



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/>.



FIELDWORK AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Northland

An underwater archaeological survey of the Kerikeri Basin and Inlet in the vicinity of Kororipo, the Stone Store and Kemp House and was undertaken by Andy Dodd, Sally Burgess and several members of the Auckland chapter of the Maritime Archaeological Association. The work took place over Easter to determine if there were unrecorded remains located in the Basin that should be accounted for in the upcoming Kerikeri Sustainable Development Plan. The survey involved a basic foreshore pedestrian survey at low tide, a side scan sonar search, and systematic diver survey. The results were somewhat less exciting than anticipated, but one site, comprising an artefact scatter in the immediate vicinity of the jetty, was recorded. A follow up visit to complete the diver survey was planned later in May, but was aborted when the rising river levels following a week of bad weather reduced visibility underwater to zero.

Andy Dodd

Auckland ARC

The ARC Heritage Department co-hosted with Massey University a cultural heritage resource evaluation workshop on the 6th of May. Sixty-five specialists from around the country attended. Keynote presentations to focus discussion were given by Alex Marsden (Director of the Historic Assessment Section, Heritage Division, Federal Department of the Environment and Heritage, Canberra), Aidan Challis (Senior Policy Advisor, NZHPT, Wellington) and Paul Mahoney (National Coordinator Historic Heritage, DoC, Wellington). Workshops in the morning examined the existing processes for determining value and assessing the significance of historic and cultural heritage resources using a 'swot' analysis. The primary questions were: What's working? What's not working? Obstacles? and, What might work? Following lunch, Sara Donaghey reviewed the results of her PhD thesis questionnaire. A second workshop then examined the framework, processes, criteria and strategies for a 'Model of Best Practice' than might work. Mini surveys were run in the morning and afternoon to test for shifts in perceptions regarding evaluation processes that might be in place in 6 years time (i.e., by 2010). In summary, survey findings indicated that

a national historic heritage assessment process might exist by 2010 and it might be consistent, clear and easy to use. It might also clearly acknowledge community values but will not possibly include historic heritage of significance to Maori. The survey findings overwhelmingly concluded that historic heritage will continue to be chronically funded. Through the day there was a negative shift in perceptions with more people becoming pessimistic. Proceedings from the workshop will be available shortly and copies can be obtained from either Ian Lawlor (Ian.Lawlor@arc.govt.nz) or Sara Donaghey (cloud9@pl.net). Results will also be used by Sara in her PhD research.

Sara Donaghey

Excavations and reconstruction at Queen's Redoubt

The Queen's Redoubt Trust contracted Warren Gumbley, a Hamilton-based archaeologist, to undertake the excavation at Queen's Redoubt, Pokeno (South Auckland). The field season took place over two weeks in early April with volunteers from Hamilton and the University of Auckland Anthropology Department. Two areas were opened up at the front of the property at the south-west corner of the redoubt interior. The main features uncovered were patterns of post holes from two or more buildings and a major toe-drain along the inner side of the wall with smaller drains running at right angles from it. Before backfilling, a piece of lead will be placed in each feature to make relocating easy with a metal detector so the features can be marked on the ground surface.

A major part of the project at Queen's Redoubt involves reconstruction of the fortification earthworks as a visitor attraction. This is the most challenging part of the project. Although we achieved less earthworks restoration than anticipated this season it was a useful exercise and we learned some good lessons from the experience. These include dealing with large volumes of spoil from the ditch fill and trying to minimise re-handling, dealing with ash rather than clay substrate, slope stability and compacting (manual, using a plate compactor, or using the digger as a compactor), the ideal increments to build up the embankment, the need for formwork or sandbags to maintain the slope of the front face when backfilling the geogrid gabions, sewing the geogrid layers to prevent sagging, and dealing with the difficulties related to building earthworks adjacent to a deep ditch. In the next few weeks the steep parts of the restored embankment and the geogrid on the front faces will be covered with instant turf to prevent erosion, stop the geogrid deteriorating from UV exposure, and generally give the section of wall a finished look from the street.

In the next stage of the restoration work the use of sandbags rather than formwork will be trialled and putting instant turf inside the geogrid rather than on top of it. It will probably be easier to involve volunteers using the sandbag

technique. One thing to become clear this season was that if earthworks are going to be built at a steady and efficient rate we need an earthmoving machine, ideally a tractor with front bucket, on site all the time so we can use it as and when required. A digger will still be needed for bulk earthmoving out of the ditch but once we have surface stockpiles the tractor can scoop up loads and deposit them as and where needed. It can also be used for skimming off turf for excavation purposes and backfilling.

‘The history and archaeology of Queen’s Redoubt, South Auckland’ by Nigel Prickett was published in the 2003 *Records of the Auckland Museum*. A few copies are available from the author at Auckland Museum, Private Bag 92018, Auckland.

Neville Ritchie

Department of Conservation

Phase 1 of the work on the 1885 barracks building at North Head has now been completed. This included an audiovisual interpretation of the history of North Head, complete with computer simulations by Chris Keenan of 4D canvas, showing the firing of a 6" disappearing gun at Fort Takapuna and a 7" rifle muzzle loader at North Head. The opening of the barracks building on the 7th March by the prime minister was marked with the real life firing of a blank cartridge from the 8" inch disappearing gun on North Head for the first time in 80 years. The police estimated approximately 1000 people turned up to witness the event. Chris has now started his next undertaking, a simulation of the firing of the Motutapu Battery for the Motutapu Restoration Trust.

Site record forms for Little Barrier Island were updated by Andy Dodd, Don Prince, Vanessa Tanner, Sally Burgess, Charlotte Judge and others including DOC staff and Ngati Manuhiri representatives over the last week of April. Although the majority of sites were able to be revisited, numerous landslides in recent times meant that several were presently inaccessible. The island has not been systematically surveyed to date, and although areas have now been identified for further survey, this cannot happen until after the kiore eradication, scheduled to happen over the next few months.

Other upcoming fieldwork includes updating site records for the Mokohinau, north west of Great Barrier Island towards the end of May with representatives from Ngati Rehua and Ngati Manuhiri. This visit will also include the recording of an oral history with Ray Walter (lighthouse keeper) and Wayne Syme (engineer) focusing on their association with the former lighthouse complex on Pokohinu/Burgess Island, and also the recording of tradition and associations of tangata whenua with the island group.

Andy Dodd

Historic Places Trust

Clough and Associates are involved in initial archaeological assessments for Genesis on the development of a wind farm that encompasses a wide archaeological landscape situated on a coastal area at the Awhitu Peninsula.

Don Prince of Time Depth Enterprises is currently undertaking investigations for authorities in Mahurangi as the result of the ongoing difficulties of councils not embracing the changes in the RMA and the effects on heritage.

Don and his team will also be undertaking investigation of midden sites at One Tree Point associated with further subdivision development.

The Airport extension may soon be going ahead, affecting the 1855 Westney Homestead, probably the oldest surviving farmhouse in Auckland. This will involve full recording and buildings archaeology of the house and the wider farming landscape. The Trust is currently negotiating options for the removal off site of the house rather than its demolition. Russell Foster will be coordinating this investigation.

Movement is also expected soon on the Puhoi-Orewa Motorway extension near Hobsonville, which will see a similar investigation on a larger scale of historic Homestead and associated workers cottages at Sinton Road.

Investigations are also imminent on the site of the old Victoria Hotel site in Shortland Street. The site was earmarked for development in the late 1980's, then became a car park. It is now to be turned into apartments. Clough & Associates will be undertaking the investigations.

Simon Best has recently completed investigations into a 1800's well and early pre-1900 foundations of the building associated with recent refurbishment of the Bluestone Store. The store spans a period of development from the 1800's through to its resurgence in the 21st century as office space. It also provides an interesting journey back through Auckland's early alternative music scene from Tommy Adderley's Top 20's club (where the Rolling Stones once played after a concert) to the Punk club Swine, through to Babes Disco until it was fire bombed in the late 70's. Simon has uncovered band related graffiti and a few old 45's; an interesting archaeological insight into what remains as possibly the only original standing building of the 60's & 70's nightlife and music culture.

This is a small sampler of some of the investigations due to commence as the result of recent authority applications. Archaeologists in the Auckland and Northern Region are continuously struggling with the increasing pressures of coastal development on archaeological site protection and with burgeoning development and demolition of historic buildings in the Auckland CBD.

Bev Parslow

East Coast Hawke's Bay

Otatara Pa Historic Reserve

After 3 years of negotiations the East Coast Hawke's Bay Conservancy has concluded a purchase agreement for 9.7 ha of land adjoining Otatara Pa Historic Reserve in Hawke's Bay.

Otatara Pa is of national and international historical and cultural significance as a huge defensive and settlement complex. Otatara Pa Historic Reserve (33.3088 ha) protected only part of this pa site and these additions improve the protection and integrity of the site. Many of you will remember the Historic Places Trust poster of Otatara Pa showing some magnificent pits (known as Aidan's pits). These are now protected and will become part of the Historic Reserve as will much of the land beside Springfield Road.

However, some of the site is still in private hands and negotiations regarding the legal protection of these areas is ongoing.

The Department of Conservation and Waiohiki Marae are about to embark on a major project over a number of years to raise the profile and improve the maintenance of this site. In 2004 a new carpark development will be undertaken to cater for 22 cars and buses. This will also include interpretation panels.

Future work includes the establishment of long term monitoring of four areas on the reserve which are being affected by stock, erosion or visitor impacts. The Department is working closely with Waiohiki Marae to develop on and off site interpretation, 3D multi media displays, and education kits for kohanga and schools. This is an exciting project and fits well with the Hawke's Bay Cultural Tourism Development Plan.

Pam Bain

Whanganui

Archaeological sites in the general Whanganui region were not immune to the recent February storms. In one example representatives of Archaeology North have been busy monitoring the removal of fallen trees in commercial forests. Under the guidance of experienced archaeologists the forestry companies involved have successfully removed many of these fallen trees with no additional impact upon any archaeological features present. In other activity, staff from the Department of Conservation have undertaken a historic survey of the South Beach area of Wanganui. Three sites of Maori origin were recorded as a result of this survey, two midden and a 'workshop' floor. A further two midden, now destroyed as a result of development, and a number of World War II defensive features were also recorded for the first time. The general lack of physical evidence along the Whanganui coastline of the utilisation of resources by Maori,

along with the resulting gap' in our knowledge of the Maori subsistence economy of prehistoric and early historic times, has previously been identified by Walton (2000). This type of find, therefore, represents an important addition to our knowledge base. Interestingly, both existing midden were revealed as a result of storm damage and suggests that it would be worth while project to walk the riverbanks of many of the low reaches of rivers in the region for similar newly revealed sites.

As many of you may be aware, Robyn Burgess, former Technical Support Officer - Historic at the Wanganui Conservancy, Department of Conservation, moved on to Opus (Christchurch) during 2003. We wish both Robyn and Mark success in their new positions. Robyn's replacement is Jonathan Welch who, for the last few years, has been a consulting archaeologist working in the Whanganui-Taranaki region.

On a final note noted local historian Randell Springer recently past away after a short illness. Randell was a source of a wealth of knowledge regarding the Whanganui region, particularly in regards to the period of the New Zealand Wars and early colonial life in Wanganui, and a respected researcher. On behalf of the heritage community of Wanganui I offer our condolences to June and the family.

Jonathan Welch

Wellington

SRU (Tony Walton, Kevin Jones, Nicola Molloy) is working on a national thematic study of pa. To provide a quantitative basis for discussions on the form and topographical setting of pa, a 10% random sample (688 records) has been selected from the NZAA Site Recording Scheme for analysis. The data preparation has been done by Nicola Molloy.

The records have been divided into 5 classes depending on the apparent quality of the information provided. Just over 3.3% of records are of a very high standard and include good plans from instrument survey. A further 23.3% are of a good standard with plans derived from tape and compass survey or similar. The largest group, making up some 30.8% of the sample, provide limited descriptive information and are, at best, illustrated only by sketch plans, often with paced measurements. The fourth group (21.2%) consists of records which provide little descriptive information, and sometimes include sketch plans of uncertain scale. The lowest grade (20.8%) contains records with little information beyond site type and location. This part of the study has provided some much-needed quantitative data on the limitations of the records of pa held in the NZAA Site Recording Scheme. Further analysis of the data relating to form and

topographic setting will follow, and data is also being collected on pa managed by DOC.

Tony Walton and Tony Nightingale joined the 8th annual Defence of New Zealand Study Group field trip on the weekend of 6-7 March. A brief visit to Fort Galatea was slotted in on the way up to the Bay of Plenty. The group visited a string of New Zealand War sites between Opotiki and Tauranga. Local guides, including Dave White and Ken Moore, accompanied the party on sections of the trip. The trip provided the opportunity to GPS locations and to collect some up-to-date information on ownership and condition.

Kevin Jones undertook an aerial photography flight in Northland in early May, covering Kerikeri Basin, Rangihoua/Te Puna, Cavalli Is, all the coast east to Lake Ohia including the Mangonui and Taipa River catchments, south side Rangaunu Harbour, Motutangi, Houhora, Parengarenga, Kapowairua, Cape Reinga, Cape Maria Van Diemen and Motuopao, Ahipara, south side Herekino and Whangape and last, but not least, Okuratope Historic Reserve.

A research programme has been commissioned by the Department of Conservation for the Kerikeri Basin, covering early mission history, ethnohistory, historic landscape, and other elements. The research programme will feed information into a sustainable development plan for the Kerikeri Basin. Ralph Johnson is coordinating the planning process and research component. The project should secure the long-term protection and enhancement of the heritage sites in the Kerikeri Basin. Transit NZ recently announced the go-ahead for a new road and bridge crossing the basin about 600 up from the Stone Store/Kemp House location, a most important first step in setting up the overall environment of the basin.

The controversial Wellington Inner City Bypass has been allocated funding and, after more than 30 years, work is soon to begin clearing the way. There are 23 heritage buildings near, or in the way of, the bypass. Five of those are registered as Category I or II historic places. Some are listed on the Wellington City Council district plan. Current arrangements are for five heritage buildings to remain in place, sixteen to be shifted to new sites and restored, one to be taken down and reconstructed using materials still in good condition, and one to be demolished. Twenty-five “non-heritage” buildings will also be demolished. Mitigation work to be undertaken includes detailed recording of buildings due for demolition, and excavations at selected places. Archaeological work will continue at intervals through the two-year construction period. Heritage issues were taken to the High Court by opponents of the bypass in 2002-03 but the work was cleared to proceed.

Mary O’Keeffe is monitoring site clearance work at the Wellington Hospital site in Newtown, in preparation for the construction of a new hospital

building. However the potential sites of late 19th century small industries (match factories, soap factories etc) and domestic cottages, as indicated on the historical survey plans, have proven to be buried under a very deep layer of fill, below the building construction zone. Mary is also undertaking assessments of several inner-city Wellington buildings and sites, and also a late 19th century wharf on the Wellington waterfront. She is completing work for Greater Wellington (Wellington Regional Council) on the archaeology of Wellington's regional parks, for updating the parks' management plans. The Pencarrow Light Recreation Reserve has proven to have notable remains which need further recording. Mary and the Maritime Archaeological Association are filming segments on Matiu-Somes Island in May for the next series of "Coastwatch".

A kiln, part of the extensive remains of a brickworks, was uncovered during refurbishment of a house in Wallace St, Mt Cook, Wellington in May. It has been known for some time that brick structures from the brickworks survive beneath houses in the area. The structure is to be retained.

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage Helen Clark has announced (4 May) the introduction of a "best practice" approach to the management of heritage properties owned by government departments. "It is important that the government is seen to lead by example in the way it cares for its heritage," Helen Clark said.

"Government departments have in their care a large number of heritage places and properties ranging from courthouses and police stations to archaeological sites which are recognised as having heritage significance to communities around New Zealand. It is important for us and for future generations that government departments maintain these properties to a suitable standard and ensure that their decisions about disposal or future use of the properties take into account their heritage values."

The Ministry for Culture and Heritage will be overseeing the development of a policy for the implementation of best practice. It expects to report back by the end of July 2004. The Ministry will then work alongside each department which holds heritage properties to develop guidelines and standards for their management, tailored to the department's functional needs.

Tony Walton

Oceania

CNRS, the main national centre for scientific research in France, awards medals in three categories: Golds for the Lévi-Strauss researchers of this world, Silver for specific world class research contributions and Bronze to recognise individuals of the emerging generation of research scholars who have in some way distinguished themselves.

Christophe Sand is to receive a Bronze Medal at a ceremony in Paris on 29th June 2004. This award is in recognition of his sustained efforts in organising, fund-raising, programming and conducting the International Conference for the 50th anniversary of the first Lapita Excavation – Koné and Nouméa, 2002. This conference took place in New Caledonia, August 1st to 7th 2002. The high point was a ceremony held on Lapita Site 13, on the Foué Peninsula, on the afternoon of August 1st when representatives from Pacific countries with identified Lapita sites were given a traditional welcome by the local guardians, the indigenous Kanak people of the Northern Province of New Caledonia.

The citation for this Bronze Medal specifically mentions the “good relations constructed with indigenous populations” as well as the success of this most rewarding conference for all the participants who came from numerous Pacific Islands and the Pacific Rim countries.

In preparing and leading the conference, Christophe has acknowledged the invaluable assistance he received from his wife, Géraldine, and colleagues Frédérique, Jaques, and John along with supporters Jean-Baptiste and David. Those of us who attended the conference, and participated in any of the three phases in Kone, Noumea and the Loyalties Islands, realise the complexities involved in completing the programme. In addition, this accomplishment was enhanced by the publication of the proceedings of the conference entitled *Pacific Archaeology: Assessments and Prospects*. This 398 page volume (ISSN 1264-1502; ISBN 2-9519208-1-4), edited by Christophe Sand, was published in December 2003.

Currently, orders can be sent to Service des Musées et du Patrimoine, BP 2393, 98846 Nouméa, New Caledonia.

However, to expedite orders, Christophe Sand is investigating other methods of ordering volumes and he may be contacted about this possibility by email after June 15th: sand.smp@gouv.nc

Roger Green