



Neville Buch &lt;nbuch61@gmail.com&gt;

---

## Contact with Professional Historians in the Field re: World War II Local Sites Assignment (and the Policy Issue)

1 message

---

**Neville Buch** <nbuch61@gmail.com>

6 April 2021 at 13:36

To: n3.barnes@qut.edu.au

Cc: Tim Roberts &lt;timothyroberts@hotmail.com&gt;, Jack Ford &lt;jackford@bigpond.net.au&gt;, bgrough@gmail.com, Norm Love &lt;normanlove@hotmail.com&gt;, Chris Dawson &lt;dawsonchris@outlook.com&gt;, Stretton Electorate Office &lt;STRETTON@parliament.qld.gov.au&gt;, Sunnybank Electorate Office &lt;sunnybank@parliament.qld.gov.au&gt;, secretary@anzhes.com, UQ VC OFFICE &lt;vc@uq.edu.au&gt;, Geoff Ginn &lt;g.ginn@uq.edu.au&gt;, Joanne Scott &lt;JScott@usc.edu.au&gt;, vc@griffith.edu.au, margaret.sheil@qut.edu.au, Queensland State Archives &lt;info@archives.qld.gov.au&gt;

Dear Dr Barnes, and cc. institutional parties and representatives on the policy problem described herein,

My colleagues and I were pleasantly surprised by half-a-dozen contacts of QUT history education students, looking for research material on World War II local sites, in relation to an assignment we have been told you designed.

While the interest is very welcome, and we are, indeed, happy to assist history students *pro bono*, and currently doing so, we do expect **professional and industry courtesy to be extended in these matters of curriculum design**.

You see – and you may be ignorant of the field of scholarship, the wider intellectual industry, and the profession of which we are members – I am one of the very few **active educationalist historians** in Queensland. I am a member of the Australian and New Zealand History of Education Society (ANZHEs). Too many are ignorant because the universities have cut the teaching courses with their high quality which once existed.

The reason why I am so alarmed, here, is that I was told, by one of your students, that the task-at-hand would have the outcome of producing World War II local site entries for a mapping website.

If that is the case, you are reproducing a professional work which has already been done. (See [Queensland World War II Historic Places](#)).

Here is where professional courtesy has been violated. We all welcome further research and editing to be done on such a project, but why were the principal researchers and authors, Dr Jack Ford and Mr Brian Rough, **not** contacted prior and consulted as the experts.

We are all happy to assist in the collegial spirit, and I should make very clear, **PRO BONO** for our professional work. In this case, you are being paid, we are not.

My following comment is **probably not related** to your intention, but I need to make a fair warning:-

As this is **not the first time** that institutions, like the Queensland State Archives, State Library of Queensland, in recent years have been using our methodologies and content without any acknowledgement of our professional work, **I insist that all professional acknowledgements be precisely made, acknowledged in all outcomes of this assignment (Professional historian and chief local historian sources named)**.

We have reached a limit in being exploited as professional workers, and I personally will be committed to seeing **a major uproar happen IF our unpaid or underpaid professional work is not fully acknowledged according to CAL standards and academic protocol**. Thief of our intellectual property will no longer be tolerated.

Perhaps, I am making my comments too strongly in regards to **your** kind intentions, but we have all been too abused in the past.

**Let me make it clear, so fallacious arguments are not put up to divert from the issue at hand. We are happy to do pro bono work for students. We will not tolerate the abuse of our position as independent professional researchers.**

Kind regards,

Neville.

PS. I am emailing the CEOs of seven institutions because the abuse will not stop until the institutions correct the mistake which is making the abusive problem, as a matter of policy.

--



*Understanding history is philosophy in practice*

Q ANZAC 100 Fellow, 2014-2015, State Library of Queensland

**(07) 3342 3704**

**0416 046 429**

[nbuch61@gmail.com](mailto:nbuch61@gmail.com)

ABN 86703686642

The information in this message is confidential. It is intended only for the named addressee. If you are not the intended recipient, any dissemination, copying or use of any information is unauthorised. If you have received this message in error, please immediately telephone or email me.



Sender notified by  
[Mailtrack](#)