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April 30, 2009

Dear Readers,

Welcome to Issue X! This *assemblage* issue is a special publication of a University of Sheffield Department of Archaeology postgraduate conference, “Material Culture Studies in the Historical Period,” held in spring 2006. This issue is the fruit of Cheryl Clay’s labours, who single-handedly edited every paper. We extend the deepest appreciation for your dedication, Cheryl.

Since issue 9, *assemblage* has undergone numerous changes in regards to both staff and format, but all with the intention of providing a clearer, more resounding voice for the postgraduate archaeological community. We hope readers enjoy having access to *assemblage* articles in a downloadable PDF format and our group numbers for the *assemblage* Facebook group continue to grow! We are in the process of further redesigning our website to host rolling content, with the aim of keeping up with the thriving research environment that is so much a part of Sheffield departmental life.

To celebrate the Sheffield contribution to archaeology, we are currently planning a special theme for issue 11 with the focus of landscape and conflict. If any of our readers are interested in submitting an article in keeping with this theme, an opinion piece or lecture for our competition, please see the “Current Issue” page on our website for full details. We have high hopes for issue 11; we are aiming to revive some of our earlier content, including “notes from the field” from departmental excavations and Desert Island books, but are also adding new sections, such as responses to the departmental debates by the debaters. If readers have any suggestions about what they would like to see in future issues of *assemblage*, please email us.

With the launch of issue X there is a renewed sense of vigour; we are approaching issue 11 with excitement, anticipation, and dedication to making our journal fresh, wide reaching, and as always, student focused. We invite our readers to share in our enthusiasm and we look forward to hearing your feedback.

Best wishes, and see you online,

Kate