



NEW ZEALAND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

**NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**



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## BAY OF PLENTY SITE PRESERVATION AND ARCHAEOLOGY

K. W. Moore

### SITE RECORDING AND SURVEYING

Within the system used by the New Zealand Archaeological Association, 217 archaeological sites have been recorded and surveyed this year. This gives the Bay of Plenty area a new overall total of 1,140, a figure which I believe is foremost for New Zealand. Of the 1,140 archaeological sites, 680 comprise fortified pa and represent 59% of the total - the difference is made up mainly of the several hundred terrace types found at Kawerau and Onepu.

With regard to type classification of pas, it can be noted that the headland and ridge types predominate and almost equal in total. Contrary to some supposition, the ring ditch type of hill and ridge pa form only 8% of the total pa sites recorded. In other words, the ring ditch type of pa is not representative of the Bay of Plenty.

### SITE PRESERVATION

The process of creating Reserves is often a time consuming and tortuous one, but I feel the Society, along with the N.Z. Historic Places Trust and the N.Z. Archaeological Association, can view this last year or two with a fair measure of satisfaction.

Promotion of the more important sites arises from Government request or from local bodies, and even the public. Generally, the Department of Lands and Survey or the Ministry of Works will act on the recommendations of the N.Z. Historic Places Trust; the N.Z. Archaeological Association is also recognised.

It is this inter alia basis and liaison that functions towards the establishment of historic places, and in this last year or so it has meant considerable correspondence as well as field surveys in order to build the individual case histories. Thus, to this end, it is not possible here to dwell on all individual sites except some, and these are as follows:

(a) Preserved but awaiting the Lands Department Management Plan:

N69/22 Toi's Pa, and N58/2 Mauao - both of high archaeological and historical value.

N69/25 Te Parihari Gunfighter's Redoubt at Ohope - now a Historic Reserve within a Domain.

There are other sites, such as seven or eight along the hill line, above the Ohope Beach.

(b) Sites investigated but held over in the meantime:

Fort Colville, or Pukemaire, at Maketu.

Some two dozen sites on Motiti Island with possible acquisition as Reserves.

Otamarakau Pa site.

Rauporoa, Puruku and Te Poronu Redoubt sites.

N67/22 Gibraltar Rock, or Maungaruahine Pa.

Under the Coastal Reserves Scheme promoted by the Lands Department, sites involved have been - Kauri Point (3), Mauao, Fort Colville, Otamarakau, the Ohope hill line sites, and three west of Matata. These three are now within a newly-created recreation reserve and include an important fossil shell locality.

N58/18 Oruamatua pa, near Te Maunga and strongly advocated for preservation by the Tauranga Tribal Executive, is currently under action by the N.Z. Historic Places Trust.

This year, the State Forest Service at Whakarewarewa, following my inspection and recommendation, established as a Historic Reserve a pa named Tokorangi (N76/136) situated beside the road to the Blue Lake. It is a classic example of the hill ring ditch pa and falls within the Forest Service concept of bringing the environment to the public through the use of native trails and so on.

About March of last year, Mr J. McKinlay of the N.Z. Historic Places Trust visited the Bay of Plenty for the purpose of inspecting historic sites, the investigation ranging from the Motu in the east to Kauri Point in the west.

Omataroa Forest - here it is a matter of site surveying and recording with a view to preservation of the more important sites.

Sites N69/33 to N69/36 at Ohiwa west, adjacent to Wainui Road. The Whakatane and District Historical Society recently formally objected to the Whakatane County Council against subdivision, particularly in respect of one pa. Our objection was supported by the Lands Department which took a broader view of the whole area. The Council's final decision went against the application for subdivision. The Society has also been active in the matter of site preservation and took a leading part in the establishment of a historic and scenic reserve, taking in site N78/103 which is a particularly good example of a ridge pa overlooking the Waioeka River.

Tatahoata Kainaha Cemetery at Ruatahuna, Urewera country - In response to the Lands Department's enquiry, the Society provided a lengthy report covering its historical background. It is now a Historic Cemetery Reserve under the control of the Department of Internal Affairs.

Kohi Point Reserve - This important area contains 12 pa sites and other archaeological features, many of which are very important. Much of the environment is now open to the public by way of a trail blazed by the Whakatane Lions Club under supervision of this Society.

The Ministry of Works, Rotorua, involved with an environmental impact study, called on my assistance to investigate the site for a proposed Technical Institute. This was done and the Department has now asked me to inspect an area above the Hemo Gorge, Rotorua.

It is a matter for regret, though, that Fort Galatea has deteriorated to such a stage of neglect, and this despite a strongly-worded plea I addressed to the Lands Department and the N.Z. Historic Places Trust.

Further, it is frustrating that bringing down a final management plan on Kapu-te-Rangi (Toi's Pa) is so time consuming, but I would certainly hope that this year it will be put into effect, so offering something to the public.

The coming year should also see the establishment of the Bay of Plenty Regional Committee of the N.Z. Historic Places Trust; the promotion will be timely and will give the area a stronger voice in setting up historic reserves.

I must, however, point out my satisfaction concerning the co-operation I have received from all Government Departments as well as local Councils. I wish to thank Mr A. G. (Fred) Judd for his practical assistance in representing the Society on the Kohi Point Reserves Committee.

I think it would be true to say that the Whakatane and District Historical Society is the most active in New Zealand in the field of site preservation and the coming year should prove very worthwhile, especially as the sites have now built to a number of which, all being well, should steadily result in their preservation.

The site is now being treated by the Whakatane and District Historical Society in the most efficient manner and it is hoped that the site will be preserved in its original state. The site is now being treated by the Whakatane and District Historical Society in the most efficient manner and it is hoped that the site will be preserved in its original state. The site is now being treated by the Whakatane and District Historical Society in the most efficient manner and it is hoped that the site will be preserved in its original state.

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