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FIELDWORK AND OTHER ACTIVITIES

Auckland

Caroline Phillips, Brent Druskovich and team have been working on the site of the first winery in Auckland (dating from the late 1880s) - Captain Charles Cholmondeley-Smith's Glen Var estate near Long Bay (R10/1138). The excavation had to be undertaken in three stages due to contamination from farm chemicals in part of the area. The team found part of a wine press and the foundations of the winery, which formerly had been a tobacco-drying shed. Unfortunately subsequent farm buildings had removed evidence of other structures, though a large amount of metal, glass and ceramic was collected from the soil and awaits analysis. This work is part of a roading project, which also intercepted what might have been the last part of Alexander Pannil's 1870s ditch and bank farm boundaries (R10/1098) that runs from the beach 1400 metres inland and encloses approximately 80 hectares. Auckland Transport will prepare pamphlets for the school and public about the 19th century farm system, winery and a Māori pit site that are affected by this project.

Caroline has also worked with Hans Bader on the Melanesian Mission, which dates from 1859-67. Careful examination of numerous historic photographs has resulted in the first plan constructed of the mission, which shows that it extended out into Selwyn reserve, as far as the fountain, on the east and as far as the stream on the west. A geomagnetic survey over most of the area confirmed the plan and indicated that additional structures had existed. The results were tested within Heritage New Zealand property beside the stone building and showed that evidence exists around one of the Norfolk Island pine trees of the earlier (c.1842) dwelling that belonged to Alexander Dalziel.

NZAA applied to Foundation North (the former ASB Trust), for a grant to pull together the archaeology of the Maungataketake / Elletts Mountain excavations, undertaken by Jim McKinlay in the 1970s and 1980s. The application was successful, and we were awarded a grant of \$25,000. Heritage New Zealand is the current custodian of the material and are NZAA's partner in this project. We will be engaging someone to do this work next year and the final outcome will be a publication in the NZAA Monograph series. We will keep you updated.

Caroline Phillips and Mat Campbell

Waikato – Bay of Plenty

On the Coromandel, Neville Ritchie and David Wilton have been investigating the Kauri Block, adjacent to Coromandel township, as part of a DOC Heritage Assessment for the area. A prominent hilltop pā (T10/100) and gold mining sites lie within the block. They include the Hauraki mine, which had a 'bonanza' find in 1895-96 which produced one of the highest concentrations of bullion recovered per ton of quartz recorded in New Zealand.

CFG Heritage recently completed fieldwork at U14/3442 (Hastings Road, Tauranga). It had been previously recorded as an '...indistinct depression and a possible flattened area on the ridge', which continued northward towards site U14/3316. No distinct features were identified, but it was assumed that the artificial flattening of the hill would be an extension of U14/3316, which is located within a Council reserve. Upon stripping the topsoil, 118 features were identified, including 21 pits with one very large pit (Feature 21) measuring 4720 x 4230 mm, dug into the slope of the hill. It had five large postholes set 1000 mm off from the centre line of the pit, with the floor level higher to one side, and an entrance way along the centre line. Ploughing had almost completely obscured the site, and many of the shallower features were heavily truncated. Burnt shell was sparse but present within the topsoil, but no in situ midden deposits were identified other than some remnant fire scoops.



Feature 21, a pit measuring 4.7 x 4.2 metres, with offset postholes and a second pit forming an entrance, U14/3442, Hastings Road, Tauranga.

At Hawai, in the eastern Bay of Plenty, a group of significant archaeological sites was cleared of pine trees earlier this year in an outstanding example of cooperation between the Māori landowners (Te Whānau ā Apanui), forest managers, logging contractors and archaeologists.

The cluster of ten recorded sites occupies over 13% of a 12-hectare basin in steep hill country near the mouth of the Hawai River. It includes a number of very large terraces (up to 40 metres long) on the lower slopes, associated with rectangular storage pits, deep, dark and friable topsoils, water-rolled river cobbles and boulders, and widespread oven stones. Smaller terraces and pits extend up a series of steep narrow spurs on the higher slopes. Together with a parallel complex of pits, terraces, garden soils and a major pā (Ranginui, X15/113), in farmland on the opposite side of the river, these sites suggest an extensive gardening and living complex which would have supported a sizeable Māori population in pre-colonial times.

Environmental managers from Hancock Forest Management (NZ) Ltd. have been involved, with archaeologists, in recording and marking sites in the forest over the last 14 years. Acknowledgement of the sites' significance, together with careful management and briefing of logging crews, resulted in the harvesting of 30 year old pines being achieved without significant damage to archaeological features.

In recognition of their efforts, Hancocks held a small ceremony in August this year to present the Maungawaru logging crew with environmental excellence awards, acknowledging the care and skill with which they carried out the operation. Considerable credit is due to the trustees and owners of the land, as well as to Hancock's environmental staff and the logging crew, for a successful operation, which has nonetheless been achieved at substantial financial cost.

John Coster has recently been in Berlin, where, as a break from visiting museums, he attended the Cyark500 annual conference in October. Heritage managers and industry representatives made up most of the attendees. Presentations focused on the recording, management and interpretation of cultural heritage, using digital techniques such as three-dimensional laser scanning, Lidar, photogrammetry, unmanned (or unwomanned) aerial vehicles (UAV) and related modelling applications. Further information is available from John (coster@xtra.co.nz) or cyark.org.

John Coster and Mat Campbell



Hancock's staff and Maungawaru Logging Crew 902 with the environmental excellence awards. Photo: Sally Strang, Hancock Forest Management (NZ) Ltd.

Wellington

Kevin Jones has completed work for Wellington International Airport Ltd and KiwiRail. Kevin's work at St Mary of the Angels and the demolished DEKA store on Cuba Street continues; both have extensive 'burn layers' from fires in 1918 and the 1880s respectively

Mary O'Keeffe continues work monitoring the M2PP expressway construction on the Kāpiti Coast.

Mary O'Keeffe

Canterbury

The team at Underground Overground continues to be busy with archaeological work in Christchurch, Lyttelton and Rangiora. Work at the Lyttelton port is continuing, and Kurt Bennett recently recorded a late 19th century railway turntable, which has been preserved in situ. Other recent works at the port have involved exposing part of the 19th century brick barrel drain network (within the reclaimed land) during the repair of a new manhole on the drain. In the course of these works, the brick and concrete foundations of an as

yet unidentified 19th century building were exposed. These have also been preserved in situ.

Elsewhere in Lyttelton, there have been more works on the brick barrel drains. Two new manholes were installed on the drain on Hawkhurst Road, an area known as Salts Gully in the 19th century. This work was monitored by Hamish Williams and enabled detailed recording of the brick barrel drain, revealing how worn down the invert had become with the passage of time. Other works on the streets of Lyttelton have been monitored by Shana Dooley and Peter Mitchell, and have found 19th century rubbish in fill layers and small rubbish pits.

Across the Port Hills in Christchurch, Hamish Williams has investigated and recorded more drainage-related infrastructure, including small drainage ditches subsequently buried under the city's streets. Peter Mitchell and Francesca Bradley have been busy recording pre-1900 buildings, including three large two-storied houses, built in the 1870s, 1880s and 1890s. Two of these houses were in the central city and had both undergone substantial changes during the 20th century when they were converted into flats. The third house was built in what was at the time a rural area, and the changes to it were less invasive.

Meanwhile, in Rangiora, Matt Hennessey has been monitoring the earthworks for a commercial rebuild, which is uncovering a wealth of 19th century archaeological material.

Katharine Watson

Otago/Southland

Matthew Schmidt of Heritage New Zealand has been project managing stabilisation works on the 1890s Beattie's Cottage site on the shores Lake Wakatipu at Northburn. The aim is to create a Historic Recreation Reserve for the public. This cottage was very dilapidated and the original intention by LINZ was to demolish the unsafe structure. Discussions between Heritage New Zealand and LINZ resulted in only a partial demolition of the cottage, with the Otago Polytechnic Stone Masonry School from Cromwell to use the ruin as a training exercise to retain the walls of the cottage up to about 1.2 metres high. Matt brought together the Polytechnic, Fulton Hogan, volunteers from Historic Places Aotearoa and archaeologist Matthew Sole in October to clear the site of vegetation to expose other stonework features, reveal heritage orchard trees and begin work on stabilising the ruins. The Polytechnic will be working on the ruins for the next month. An Interpretation panel is planned for the site and LINZ contributed finance for the project. The result will be a sheltered area by the lake (a great spot for fishing) which the public can enjoy, and where they can learn about the gold miner Alexander Beattie.

Andrea Farminer, Jackie Gillies+Associates Dunedin, has been continuing the cataloguing and analysis of the large late 19th century assemblage that was sampled from the reclamation deposits on the new Emerson's Brewery site in Dunedin. Plans to display some of the material are also underway.

Benjamin Teele, Jackie Gillies+Associates Queenstown, has been monitoring various historical sites around Queenstown and Central Otago. Excavations at a historic stone cottage near Arrowtown revealed no in-ground archaeology, but several building phases were able to be identified, the earliest of which is connected to mining claims on the Arrow River, c.1878. Excavations at Hulbert House, a grand villa on the slopes above Queenstown, revealed a range of domestic artefacts, some of which were associated with early occupation of the site by several prominent members of the Queenstown community, two of whom were subsequently charged for embezzlement. In addition, excavations and controlled deconstruction of another stone cottage, this time on the shores of Lake Dunstan by Cromwell, have been underway as part of a combined project with Heritage New Zealand.

A few small surveys have engaged Matt Sole, Kopuwai Consulting, with interesting finds in the process of being written up. Above Clyde on the opposite side of the highway the remains of William Annan's Dunstan Orchard irrigation storage with supply and distribution water race remains have been located. These are associated with an early gold working reservoir and flood damaged creek tailings. William Annan established the first commercial stonefruit orchard within the Cromwell Gorge and one of the earlier orchards in Central Otago. On another survey associated with a modern irrigation pipeline to be installed across marginal strip in the true left of Clutha Matau upstream of Muttontown Gully, a terrace head race servicing respective sluice scars has been revealed with a series of dredge mooring anchors ('T' shaped pits with the long axis heading 45 degrees downstream) on the upper terrace crest. One has its mooring cable attached. Cable fragments and old four gallon lubricant tin artefact scatters remain across the river terrace face.

Some survey and monitoring has been provided to DOC up in Skippers with tree felling around key heritage sites and features, resulting from the controlled herbicide poisoning of the wilding conifers on Mt Aurum reserve. The dying trees pose both a safety hazard to visitors and archaeological features. Given the significance of the site at Skippers it is surprising to find no overarching heritage management document and recent ground survey work by Shar Briden and Matt Sole has revealed a surprising paucity of site records for the remaining features on site. The wilding conifers obscuring the heritage landscape has perhaps limited past survey and recording. The recent needle shedding of the sprayed conifers has certainly opened the area for increased legibility and interpretation. Managing tree fall and slash is, and will be, a challenge for a period of time.

Emma Brooks