



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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the so-called 'putty-nut' (Parinarium). The kernel of this nut is reddish-brown in colour when applied, but it quickly changes to black and sets very hard. An attractive decorative effect is produced by inserting pearl-shell inlay to portray the frigate bird. The scintillating pearl-shell forms a marked contrast to the black back-ground of Parinarium cement. Both bow and stern are ornamented with white Ovulum shells. A small, light, plank canoe from Buka has a painted design of human faces executed in red and black.

The whole of the south wall is decorated with a map mural of the Pacific Islands, thus enabling visitors to locate the area where the canoes were used. Such, then, is a brief sketch of the Hall of Oceanic Navigation, a hall which displays the watercraft of the Pacific. In some small measure it does justice to the Oceanic sailors who, in single or double canoe, or maybe in an outrigger, voyaged from island to island, explored the coastline of their own islands home, or perhaps merely went a-fishing.

BOOKS FOR THE YOUNG ARCHAEOLOGIST by H.J.R.Brown.

Archaeologists and teachers throughout New Zealand are often asked by children for books on archaeology. The following is a list of books found to be very readable, well illustrated, and, in most instances, reasonably priced. (The prices quoted are approximate for New Zealand.)

The Puzzle of the Past (The Wonderful World of Archaeology); Ronald Jessup, Rathbone Books, London, 1956. Price 15/-

Seventy large, well illustrated pages cover many general aspects of archaeology. Written by a practical, experienced archaeologist, the book is divided into five chapters. 'The Past sets a Problem', introduces the subject, and following chapters are headed, 'Preserving the Clues', 'Unearthing History', 'Methods and Science', and lastly, 'The Past Has a Future'.

The coverage is great: "Dragon Bones", Tree ring chronology, the work of C.J.Thomsen (first curator of the Danish national archaeological collection), Dr.Howard Carter and Tutankhamen, aerial photography, area excavation, underwater archaeology, first-aid in the field, Carbon 14 and the Piltdown forgery are some of the subjects dealt with in a general, elementary and accurate manner. This work is by far the best book for children.

The First Book of Archaeology, N.B.Kubie. Franklin Watts, New York, Price 17/-

Very similar to The Puzzle of the Past. Written for younger children, it has a slightly different subject coverage, and less detail.

Everyday Life in Ancient Times, National Geographic Society, Washington D.C., 1958. Price 50/-.

A series of reprints from early copies of the National Geographic Magazine cover the highlights of the beginnings of Western Civilization in Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece and Rome.

The 456 pages contain 120 full-page paintings and numerous photographs, and a comprehensive index covers an additional 12 pages.

A Picture History of Archaeology, C.W.Ceram. Thames and Hudson, London, 1958. Price 42/-.

An excellent reference book which was reviewed in an earlier issue of the Newsletter.

Great Moments in Archaeology, Ivor Noel Hume. Phoenix House Ltd, London, 1959. Price 7/6.

Although similar to Margaret Wheeler's two books, this has been written for young adolescents, and covers Lascaux paintings, Ur Cemetery, Tutankhamen, Heinrich Schliemann, Pompeii, Mithras Temple in London, Cousteau's underwater excavations, Sutton Hoo, and Chichen Itza wall 'excavations.'

A Book of Archaeology, Lady Wheeler
A Second Book of Archaeology, Margaret Wheeler. Cassell, London, Price, 15/- and 16/3 respectively.

Both contain a selection of edited accounts of archaeological discovery and limited excavations throughout the world. Approximately thirty books and archaeological periodicals are tapped by these two volumes.

Looking at Ancient History, R.J.Unstead. A&C.Black Ltd., London. Price 13/3.

The appeal of this book is reduced by a lack of colour illustrations. Numerous black and white line drawings, large print and a few photographs assist children between the ages of nine and fourteen to understand ancient Egypt, Mesopotamia, Greece, the world of Alexander the Great, and Rome.

The True Book About Buried Treasures, John Merret. Frederick Muller Ltd, London. Price 8/6.

Much the same coverage as Great Moments in Archaeology, but in much greater detail.

Adventure in Discovery, Stanley Rogers. Geo. Harrap & Co., London, 1949. Price 15/-.

Chapters on the Rosetta Stone, Discovery in Egypt, Buried Cities, and the Discovery of Ancient Ships, occupy a quarter of this book.

Books for the more practically minded.

Down to Earth, Robin Place. Rockliff, London. Price 10/6.

Terms Used in Archaeology, Christopher Trent. Phoenix House, London. Price 6/6.

These are both good. Senior secondary school children would gain more from them, but parts would be of use to junior post-primary children. Note, however, that they are oriented toward English conditions.

Going into the Past, Gordon Copley. Phoenix House, London. Price 13/6.

For young people and adults, this is a simple, well written illustrated introduction to archaeology in Great Britain.

Fictional narrative and well-established facts have been combined by non-English authors to produce:-

The Caves of the Great Hunters, Hans Baumann. Hutchinson, London. Price 10/6.

This is on the discovery of the Lascaux cave paintings.

The Golden Pharaoh, Karl Bruckner. Burke, London.
Price 15/6.

Bruckner describes the activities of tomb robbers 3,000 years ago, early Egyptology, and Howard Carter's search for, and opening of the tomb of Tutenkhamen.

BOOKS FOR THE FIELD WORKER by J. Golson.

The Archaeological Association has set as one of its aims in helping the development of archaeology in New Zealand, the provision of handbooks for the archaeological field worker. One of these, on field archaeology, has been produced already. It is to be hoped that the discussions and demonstrations of excavation technique and interpretation held at Rotorua and Wellington conferences will result in the appearance of a second handbook.

These books are essentially adaptations to New Zealand conditions of the methods and principles of archaeological research evolved in other parts of the world. They are needed because they can translate general archaeological methodology into New Zealand terms. At the same time, this general body of archaeological method on which the handbooks build cannot be ignored, and the handbooks to be kept within reasonable compass must take some acquaintance with it for granted.

This article aims to provide a short list of books that can be considered essential from this point of view.

Field Archaeology

O.G.S. Crawford, Archaeology in the Field, Phoenix House, 1953.

This book is not a manual. It is a highly individual discussion of the aims, methods and data of field archaeological research by one of the most inspired field archaeologists of all time. Beyond the intrinsic interest of the material with which it deals, the importance of the book lies in its demonstration that field archaeology is just as important a part of archaeological research as excavation and that valuable results can be