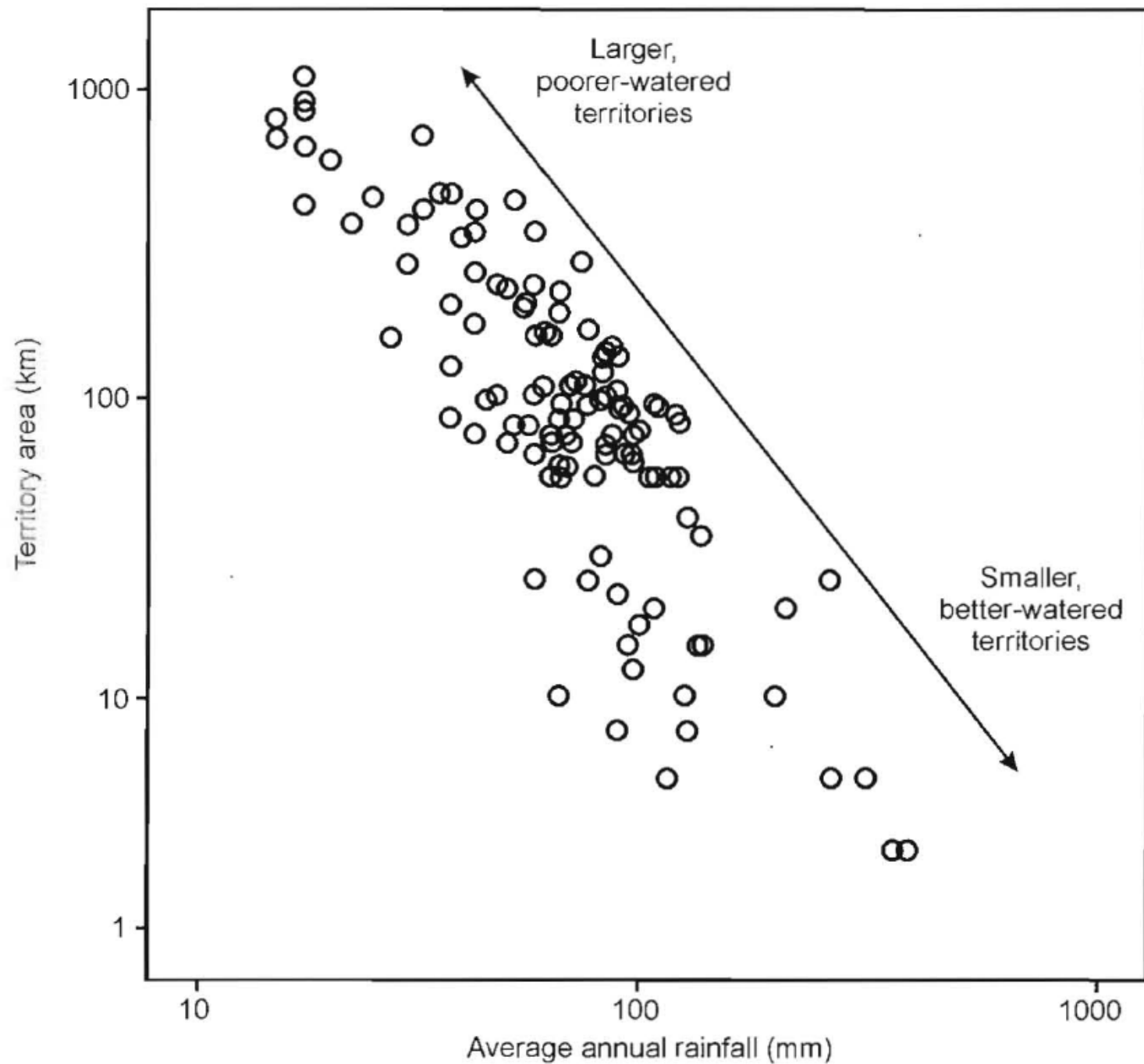
Bernard Wood's 1977 illustration of life at Lake Mungo 30,000 years ago



**Reproducing images of what
Aboriginal life was like at the time of
European colonisation**

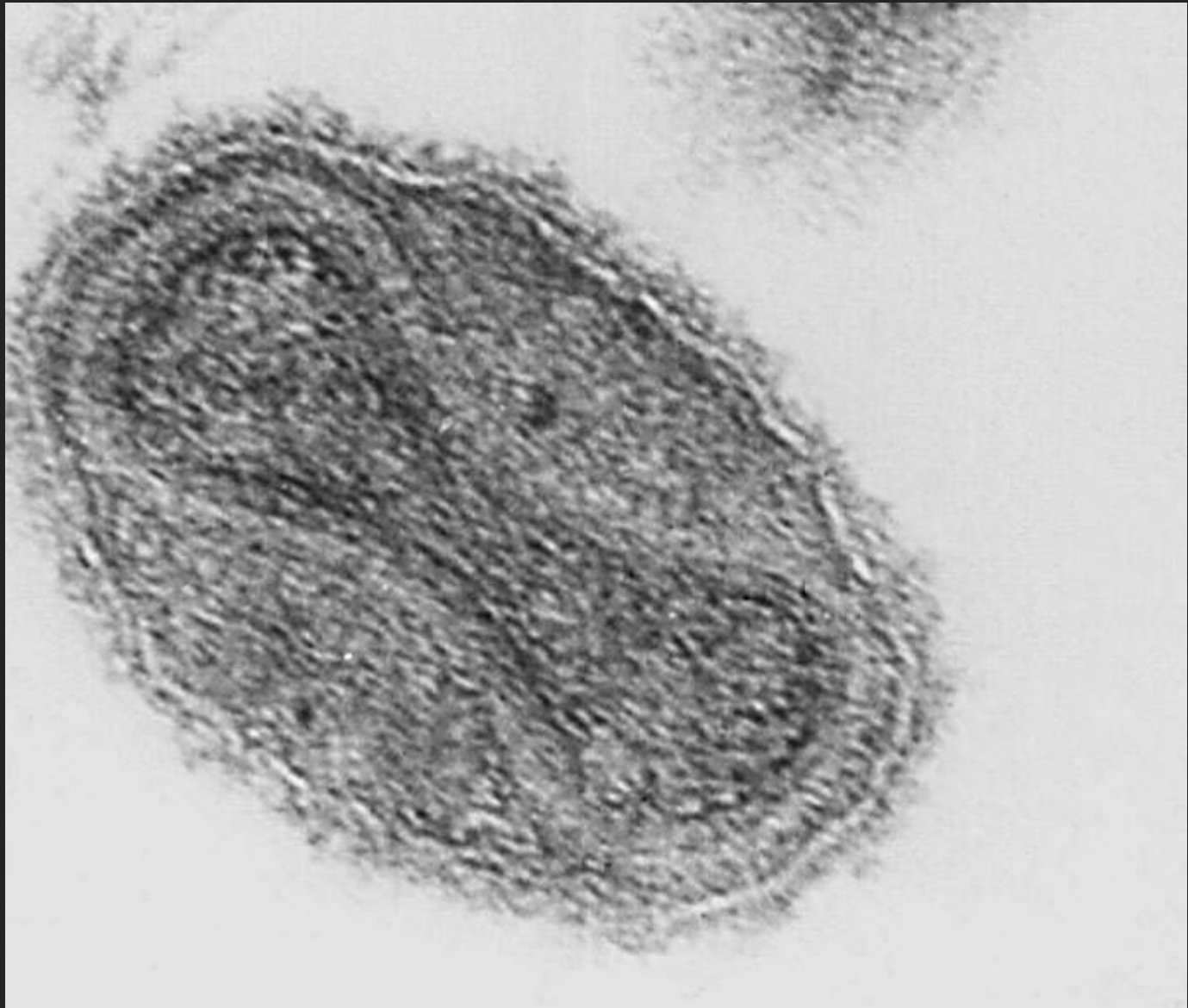
**This assumes Aboriginal culture
was unchanging for 1000's of years**

**Not helpful for understanding the
life of prehistoric Aboriginal people**



In April 1789, just over fifteen months after the First Fleet of British convicts, sailors and marines had arrived in Port Jackson, the Aborigines of the Sydney region were seen to be dying in large numbers in the vicinity of the British settlement and up the harbour towards the Heads.

**Why did these
Aborigines die in 1789?**





Smallpox had extreme demographic effects

60-98% of populations dead

Children, older people and women had higher mortality rates

Social disorder due to sex, power, status and knowledge imbalances



**Colebee
applying
grilled fish
to
Nanbarry's
gum after
having his
tooth
struck out,
c1798**

Did smallpox
radically reshape
Aboriginal culture just
before European
observers arrived?



Next class

Seminar – check
Canvas for
instructions

THE END



A
Warner Bros.-First National
PICTURE