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FIELDWORK AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Professional Development Cell

On 25-26 March the Professional Development Cell (PDC) crossed the strait for the first time and presented its 14th workshop, on Human Osteology at the University of Otago, with the assistance of a great many local people.

First we were given a mihi whakatau (informal welcome) by David, Matapura and Suzanne Ellison of Kāi Tahu. Matapura followed this with a heartfelt description of the deep significance kōiwi tangata had for him. This was a very appropriate way to begin this workshop, as it clearly set out the reasons for the sensitivity of kōiwi to Māori and many of the protocols that were observed throughout the two days.

Matt Schmidt (New Zealand Historic Places Trust) then discussed the legislation and the procedures with regard to recovering human remains. Richard Walter (Department of Anthropology) followed with a brief history of the role of archaeologists in the collection and study of kōiwi. Richard also discussed the situation today and, with some case studies, described the different procedures and practices of recovery, and the complementary roles of archaeologists and biological anthropologists.

Nancy Tayles, Hallie Buckley, Sian Halcrow, Lisa Matisoo-Smith, Rebecca Kinaston and students of the Department of Anatomy and Structural Biology continued the workshop with a series of seminars and practical sessions. Hallie described her ‘service to the community’ work in assisting to recover kōiwi when they accidentally become exposed, and Nancy Tayles followed this by describing the various methods of analysis employed in recording the remains. Sian Halcrow detailed the differences between infants’ and childrens’ bones. These seminars were followed by practical laboratory sessions.

On Saturday, Nancy continued by describing key aspects used to distinguish Māori from non-Māori skeletons, as well as estimating age and height. Again this was followed by a practical lab. The latest developments in ancient DNA and isotope analysis were outlined by Lisa Matisoo-Smith and Rebecca Kinaston respectively. Both described how to submit suitable samples and avoid contamination.

All the practicals were in the Anatomy Museum in the Lindo Fergusson Building. Thanks to everyone who help make this workshop such a success.

Special thanks should also be given to James Robinson and Tiffany James-Lee, who as local representatives assisted Meri Low in various organisational aspects, including baking some beautiful buns and cakes for our morning and afternoon teas. We would also like to thank Lisa Matisoo-Smith for arranging the Anatomy Department ‘shout’ at the local watering hole – this enabled discussions to continue after the formal sessions had finished and, as we are frequently told by participants, networking is a crucial function of the PDC workshops.

Professional Development Cell

Northland

Hans Bader has completed an archaeological geomagnetic survey of the Mangungu Mission Station. Mangungu Mission is associated with the Methodist Church in New Zealand and is significant for its connections with the second major signing of the Treaty of Waitangi. The mission was created under the protection of the Ngapuhi rangitira Eruera Maihi Patuone in 1828. In 1838 Emma Hobbs, a child of 9 or 10 years old, sketched the mission station. The drawing showed various buildings including a barn, whare kura, whare, a chapel, a printing office, cemetery, fence lines and gardens. The geomagnetic survey showed two distinct areas of artificial terraces with building footprint remains. These can be related to some of the buildings shown in the Hobbs drawing. The area not only has the archaeology of the mission buildings but also contemporary and earlier Māori occupation. The archaeological significance of this site nationally is high.

Continuing with a contact/missionary theme Caroline Phillips has done an archaeological assessment of St Paul’s Church, Paihia. This was a Church Mission Society church and the first St Paul’s Church was built in 1823 by the Reverend Henry Williams. There have been five churches on the site, built in 1823, 1826, 1856, 1874 and 1925 (the current church). The cemetery has been in operation since 1830. There are visible memorials for 45 people and a list of between 200 and 240 people interred here. This makes it extremely difficult to further develop the site.

Vic Prince reports on an archaeological investigation at McGregor’s Bay, Whangarei Heads for a residential subdivision. Four redeposited and one in situ midden were revealed. No archaeological features relating to the midden were encountered and the middens were remarkably similar, with an approximate composition ratio of 3:1 pipi to cockle. There were also small numbers of whelk in the samples.

Bill Edwards

Auckland Archaeological Society

Like every other year, 2011 began for ARCHSOC (Auckland Archaeological Society) with an annual membership barbecue. The barbecue was a success and over 100 members (re)joined the society, many of whom are new to the society this year. In April, ARCHSOC held the Annual General Meeting. Arden Cruickshank (2010 President) opened the meeting and a new executive committee was elected for 2011. The 2011 executive committee is as follows: Kane Ditchfield (President), Cameron McCaffrey (Vice-President), Josh Emmitt (Vice-President), Casey Alley (Secretary), Adele McNutt (Treasurer) and Callan Ross-Sheppard (Events Coordinator – a new role introduced this year). Dr. Rod Clough also spoke on the New Zealand Archaeological Association.

In late April ARCHSOC, in collaboration with Dr. Marianne Turner, provided society members with an opportunity to excavate over two days at the Taputiketike Pā site in Waiuku. Unfortunately, the weather limited the excavation to a single day. Despite this, a large contingent of members participated in the brief excavation. This largely consisted of a re-excavation of numerous features as well as a few new squares.

At the May ARCHSOC meeting Professor Peter Sheppard gave an interesting talk on new data from recent archaeological research in the Solomon Islands and its implications for our current understanding of the movement of Lapita into remote Oceania. ARCHSOC's next meeting will be in early June (most likely the annual Pub Quiz) and the ARCHSOC T-Shirts for 2011 will be available soon.

If anybody would like to join the society this year, or at least be added to the mailing list, please do not hesitate to send ARCHSOC an email (aklarchsoc@gmail.com).

Kane Ditchfield

Auckland

In Stokes Road, Mt Eden, an old house was recently demolished and a small archaeological excavation undertaken on the site by Archaeological Solutions Ltd. Research revealed that the demolished house was the remains of a large elaborate two storey building of the 1870s, which was reduced to one storey after a fire in 1930.

The original building on this site was a cottage with a dirt floor and a small separate kitchen house, of which the hearth foundations were found. Interestingly, the dirt floor inside the cottage was tarsealed, obviously to make it easier to keep clean. This building was replaced with another one, which formed the nucleus of the building still standing until recently. The archaeo-

logical investigation revealed that the building in Stokes Road started life as small two room cottage. At some stage a large extension with a veranda was added. A further extension added a grand entrance and possibly the second floor. At this stage the house was the largest and most beautiful building in the fledging suburb of Mt Eden.

In 1896 this two storey building was taken over by the Mt Eden College, which provided private education to girls (and boys of kindergarten age). By 1912 this was the largest private girls school in the country. The building was turned by 90 degrees and a school hall added to it. A large fireplace and separate entrances for the front rooms were changes made to use the building as a school. In 1913 the principal, Mary Bews, sold the school to the Auckland Presbyterian College for Ladies Ltd, which subsequently became St Cuthbert's College. In 1925 St Cuthberts College moved to their current location in Market Road, Epsom.

During the expansion phase of the school in the first decade of the 20th century many more buildings and building sites along Stokes Road and adjacent roads were bought and used for school purposes. It seems that at least three other buildings from the school complex have survived until today in the area.

As part of a planned revegetation project the known archaeological sites of a property on the Awhitu Peninsula were resurveyed by Archaeological Solutions Ltd. The midden sites within the sand dunes are substantially more eroded since the last site visit by an archaeologist seven years ago. It seems that – once the vegetation cover is lost – these small archaeological sites will disappear in a matter of a couple of decades.

Mat Campbell

Central and Eastern North Island

InSitu Heritage Ltd (Lynda Walter and Karen Greig) have completed an archaeological investigation with Southern Pacific Archaeological Research (SPAR) at Te Manuka Tutahi marae, Whakatane. Te Manuka Tutahi is currently being constructed to house the Mataatua whareniui which was returned to Ngati Awa as part of their treaty settlement process. The Mataatua whareniui was originally constructed in Whakatane in 1875, but became a much-travelled house during its 130 year journey from Whakatane to various overseas destinations. Some Archaeology in New Zealand readers will recall Mataatua from its days spent at the Otago Museum.

The recently completed archaeological investigation and on-going monitoring of ground disturbance at the marae construction site has provided evidence of the longevity and continuity of occupation at Te Manuka Tutahi. The investigation report is currently being prepared and is expected to be

completed in August. Te Manuka Tutahi marae is scheduled for opening on 17 September 2011.

InSitu has also been involved in the long awaited repair work on Karangaumu Pā at the Papamoa Regional Park. Karangaumu has suffered erosion damage from high visitor numbers since the regional park opened in 2004. A series of ‘floating steps’ and rubber mats fixed over compacted gravel surfaces are being used to combat the impact. Several erosion slumps caused by sheep camping on the site are also being repaired.

Lynda Walter has been doing a bit of forestry archaeology recently, including grappling with the complex problem of removing large pines from large pā. Lynda has also been assisting the Department of Conservation Bay of Plenty Conservancy with their on-going site record upgrade project.

Elsewhere in the Bay of Plenty, John Coster and David Brown have been excavating pits and ovens around Tauranga and at Hawaii, east of Opotiki. The excavations, resulting from forestry and subdivision proposals, included an impressive line-up of eight contemporaneous storage pits (and nothing else) at Omokoroa.

Like Lynda, John is also involved with the issues of pines on pā. Ray Hooker’s recent death has left a gap in consultancy resources for forestry companies in the Bay of Plenty and both PF Olsen Ltd and Timberlands at Rotorua have been looking for archaeologists to help them meet their obligations under the Resource Management and Historic Places Acts.

On the East Coast, Kevin Jones has been working at Mahia Beach and has done some site recording in the Makaretu area, Wairoa district.

And in the Waikato, Warren Gumbley and Andrew Hoffman have been excavating the site of the pre-1863 pā at Rangiriri and the 1863 Commissariat Redoubt at the same location. While a lot of features were found, the weather in May and the rising water-table made progress slow.

Andy Dodd and Robert Brassey ran an underwater cultural heritage training for a group of 16 recreational divers in Tauranga over the weekend of 30 April–1 May. The course has been developed by the Australasian Institute for Maritime Archaeology and United Kingdom Nautical Archaeology Society (AIMA/NAS). The training was facilitated by Shane Wasik of the Mount Maunganui Underwater Club and Tauranga City Council. It was arranged as a precursor to the survey and documenting of the ss Taupo wreck site in 34 metres of water off Tauranga which will take place later this month to coincide with the 130 year anniversary of the wreck event.

John Coster

Whanganui/Taranaki

Ivan Bruce is currently working on the site of the Grey Institute in Moturoa. He has uncovered two ring ditch earthworks relating to the prehistoric occupation of Pukeho Pā. The outer ditch appears to contain historic rubbish relating to the 1840-1860 period and may have been used as a dump by the Grey Institute. The site has been stripped of topsoil and the excavation of the ditch features is awaiting better weather.

Ivan has also been monitoring sections of the New Plymouth to Waitara sewerage pipeline route which required the excavation of cooking fires and middens outside Puketapu Pā near the New Plymouth airport. Monitoring on this project will continue in the spring.

Ivan has undertaken an assessment of a coastal subdivision in the Opunake and Warea areas and a subdivision in the vicinity of No. 7 Redoubt on Waitara Road, New Plymouth. This work has required either the recording of new archaeological sites or the reassessment of site extent.

Another homestead burnt by Māori on Frankley Road, New Plymouth, in 1860-1861 has been identified in the field. Historic artefacts were identified at the location following recent ploughing. The site is also confirmed by Carrington's 1862 map which is proving to be an accurate and invaluable document for field research in the New Plymouth/Tataraimaka area.

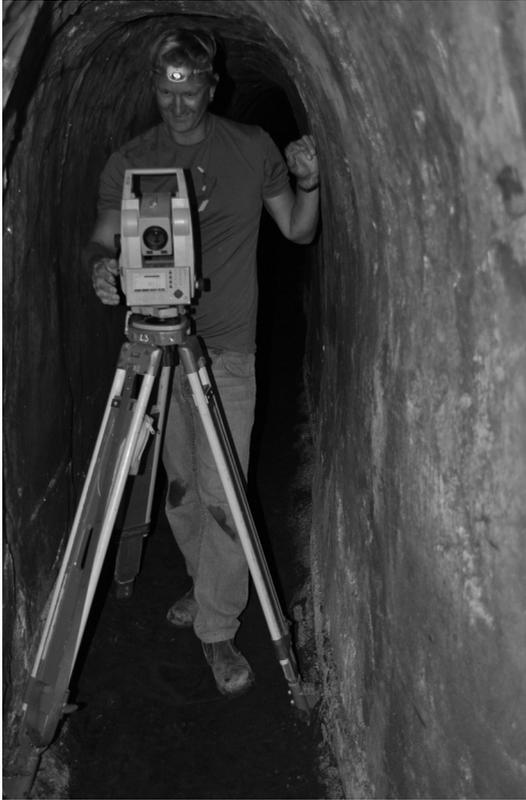
Another flat paddock in North Taranaki without any surface features, close to a previously recorded lonely pit, revealed features of intensive Māori horticulture during a small scale geomagnetic survey undertaken by Hans Bader. During a small excavation two garden beds and a shelter fence, possibly made from nīkau palm trunks, were discovered. The microfossil analysis showed taro and kūmara, though in much higher density than in other similar situated sites on the Taranaki coast. The analysis also revealed paper mulberry pollen and tī pollen, which are from the Pacific cabbage tree. This is the first time they have been reported from an archaeological context in New Zealand. The paper mulberry which was grown here would have been used to make tapa cloth, highly prized in Aotearoa. A square tapa beater has been found in Warea, south of New Plymouth, which is the most southern find of the handful of tapa beaters found in New Zealand. The archaeological results are quite puzzling, as the immediate natural landscape does not look any different from the rest of the coast.

Initial discussions with the local hapū revealed oral traditions that place one of the most important kāinga of the hapū in the 18th century a few hundred metres away from our excavation. This settlement was surrounded by palisading with an older ring ditch pā in one corner, therefore no surface features indicate a larger settlement. Further exploration of the oral traditions are necessary but

it seems that the unusually intensive and varied horticulture is linked to the cultural landscape, as explained through the local oral traditions.

Hans Bader has documented a late 19th century drainage tunnel in Bell Block, Taranaki. Surveying proved difficult as the total stations – two were used at the same time – just fitted inside the tunnel. To add to this, the tunnel builders could not have been experts: the tunnel is less than straight and where two sections (dug from opposite directions) were meant to meet, a 3 metre dog-leg had to be dug to join them. Judging from the graffiti the tunnel was a favourite hang-out for the local kids in the 1980s. It is quite possible that the rumours of tunnels leading from Oropuriri, the pā recently excavated in Bell Block, originated from this drainage tunnel not far from the pā.

Michelle Horwood



Surveying the drainage tunnel, Bell Block, Taranaki.

Wellington

Bruce McFadgen reports that in March and April he helped with a second year Māori Studies course on GIS and GPS, and there was a very enjoyable field trip to Te Ika a Maru Bay as a training exercise.

In late May Bruce will be giving a seminar to the Institute for Geo and Bioarchaeology at Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam, on 'Earthquake and tsunami landscapes and archaeology in New Zealand'.

Bruce also notes he has been playing around with Google Earth and as a result there is now, on the Waikato Radiocarbon web page, a program that will bring up Google Earth and show the locations and details of New Zealand Radiocarbon dates up to 2003. The web site is: <http://www.waikato.ac.nz/cgi-bin/nzcd/search.pl>, then click on: "You might also like to view the radiocarbon database in google earth".

Victoria Grouden (Capital Heritage) reports that she has completed or is near completion of a number of central Wellington excavation reports including Drummond Street steps (Newtown), Midland Park (Lambton Quay), Somerville stables (Abel Smith Street) and Mt Cook School (Tory Street). She has completed monitoring on several other sites including Wellington Girls' College (Pipitea Street) and Du Pont Motels (Hutt Road).

Monitoring continues at the John Chambers Building (Jervois Quay) where seismic upgrades are taking place, preserving an early 20th century building shell. There has been an interesting interface of artefact material approximately 2m below the JCB floor level, where reclamation soils meet the original sea bed. Artefacts have also been found in the reclamation soils.

Monitoring is being carried out in Lower Cuba Street where an old iron store once stood before the area was taken for roading purposes. Some artefacts have been found there, along with a probable foundation of the store.

Excavation will commence in several weeks on a private house site in Oriental Parade, and assessments are being prepared for sites in Ghuznee Street (Te Aro) and Riddiford Street (Newtown).

Pam Chester has been monitoring earth works in the Ngatittoa Domain near the archaic Paremata site (R26/122, previously N160/50) and Paremata Redoubt (R26/254). Remains of the Paremata Redoubt, built 1846-47, still exist and the site is registered as a New Zealand Historic Places Trust Category II historic place and is listed in the Porirua District Plan. The remains are fenced and signposted and are a tourist attraction in the domain.

R26/122 was excavated in the early 1960s by Janet Davidson and little of the site was thought to remain. Drainage trenches dug by the Porirua City Coun-

cil and a hole dug by the Mana Cruising Club for the installation of a security lamp permitted inspection of subsurface remains. The full extent of pre- and proto-historic remains of former occupations in this area remains unknown, but in situ archaeological remains are much more extensive than supposed and an intact archaic adze was recovered, which captured media attention.

The New Zealand Historic Places Trust Board has declared the site of the former Featherston Military Training Camp on the north side of State Highway 2 east of Featherston to be an archaeological site and this was notified in the New Zealand Gazette on 5 May 2011. The Featherston Military Training Camp (S27/42) is a site of national historic importance. It was one of the principle training camps for New Zealand soldiers during World War I, and one of the areas worst affected by the outbreak of Spanish influenza in 1918. It was utilised as a prisoner of war camp during World War II, and was the site of the Featherston incident in 1943 where 48 Japanese prisoners and one New Zealand guard were killed during a clash between the guards and prisoners. In the 1950s the site was used again to accommodate workers on the Rimutaka railway tunnel. Archaeological remains include the foundations of numerous buildings, remains of roads, horse lines, a rifle range, wells, and underground drainage features. The site is proposed to be gazetted in two parts and it is intended that the site south of State Highway 2, encompassing the Canvas Camp, military hospitals, and recreational facilities will be considered by the New Zealand Historic Places Trust Board later this year.

Mary O’Keeffe continues work on the MacKays to Peka Peka proposed expressway on the Kapiti Coast, and the proposed duplicate tunnel through Mount Victoria in Wellington.

A physical and geophysical survey of the Catholic cemetery on Mount Street in Wellington showed over 600 graves based on existing marked graves, one accurate 1878 survey map and the geomagnetic survey. Many of the graves contain several individual burials thus the number of burials might be up to 950. Many prominent members of the Catholic community of 19th century New Zealand are buried here.

Yolanda Vogel has joined the Department of Conservation Wellington Area Office as their historic resources officer.

Mary O’Keeffe

Nelson – Golden Bay

Steve Bagley writes that the only major piece of archaeological work in the last month has been the removal of a contaminated soil floor from a 1860s tōtara post framed barn at Quail Flat in the Clarence Reserve, inland from Kaikoura. Conservation work, which included replacing rotten post bases, could

not be carried out until soil contaminated with arsenic (used in the mixing of sheep dip and rabbit poisoning) was removed from the interior of the building. Deb Foster was contracted to undertake the archaeological component of this work. The floor soil was removed to a depth of 300 mm and contained a range of late 19th and early 20th century artefacts reflecting the use of the barn and the farming activities carried out on the run.

Deb Foster has also completed monitoring work at Church Hill, the Glen Recreation Reserve and at Bells Island, where a new sewer line is being installed. No archaeological remains have so far been disturbed by these excavations.

Amanda Young has finished monitoring excavation work at Anawera Point between Tapu and Stephens bays (just south of Kaiteriteri). A large house is being built on the end of Anawhakau Pā (N26/94). Throughout the last decade or so there have been several residential proposals for the property resulting in large amounts of testing by Amanda and also by Charles Sedgwick. Only a few areas of intact archaeological evidence were found during the investigations. The monitoring confirmed the results of the previous testing, which indicated that a large amount of disturbance had occurred during the 1950s subdivision of the pā and later residential use of the site. Evidence of a possible ditch was originally found by Sedgwick in 2006/2007. The 2010 investigation confirmed that the feature was a large ditch about 2 m wide and cut into the granite sub-soil about 70 cm. It was filled with topsoil mixed with charcoal and patches of oven stones and midden. There are historical accounts of a second ditch on the pā (another ditch is recorded to the north). This may be the remains of that feature. The excavations also revealed a line of 18 tightly spaced postholes which extended further into the baulk on each side. They were almost at right angles to the ditch and may intersect it at the northern end. The postholes were generally between 23 cm and 24 cm in diameter with the biggest 30 cm by 39 cm. They were cut into the granite sub-soil about 50 cm and filled with topsoil with some charcoal flecks and occasional fire cracked granite. A possible fire scoop was recorded about 1 m away to the east. It is tempting to regard this as a line of palisade posts.

Amanda has also been continuing work on the gold mining sites of the Northbank, Wairau; an assessment of lighting for the Nelson Boulderbank lighthouse; supervising beach re-nourishment at Tapu Bay; and catching up on various reports.

Amanda Young

Marlborough

Deb Foster monitored the construction of a log marshalling area in the back beach area of Crail Bay, Pelorus Sound. No archaeological deposits were encountered.

Reg Nichol and Gary Buchanan spent four days surveying in Queen Charlotte Forest, between Port Underwood and Tory Channel. In spite of often extremely difficult survey conditions several pit and terrace sites were located.

Reg Nichol

Canterbury

Michael Trotter has been dealing with the installation of underground ducting for a fibre-optic communications cable, both in Kaikoura proper and the adjacent South Bay. For the most part the installation was done by directional drilling, though the free-running pea gravel which is common to both areas meant that access pits had to be dug every 30 to 50 metres. Various types of detecting equipment, including ground penetrating radar, were used to check the locations of service lines already present in the ground, but this did not prevent hitting a water main in one instance and an 11 kilovolt cable in another. Archaeological remains are widespread throughout Kaikoura and new sites were found as well as additional information being obtained about already recorded sites. One of the new sites was the grave of a young Polynesian man who had been buried with ceremony in a folded position on his back. The burial was disturbed as little as possible and left in position, largely because of the very soft condition of the bones, and the ducting was routed alongside. At around the same time another folded burial was found a few hundred metres away where a new house was being built. It was of an older man, and was also left in position, this time because the bones were intertwined with the roots of a pōhutukawa tree that the property owner had gone to some pains to protect.

At Kaiapoi just north of Christchurch Michael is still working with the Earthquake Commission, currently identifying historic buildings that need to be recorded and photographed before they are demolished to facilitate remediation work required as a result of the Canterbury earthquakes. In most cases individual research on the history of the buildings is not warranted at this stage, and the determination of age is based mainly on architectural style. In one instance, however, a building has a foundation stone inscribed "A.D. 1885" although a contemporary newspaper item tells of the laying of the stone in 1882, and it is understood that construction work was finished the following year.

Witter Archaeology has mainly been occupied with recording the demolition of heritage buildings following the Christchurch earthquake in February 2011. Katharine Watson has been similarly occupied and has been helping to devise the deconstruction methodology for the Lyttelton Timeball station as well as various Christchurch City Council-owned buildings, including the Canterbury Provincial Council Buildings, Our City and the Rose Chapel.

The deconstruction methodology for the Timeball station in Lyttelton has been assisted significantly by work carried out by Archaeological Solutions Ltd. Hans Bader carried out a photographic and total station survey, augmented by a high definition survey using a laser scanner shooting six and half million points. This scanner was provided free of charge by Global Survey Ltd. The purpose of this is to develop an accurate 'as is' model and plans to document the deconstruction in stone-by-stone detail. This documentation will enable the New Zealand Historic Places Trust to reconstruct the building with a high degree of accuracy. Architect Raysan Al-Kubaisi and local archaeologist Bridget Mosley assisted with this work. Tremendous and generous support from everyone involved in this project made it happen.

Katharine Watson and Ian Hill recently recorded the remains of bullock logging tracks and a nearby outstation at Freehold Creek, on the west shore of Lake Oahu. The sites are associated with the nearby Benmore station. The logging tracks are in an excellent condition and are believed to be from logging carried out in the 1860s and 1870s. The remains of the outstation comprise at least one hut site, a stone floor, various unidentified features and the fence that surrounded the complex. Research on the history of this complex is progressing.

Katharine Watson

West Coast

Reg Nichol and Les Wright spent three days surveying the footprint of a proposed waste rock stack adjacent to the new Souvenir pit at the Globe Hill mining project. They located numerous old prospecting sites, apparently mainly related to previous exploration of the Souvenir deposit. Amongst these were a series of several quite impressive trenches from 75-120 m long, typically with a cross-sectional of 1-2 m².

Reg and Les also spent two days with Globe Hill project geologists assessing a number of sites in the region for future exploratory drilling. One modern feature observed that was of considerable interest was a trench, dug earlier this year by Globe Hill personnel, about 7m long and with a cross-sectional

area of about 0.4 m². The fact that it had taken 5 men almost 2 days to excavate helps to put the old prospecting trenches in some kind of perspective.

Katharine Watson

Otago

Shar Briden, of the Department of Conservation Otago Conservancy, reports that John Mowat has led a community effort to re-establish the late 19th century Macetown pack track (F41/684) alongside the Arrow River from Arrowtown to Macetown. The track has been upgraded to enable visitors to walk the length of the Arrow River when the river is in high flood. Works included replacing stacked stone revetting on the lower side of the track and building a new pedestrian bridge over Soho Creek. Some sections of the track were only 600 mm wide around outcrops or bluffs and required nibbling back with a steel ripper. For the most part, the pack track runs above the Macetown road (F41/603), although some sections of the road form part of the pack track.

Jill Hamel has been monitoring work on an 1860s subsistence farmstead in a reserve above the Ross Creek Reservoir. The three generations of a family who took up a 28 acre holding (called Craigieburn) in 1864 built two houses and two farm buildings, which the Dunedin Amenities Society and Dunedin City are jointly restoring. One farm building had stone walls and the others are represented by areas of stone paving and metal artefacts. The family were early conservationists and preserved 52 rimu on their land instead of felling them for timber. They cleared enough land for a few cows. Some of the smaller trees were sold for firewood, and some family members worked off the farm, one as a surveyor and another as a ploughman. The ample archival evidence in conjunction with the physical remains mean that this small cultural landscape will provide a good opportunity to interpret a very common but often disregarded site type, a small 19th century farm. Further information about the project is available at www.dunedin-amenities-society.org.nz.

SPAR has been busy on two new cycle trails proposed for Central Otago, one in the Roxburgh Gorge from Alexandra to the Roxburgh hydro dam and one from Roxburgh dam to Beaumont. There are a lot of archaeological sites involved but it is usually possible to avoid any direct effects.

Tiffany James-Lee