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Editorial

The latest news as this edition of AINZ is being set out is the Kaikoura earthquake of November 14th. The two fatalities, damage to property and the severing of both State Highway 1 and the railway have dominated the news, but the damage to archaeological and heritage sites is likely to also be substantial. The historic Elms homestead collapsed catastrophically during the earthquake, killing one person and injuring two others. Other historic buildings will have suffered (media coverage showed at least one badly damaged cob cottage), and landslips will have affected unknown numbers of sites. In addition the coastal uplift of up to 2 metres will reshape many coastal features. At the 2016 NZAA Conference Bill Edwards gave a paper on early settlement sites south of Wairau Bar: many of the places that he illustrated will now have changed significantly.

On a more positive note, if all has gone according to plan this issue of AINZ should have a colour cover. Assuming the finances work out, and good enough images come to hand, this should be standard in future.

Peter Petchey

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