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5. Future work

It is expected that the work on the Lower Murray will conclude in 1976. Meanwhile plans are in hand to undertake comparative work in the Lake Eyre and Cooper Creek river system in the far north east of the State. It is hoped to join with the Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies in sponsorship of the Koonalda project. Dr S.A. Gallus has been invited to take up a visiting research curatorship with the branch in 1976.

Grateful acknowledgement is made of the work of the South Australian Museum Volunteer Archaeological Group. This group has sustained the ongoing work in the field since the commencement of the Roonka project in 1968.

G.L. Pretty
The South Australian Museum

Kangaroo Island

As a footnote to Mr Pretty’s report, I wish to mention my own research in South Australia during 1975.

I continued the Kangaroo Island project with a three month field reconnaissance aimed at locating sites suitable for more intensive research. Exploration of limestone areas failed to reveal any more caves suitable for human habitation, but occupation horizons containing stone tools were found at three open sites. I plan to excavate at these in 1976, and hope that at least one of the three sites will have Kartan stone tools in a stratified, dateable context.

At several surface camp sites, controlled collections of Kartan tools were made. In collaboration with Drs J.H. and G. Hope, the sediments of several of the most promising lagoons on the island were cored in search of pollen and other palaeoenvironmental evidence. However, worthwhile organic sediments were found only at one lagoon, and these were only 4 m deep.

R.J. Lampert