



NEW ZEALAND
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ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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Notes and News

New Members

Simon Cave, Phillip Ma'aelopa, Jessica MacCormick, Carl Murray, Caitlin Smith, Nikole Wills.

Donations

Dorothy Brown, Dawn Chambers, Garry Law.

NZAA 2020 Conference

The 2020 Conference was supposed to be held in Taupo, but due to the uncertainties around the Covid-19 situation Council decided to cancel it and instead hold the 2121 event there instead. Details will be published in AINZ and on the NZAA website www.nzarchaeology.org in due course.

Student AINZ Paper Prize

The prize for the best student paper in AINZ is being offered again. The prize is open to any enrolled student: if the winner is already a NZAA member the prize is \$300; if the winner is not already a member the prize will be a year's membership plus \$250. Each prize period runs from the September to June issues.

Recent Reports & Publications Indexes

AINZ no longer carries a list of recent consultancy reports, but Heritage New Zealand maintains the Digital Library of consultancy reports, copies of which can be emailed (or sent via Hightail.com for large files) on request. Work is currently underway to make this library accessible online. More information and the excel spreadsheet index of the library contents can be found at:

<http://www.heritage.org.nz/protecting-heritage/archaeology/digital-library>

The New Zealand Archaeological Association also maintains an archaeological report library. Scans of this collection have been included in the HNZ Digital Library. The role of the NZAA Central Filekeeper is currently being discussed: hopefully the next issue of AINZ will have updated contact details for access to the archaeological report library.

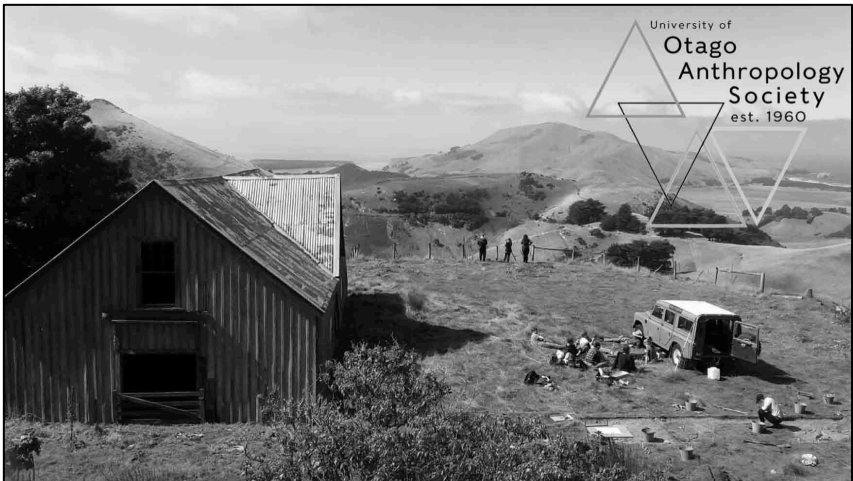
University of Otago Anthropology Society

60th Anniversary Publication appeal for contributors: The UOAS is preparing a publication chronicling 60 years of achievements of the society and the impacts of its members to further study in anthropology and particularly New Zealand archaeology. The publication will celebrate the figures who pioneered Otago anthropology and contributed to the development of this vibrant field of study as well as recording memorable moments in the society's history. Records of past members were not kept, so we are appealing for your reminiscences:

- What was your best field work memory?
- Social events (the infamous pub crawls)?
- Memorable innovations and inventions?

Please email Sarah Dugdale at uoanthropologysociety@gmail.com.

Photos, documents or other memorabilia are also welcome. We would particularly like to hear stories about doors opened through UOAS activities and connections.



Walton Fund Awards

The NZAA is pleased to announce two Walton Fund Awards for projects that focus of archaeological site recording. This fund was started by a bequest from the late Tony Walton, who was a strong advocate of the site recording scheme. The two recipients in the present award round are Christina Paterson and Brendan Kneebone.

Christina Paterson is undertaking a project to update New Zealand archaeological site records on Stewart Island/Rakiura, specifically focusing on the areas of Port Adventure, Paterson Inlet and the surrounds of Oban. A large majority of sites in these areas were recorded in the 1970s using the historical research detailed in Basil Howard's 1940s book *Rakiura*. The majority of these sites have never been officially inspected or have not been monitored since the late 1970s. This project aims to locate and update the records for 36 sites to contribute to a solid base of accurate records for Stewart Island/Rakiura.



A view of Paterson Inlet, looking towards Kaipipi where some of the island's first saw mills were located. This is an idea of the coastline this project will be working around (on a nice day) (Christina Paterson).

Brendan Kneebone, alongside Andrew McAlister, Dante Bonica, Alex Jorgenson, Robert Brassey and Ngāi Tai ki Tāmaki, will survey and record in detail archaeological sites and features located at Home Bay on Rakino Island, the

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majority of which are under immediate threat of being severely modified, or destroyed, by sea level rise and coastal erosion (and by human fossicking also). In particular, one of the few known, and largely undisturbed, adze workshops in the Hauraki Gulf (R10/709) is under threat. R10/709 and its associated features cover an extensive area from terracing behind the dunes to well into the intertidal area. This site is of huge significance, with the working floors and manufacturing areas (and associated features) offering a large amount of information potential, which can inform about human occupation on the island and the wider Tāmaki region, and can contribute to our understanding of the use of stone resources.

Letter to the Editor
Latrine Appeal

Dear Editor,

Although it is now six months since the hugely successful NZAA conference held on Rakiura in August, 2019, I want to firstly congratulate the organisers and the local community on Rakiura for their efforts and warmth which made the event such a winner. There was the usual range of papers of varied quality and interest, great discussions in the evening, a brilliant fieldtrip and a conference dinner that was undoubtedly the best for some time. Archaeology in New Zealand is in good health, at least before Covid-19. There certainly appears to be much archaeology going on and much of it is of the highest standards. The standards do vary hugely of course for a whole host of reasons and that is why professional workshops on a whole series of aspects have been organised by the NZAA in the past. Archaeologists representing Heritage New Zealand (HNZ) are at the forefront and have a role in assessing and raising standards through the Authority process. Most will realise and certainly those of us who have served in that role know what a monumental task it actually is for this radically under-resourced group. Commercial sensitivities can make it more difficult for colleagues to be supportive, but I would hope that in general that most archaeologists strive for some level of collegiality and support.

It is in this vein that I write this letter and my appeal for latrines. One paper at the conference, *Above and Below: Archaeological investigations at Thomas Shalders' house and property (Oamaru)*, presented an excellent and detailed history of a family home and its occupants over many generations combining buildings, landscape and subsurface archaeology with the historical record. Aspects which shaped the lives of the occupants were canvassed: social, economic, cultural and personal. However, one major source of information that might have been gleaned and that could have shed considerable light on the family's subsistence, health and disease was not considered. A whole series of pits at the end of the property yard were interpreted as the remnants of latrines. I recall (maybe wrongly) that at least some of these were excavated and a number of artefacts were recovered but that there was no attempt to bulk sample any of the basal deposits for macro and microfossil analysis.

Although the study of coprolites from New Zealand sites has a relatively long history (e.g. Williams 1980) it is not the case with latrines in historical archaeology. They are reported although not often but much more rarely are deposits being collected and analysed. A very rare example is that of two latrines

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uncovered in Russell that were thought to date to the 1830/40s where a whole range of food items were identified (Horrocks and Best 2003).

This gap in research strategies and analysis is fairly simple to remedy. An appeal to the over-stretched archaeologists at Heritage New Zealand to add an extra line or two to the list of Authority requirements when it is thought that such features might be uncovered.

*Best regards to all
Stuart Bedford*

Horrocks, M., and S. Best (2003) Analysis of Plant Microfossils in Early European Latrine Fills from Russell, Northern New Zealand. *International Journal of Historical Archaeology*, 8 (4): 267-280. DOI: 10.1007/s10761-004-2611-2

Williams, L. (1980) Kohika Coprolites. Unpublished M.A. research essay. Auckland: University of Auckland.