



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



This document is made available by The New Zealand
Archaeological Association under the Creative Commons
Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

To view a copy of this license, visit
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>.

NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION
ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



This document is made available by The New Zealand
Archaeological Association under the Creative Commons
Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported License.

To view a copy of this license, visit
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/3.0/>.



FIELDWORK AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

NORTHLAND

The last 3 months have seen a profound change in the Northland Conservancy with the retirement of Joan Maingay from the Department of Conservation on the 31 June 2000. After 15 years of archaeological service first to the Historic Places Trust and then with DoC Joan has decided to have a lifestyle change and focus on her garden out at Sandy Bay on the east coast. Although we have a promise from the Regional Conservator that she will be replaced, Adrienne and I have been attempting the unenviable task of covering her role until a replacement is appointed.

Joan's retirement 'huli' was quite an occasion with all the extended Maingay clan and friends - some from Joan's earlier incarnation as an accomplished artist in the 1950 s - was hosted at the Affair restaurant by the Department and included over 40 staff from Gerry Rowan the Regional Conservator down to a certain Mike McGlyn. Formal mihi's and waiata's were made and moving tributes to Joan were spoken by kaumatua Boxer Hepi and by Joe and Gracie Kereopa and by many DoC staff who knew Joan well. The University was also well represented by Professors Roger Green and Harry Allen. In his speech Roger made it clear that he expected Joan write up the important Butler Pt excavation!

Over the years Joan's love of plants and gardening has seen her scrounge numerous plants from unsuspecting staff members so it seemed appropriate to present her with a set of gardening tools and a large number of New Zealand plants including a number which originated on the 3 Kings Islands, where Joan has spent several years surveying. Goodbye Joan and all the best for the future.

Field work over the last 3 months has been limited by the unexpectedly wet winter however a number of small but important projects have been progressed.

Adrienne for example has been involved with researching the written history of Tane Mahuta; monitoring a Connectel cable trench adjacent to our recent dig at Russell in the Bay of Islands; writing up site records of the early historic features in the Kerikeri basin identified by the Stone Store curator Mr Fergus Clunie; and finally has had a meeting with a local interest group at Ahipara who wish to repair a track on DoC estate leading through the gumdigging areas of the Ahipara gumfields. In contrast I have given a number of archaeological public talks and field trips focussing around Conservation week, and have just last week been shaping topsoil and turf so as to rehabilitation some badly eroded terraces at Maiki hill in Russell, Bay of Islands.

I have finally completed a detailed electronic survey plan of Motukiore Island in Whangaruru Harbour on Northlands east coast. The plan took longer than expected because of the fact that the whole island turned out to be covered with numerous Maori and (some) historic features. Finished copies of the plan were recently presented to representatives of the Ngatiwai Trust Board who are currently leasing the island from the Department of Conservation.

Over the last few months Adi has had a very productive time at the computer, completing and publishing her 'Waitangi Archaeological Survey' and getting stuck into writing up her Tokerau Beach archaeological survey. I however have been involved in more 'hands on' conservation management. The first of these saw myself and DoC contractor Mr John Evans complete some emergency remedial work on Maxwells cottage in Waipoua forest. This involved re-pilling the ends of the building which were collapsing; placing a perspex cover over the chimney top to stop rain getting into the building; and digging a drain coil into the ground around the building to help keep moisture away from the foundations. During the course of the work it became clear that other work was needed if the integrity of the building is to be maintained, therefore in the next twelve months we plan to raise the building and repile the central part which is degrading rapidly due to being in direct contact with the ground.

Probably the most significant event of this period occurred with our participation in the reburial of human skeletal remains at Ahipara on Northland's 90 Mile Beach. Adrienne Slocombe has had a number of meetings with Te Rarawa kaumatua to discuss what to do about the appearance of koiwi repeatedly eroding out of the riverbank on land currently administered by DoC. At the specific request of the iwi Adi and I assisted University Physical Anthropologist Judith Littleton and graduate Elizabeth McCracken in analysing many hundreds of human bones before they were interred in a crypt at Pukemiro

cemetery. When her study is completed Judith will be bringing back her formal findings to the Roma Marae, however initial analysis of nearly 200 identifiable bones indicates that this was a single event burial of a group of local iwi. The presence of both sexes and a wide range of ages amongst the remains hints that the fatalities here relate to a dramatic disease event, and an associated pig snout bottle suggests that this occurred sometime between the 1850s and the 1880s.

James Robinson. DoC

AUCKLAND

This has been the time of year for hunkering down to the very serious business of digesting, interpreting and presenting information. The good news is that a whole batch of books is known to be nearing completion. The first to appear will be Caroline Phillips' book, based on her PhD thesis, which is due out on the 12th October .

Ex-Auckland archaeologists Yvonne Marshall and Andrew Crosby have been back in the city visiting family and catching up with colleagues. Yvonne is a lecturer in the Archaeology Department at the University of Southampton. Andrew is a consultant advising on protection of ancient monuments in Great Britain, and is involved in a research programme on the island of Nevis in the Carribean. They have recently published a monograph on the archaeology of the Sigatoka Dunes in Fiji, pulling together research carried out over the years by a number of archaeologists. Yvonne has been collaborating with Louise Furey and Doug Sutton on the volume describing the archaeology of Pouerua in the inland Bay of Islands.

Back in April, Geoff Irwin and Simon Best, along with Fiji Museum Field Officers Sepeti Matararaba and Jone Naucabalavu, plus six students and former students from the Anthropology Department, University of Auckland, participated in an excavation in Fiji. They spent two weeks working at VL 21/5, a Lapita site on Naigani, a small island off the northeast coast of Viti Levu. Approximately 36 m² was opened up as test pits and 24 m² in the main excavation area. Items recovered include dentate-stamped, incised, paddle impressed and plain potsherds, lithic material, worked shell and faunal remains. A number of features interpreted as *lovo* (earth ovens) were recorded in the main excavation area and samples were taken from these for C14 determination. The ceramic material is being written up as an MA thesis by Jonathon Carpenter. The faunal remains are being analysed by Stuart Hawkins for his MA dissertation

Robert Brassy reports that in June, the Auckland Regional Council Heritage Department was visited by the Parliamentary Select Committee on Resource Management Law Reform. They went away impressed by a slick presentation from Ian Lawlor and Kim Tatton on the ARC cultural heritage inventory. The Council is in the process of commissioning a number of conservation plans for archaeological and built heritage. The archaeological sites include Matukaroa/Hamlins Hill, garden features at Ambury Park, and pa in the Waitakere Ranges, at Muriwai, Mahurangi, Tapapakanga, and Duder Regional Park. A mapping project is also being undertaken at Te Maketu/Peach Hill. Expressions of interest from external consultants have been received and are being evaluated. Due out soon for comment are Lucy MacIntosh's proposals for an Auckland region cultural heritage monitoring programme and Kim Tatton's report on priorities for archaeological survey and assessment in the region.

Winstone Aggregates Ltd are proposing to apply for consents to quarry Matukureia – the Puhinui stonefields remnant (Site R11/25) this year. Ngati Te Ata are working with Winstones to develop a 'vision for development' of the area. The ARC has been meeting with Winstone Aggregates, NZHPT and the broader archaeological community to ensure that archaeological and scientific values are recognised and provided for in the planning process. Rod Clough initiated an on-site meeting for Winstones with Auckland representatives of ARC, NZAA, DoC, the Maori Heritage Council, the University of Auckland and the Auckland Museum to inform them of the proposal.

The Queen's Redoubt Trust continues to try and raise money to purchase the redoubt site. Thus far there is an undertaking of \$100,000 from the Lottery Grants Board (about a third of what is needed), subject to the remainder of the money being found. Several applications are in the pipeline, but the process is proving more protracted than was hoped. If the money cannot be found the site is likely to be sold for housing development. Any suggestions concerning funding possibilities would be gratefully received. Please contact the chairman of the Queen's Redoubt Trust - Nigel Prickett, Auckland Museum, Private Bag 92018, Auckland.

At the Historic Places Trust John Coster continues to hold the fort as Regional Archaeologist until the new appointee, Stuart Bedford, arrives to fill the position vacated by Kim Tatton. He is due in October. The Trust is to be commended for the work that went into securing a prosecution (13 June 2000) for the damage inflicted on Uruti Pa in the Bay of Islands.

Auckland Archaeological Society has two talks coming up – the next (title yet to be announced) is on September 6 at 7pm in the tearoom on the 8th floor of the Human Sciences Building, University of Auckland. October's talk "Notes on the East Polynesian origins of the Maori *tuaahu* and *marae*" by Roger Green will be a repeat of his stimulating NZAA conference paper. For those of you who missed out on the conference this talk is highly recommended. Auckland Archaeological Society can be contacted by e-mail: arch-soc@stargate1.ac.auckland.nz

The Conservation Department of Auckland Museum has just embarked on the long process of preparing the female Egyptian mummy (formerly on display in the old 'People Of the World' gallery) for redisplay. It is hoped that it can be housed in a custom-built display case in the 'Civilisations' gallery. The Museum welcomed the new Curator - Maori, Chanel Clarke, on 14 August. She was previously at Waikato Museum.

Notice of intent: the first meeting of the proposed new Auckland branch of the New Zealand Archaeological Association will be held in the third week of September. The venue and day is still to be finalised. The need for regular gatherings to discuss and act on issues of particular local and national interest has been talked about for a long time. Seize this opportunity to come along and offer your ideas on what the new branch should be doing to meet needs - are you looking for interesting field trips, site recording activities, talks, support.....? For further information or to discuss ideas contact Kath Prickett at Auckland Museum ph 309 0443 extension 856 or 480 5201.

Kath Prickett, Auckland Museum

BAY OF PLENTY

Good news in the Bay of Plenty was the opening of the Historic Places Trust regional office in Tauranga. The two staff, Cathy Barr as Regional Archaeologist, and Gail Henry who is Area Co-Ordinator, cover a large area, from Waikato, Bay of Plenty, Coromandel, Gisborne and Taupo. The office is located at 30- 34 Grey Street, in the heart of Tauranga, and if you are passing through the region, visitors are always welcomed with fresh coffee! (if you can find anyone in). Since opening in early June things have gone from busy to hectic, with councils and consultants falling over themselves to talk to us about their applications and various issues. Being located in the Bay has provided the Trust the opportunity to work closely with councils and developers and will hopefully assist in the protection of sites in the area.

Contrary to reports, Rick McGovern-Wilson is still the filekeeper for the Bay of Plenty, and all file enquiries should be directed to him, and not to the Tauranga office.

Following on from the successful prosecution in the Bay of Islands, the Trust has recently won a case in the Coromandel, where a landowner was found guilty of damaging a pa site during clearance of weeds on the property – he was using a bulldozer! At the time of writing the landowner is considering appealing the decision. There are three other prosecutions under investigation in the region at the moment, with one against a bottle digger already in the court system. This represents the stronger position on breaches on the archaeological provisions of the HPA that the Trust is taking.

The Whakatane District Museum and Gallery (Te Whare Taonga o Te Rohe o Whakatane) recently hosted an exhibition displaying artefacts from Kohika. Called *Te Kohika*, the exhibit displayed some of the 300 artefacts recovered in the 1970s from the wetland pa. The taonga date to the 1600s, and provide an insight into aspects of life not often revealed in the archaeological record. A great opportunity to see pieces often read and talked about.

Te Kohika was supported by Environment Bay of Plenty, who are also supporting the NZAA file upgrade project in the Bay. In addition, the regional council is making \$400,000 available through its Environmental Enhancement Fund to fund community projects that enhance the environment of the Bay of Plenty – including heritage features. Applications for the first round of funding opened on 14 August, and details about the fund and applications are available from the Council.

The Council also hosted a cultural heritage workshop in July, which was attended by representatives of a number of district councils, Department of Conservation and HPT staff. Presentations were made on the Gisborne District Plan cultural heritage alert layer, and the NZAA upgrade project. Opportunities to carry out similar work in the Bay were discussed.

The Regional Council is about to release a draft Change to the Regional Policy Statement, dealing with criteria to assessment of significance of heritage resources. This will be available for public comment in September.

Ken Phillips has been busy with several major surveys in the Bay of Plenty. The first of these has been carried out around Bethlehem (no not the one in the bible

stories), with the support of Ngati Hangarau. Recorded sites were relocated and reassessed, and the location and extent of new sites was also recorded and their location GPS'd. In addition to this, Ken has been wandering the shorelines of Athenree, Bowentown and Waihi Beach, supposedly examining the route of the proposed sewage reticulation pipeline, but in reality looking for Gilbert Mair's lithic workshop.

From Ray Hooker

The last six months have seen a remarkable change in the Bay of Plenty kiwifruit industry. Over the last decade kiwifruit orchards have been decreasing, taken over by the growth of Tauranga. The recent expansion of new kiwifruit plantings further afield, is set to continue. This is on prime land which of course conflicts with archaeological values. Unlike the 70s & 80s, district and regional council are insisting on archaeological assessments where any earthworks are proposed. Convincing a prospective orchardist that those unusual bumps and dips are of significance is somewhat of a trial. To date (touch wood) the track record is fairly good with authority investigated holes being proved to be archaeological features. A recent Authority terrace investigation (not a proposed orchard) resulted in a non-site. During a recent field inspection of a property (where there were a number of small terraces, with no subsurface archaeological indications), stock action was documented (photographed) actually in the process of forming a 5 by 2 metre terrace with a 1 metre scarp. A lesson for the uninitiated. Forestry work continues and relocating sites and locations recorded in the 70s is an ongoing problem, especially given the landscape changes over the ensuing three decades.

Cathryn Barr, NZHPT, Tauranga

(with help from Penny Dorman, EBoP, Ken Phillips and Ray Hooker)

OTAGO

In June of this year Ian Barber returned to work at Puponga Farm Park (Triangle Flat, Farewell Spit), with Steve Bagley of DoC Nelson, Fiona Kirk of Dunedin, and a team of Otago postgraduate students. This work continued an archaeological management investigation that was begun in November/December 1999 (see *Archaeology in New Zealand* 43(1): 16-17). Further mapping and sampling work was undertaken at M24/11 on the southern corner of Triangle Flat. This site is an extensive Maori archaeological complex incorporating midden deposits, structural features, and a possible modified horticultural soil. Midden deposits were also identified and investigated by test excavation from two limestone rock shelters on the northwestern margins of

Triangle Flat. At least one of these rock shelter sites (M24/11) may incorporate evidence of early Maori occupation in Golden Bay. It is hoped that the test excavation and laboratory component of this resource management project can be concluded within the next 12 months.

There are five MA students at Otago University who are undertaking research currently in South Island archaeology. Emma Brooks participated in the June investigation at Triangle Flat discussed above. She is now working with all of the Triangle Flat midden samples to investigate precontact Maori use of coastal resources in western Golden Bay. Helena Christie is studying the nature and relationship of ceramic assemblages from a range of 19th century and early 20th century Otago archaeological sites. Andrew Dodd is investigating problems in urban archaeological regulation and management using case studies from Queenstown and Dunedin. Rory Grant is using data from the Central Otago DoC Arrow River survey (see *Archaeology in New Zealand* 43(2): 109) to consider problems in archaeological assessment and resource management procedures. Chris Wheadon is analysing shellfish remains from the recently concluded University of Otago Shag Point investigation, with a focus on problems of quantification and environmental interpretation.

Ian Barber, Otago University

SOUTHLAND

Stewart Island

Excavations at Mason Bay located a thin but extensive living surface comprising clusters ovens and associated midden, notably of rocky shore shellfish and seal bone. Excavations on the beach front intertidal area recovered further pieces of a large canoe, including hull timbers, cordage and some of the stern piece decorative tracery. These are now being conserved at the University of Auckland conservation laboratory. The excavations were directed by Atholl Anderson and Gerard O'Regan assisted by staff from DoC Southland Conservancy and the Southland Museum and Art Gallery and many Ngai Tahu and Ngati Mamoe.

Atholl Anderson, Australian National University