Professor J.W. Davidson, M.A. Ph.D.
Professorial Fellow H.E. Maude, O.B.E., M.A.
Professorial Fellow F.J. West, B.A. Ph.D.
Fellow Emily Sadka, B.A. Ph.D.
Senior Research Fellow P.W. van der Veur, M.A., Ph.D.
Visiting Senior Research Fellow H.A.L. Luckham, B.A.
Visiting Fellow G.M. Dening, S.J., M.A. (to August 1964)
Research Fellows
Research Assistants

There were some changes in the Department during the year. Mr H.A.L. Luckham, formerly a Commissioner of Lands in the Federation of Malaya, was appointed a Visiting Senior Research Fellow, and arrived in September. The Rev. G.M. Dening, S.J., left in August to take up a Ph.D. scholarship at Harvard University where he will continue his ethnohistorical studies.

Mr A.M. Healy left the Department at the end of 1963 to take up a teaching post at the University College of Sierra Leone.

Dr C. Jack-Hinton and Mr D.A. Scarr were appointed to Research Fellowships. Mr Scarr took up his appointment in December, and Dr Jack-Hinton is expected to arrive in February 1965.

Mrs Jennifer Terrell joined the Department in November as a Research Assistant.

Students and Training Activities

Nine Ph.D. students were attached to the Department during the year. Mr D.A. Scarr submitted his thesis and was under examination at the end of the year. The Ph.D. degree was conferred on a former student of the Department, Mr Chiang Hai Ding. Mr S. Latukefu, an M.A. student from the School of General
Studies, who had been supervised by the Department, transferred in July to a Ph.D. course.

Several students were engaged in field work. Mr. N. Rutherford returned in March from Fiji, Tonga and New Zealand, and commenced writing his thesis. Mr. P. France returned (in September) from Fiji where he had been continuing research on land tenure. Mr. D.L. Hilliard left in October for New Zealand to do research on the history of Christian Missions in the British Solomon Islands. Mr. S. Latukefu left in September for New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga to further his research on the influence of Methodist missionaries on the political development of Tonga. Mr. E. Polansky was in New Guinea until August, and, after a period in Canberra, returned in December to continue his sociological study of Rabaul.

Research Programme

The Department of Pacific History is concerned with the study of historical situations involving contact between Western and non-Western cultures, with a particular emphasis on contacts of a 'colonial' type in which Europeans have occupied positions of political and economic dominance. This field of research presents one particularly important problem of method. The major part of the documentary evidence consists of records made by Europeans and framed in terms of Western thought. The Department is engaged in devising and testing means to supplement the study of such documentary material in order to reach a fuller understanding of the social processes involved than is possible by conventional historical technique alone. This work makes its relations with other branches of the social sciences as close as those with other fields of history.

Since all historical research involves the study of specific situations, the geographical limitation imposed on the Department in its title - Pacific History - does not restrict the breadth of its theoretical preoccupations. On the contrary, it gives an added coherence and compactness to the body of factual knowledge which is subjected to theoretically-directed analysis. The danger of an undesirable narrowing of perception is guarded against both by the variety of situations available for study within the Pacific area and by the previous experience in other fields possessed by all members of the Department.

Professor Davidson continued work on his study of Samoan political development.

Mr. Maude worked on the history of the Central Pacific, and on the Gilbert Islands in particular.

Dr. West continued work on his two books on the Justitia and on the government of Sir Hubert Murray in Papua 1908-1940. Dr. Sadka continued writing a book on government in the Protected Malay States, 1874-1895. This work is now nearing completion. Dr. van der Veur was in New Guinea from January to September doing research into the elections for the Papua and New Guinea House of Assembly. He is co-editor with Dr. C.A. Hughes and Dr. D.G. Bettison of a book on the election. This work is nearing completion.

Dr. Gunson continued work on biographical studies of missionaries, and on problems of ethnohistory. He also worked on the revision for composite publication of his M.A. and Ph.D. theses.

Mr. Scarr commenced work on a history of the British Residency, Vila, New Hebrides, and on the revision of his Ph.D. thesis for publication. Mrs. Shineberg continued research on the sandalwood trade of the south-west Pacific, 1830-1865.
Other Activities

Professor Davidson paid two short visits to Fiji during the year. These were undertaken in part, as preparation for a projected study of the political situation and prospects of a number of Pacific territories and, in part, for discussion with government officers and political leaders regarding current constitutional problems facing the Colony.

In November Professor Davidson and Mr Maude commenced work towards the publication of the Pacific History Journal. The first issue is expected to appear late in 1965. The Journal will aim to cover the fields of study of historians, anthropologists, and other social scientists working on the Pacific area, by the publication of articles dealing with its political, economic, religious and cultural history, archaeology and prehistory as well as with contemporary government and political development.

Mr Maude has also worked on the series of Pacific History Monographs. At the end of 1964 five were in preparation.

During the first term of the academic year, Dr West lectured on early European modern history to first year students in the School of General Studies.

Dr Sadka attended an international conference of Asian historians at Hongkong in September. She also worked in libraries in Singapore and Kuala Lumpur during August and September.

Mrs Shineberg visited Tasmania in December to present a lecture on 'Captain Woodin and the Sandalwood Trade of the South Pacific' to the Tasmanian Historical Association.

During the second and third terms of the academic year, the Department ran two series of Work in Progress seminars.

The Department has continued to collect microfilms of theses relating to the Pacific area and copies of other important documents. Among the latter were manuscript documents of the late Sir Arthur Grimble. A microfilm of the first series of these documents, entitled 'Gilbertese Myths, Legends and Oral Traditions, collected ... between 1916 and 1930' is available from the Department.

Publications


Maude, H.E. 'Some Quotations about the Pitcairnese Language'. Ibid., 118-120.

** Based on work done prior to joining the University.
Routledge, D.J. 'Mr Lundon in Samoa'. Historical Studies, Australia and New Zealand, XI, xlii, April 1964, 234-235.


Theses

During the year, the following thesis was submitted and deposited in the Library after examination for the degree shown:

Chiang Hai Ding for Ph.D. A History of Straits Settlements' Foreign Trade 1870-1915.