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Fieldwork and Other Activities

Otago & Southland

In the south the Otago University Anthropology Society has been busy, carrying out a survey of the Canton Battery (H44/831) for the Department of Conservation (see the paper by Allen *et al* this issue) and a survey of the Roger's Farmstead (I44/415) on the Otago Peninsula for the Harbour Cone Trust. Roger's cow byre was built from pit-sawn timber, and the students removed accumulated junk from inside the building to reveal one complete original nineteenth century stall with stall rails and manger in place.



The University of Otago Anthropology Society in Roger's cow byre.

The Department of Conservation has followed up the OUAS survey at the Canton Battery with a small excavation of the battery foundations to check their design and condition prior to undertaking restoration of the superstructure. Fortunately the important timbers were sound, and planning for the next stage of the stabilisation work is underway.

Back on the Otago Peninsula, Shar Bridan, Rachel Wesley, representatives of Te Runanga o Otakou and other volunteers have been continuing their augering and monitoring work at Papanui Inlet at the eroding occupation site where an intact waka was found in October 2014 (complex of related sites

Nationwide

J44/91, 92, 31). Occupation evidence has been found in numerous discrete concentrations, and a small excavation is planned for later in the year to investigate the most threatened part of the site.



Lunch break during augering at Papanui Inlet (Matt Schmidt).

Canterbury & West Coast

The post-earthquake work continues apace in Canterbury, along with the usual development-based work in the wider region. In late April 2016, a team from Underground Overground Archaeology, including Tristan Wadsworth,

Peter Mitchell, Jamie Hearfield, Megan Hickey, and Shana Dooley excavated a small umu site on the Kaputone Stream in Belfast. It is believed to be an umu ti, the result of transient occupation, and is the first Maori archaeological site recorded in the area.



An umu ti on the Kaputone Stream.

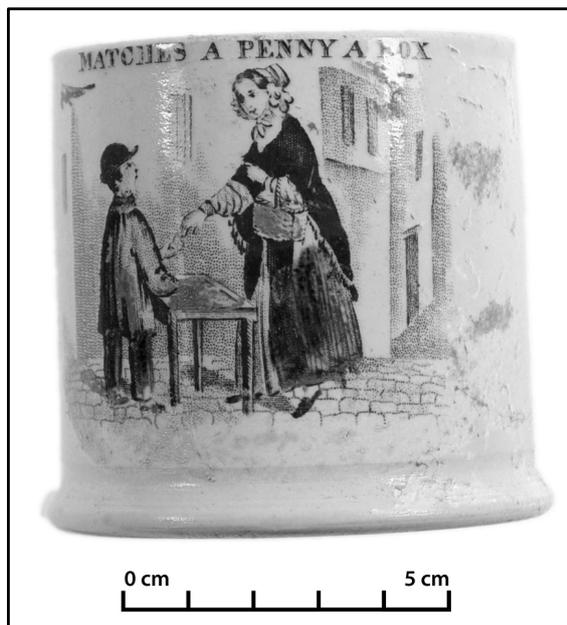
Megan Hickey has been working at 290 Colombo Street where she has found 127 features dating to the late 19th and early 20th century, including services,

Nationwide

foundation lines, posts/post holes and the foundations of a fireplace. Many of these features can be associated with Michael Hurley who owned the site from 1877 and lived there between 1894 and 1899.

'Matches a penny a box' jar from excavations in Christchurch (Jessie Garland).

Jeremy Habberfield-Short (Strata Heritage) is preparing the final report for excavations on the Moncks Cave Reserve (site M36/47) that were carried out in conjunction with Underground Overground Archaeology. Dan Witter has already analysed the



obsidian artefacts, and they are awaiting the results from five radiocarbon samples. Jeremy has also been monitoring a number of historic sites, including the site of the 19th century Georgian residence that was owned by brickmakers Henry Kirk and John and William Bland in Huntsbury, Christchurch. In Lyttleton Jeremy has been working on the 1880 Gothic Venetian Lyttleton Harbour Board Building.



The Lyttleton Harbour Board building (J. Habberfield-Short).

Nationwide

This is a key building in the Lyttleton Historic area, and was in use by the Harbour Board from 1880 until 1962. It has suffered from earthquake damage as well as zealous emergency stabilisation works by CERA and has been further compromised by strengthening of the façade for reuse. Further stabilisation works are underway. Research is being undertaken to assess the potential value of Lyttleton as the South Island's largest port (in terms of tonnage, value and activities), if not New Zealand's largest historic port.

In Canterbury, Kevin Jones has been working on heritage assessments for Peketa and Pariwhakatau (two pa near Kaikoura), and has also been recording homesteads at a new Woodend subdivision.



A storage pit or housefloor at Pariwhakatau. This site was excavated by Roger Duff and Robert Bell in 1955-58 and published in the Records of the Canterbury Museum 1961 (Kevin Jones).

Wellington

In Wellington Mary O'Keeffe is continuing her work on faunal analysis arising from the MacKays to Peka Peka Expressway, with Yolanda Vogel. Mary is also monitoring earthworks for the Transmission Gully

Nationwide

highway, and is monitoring demolition of historic buildings in Newtown, an early modest status suburb of Wellington.

Kevin Jones has completed work at St Mary of the Angels, where evidence of two churches below the present one have shown up in ground beam trenches, and the new Airways tower, Rongotai. He has also completed an assessment of the Kilbirnie Tram Barns. Work continues on the Transpower reconductoring from Haywards to Bunnythorpe.

Waikato & Bay of Plenty

In March Danielle Trilford of CFG Heritage monitored works on a promontory pa in Cambridge (site S15/68) where the foundations of three transmission towers are being upgraded by Transpower. She found pre-European Maori archaeological features, including gravelly loam gardening soils, isolated fire scoops and post holes. These findings supplement work on the site conducted in 2014 by Warren Gumbley, who also found evidence of cooking and pits.

Arden Cruickshank of CFG Heritage has monitored topsoil stripping at 111–115 Waikite Road, Welcome Bay. He found a single firescoop along with some redeposited crushed midden. This appears to have been used to fill in a natural deposit with a clay cap placed over the top. The source of this midden is unclear but it is probably associated with a destroyed site on a neighbouring property.

Auckland & Northland

In Whitianga on the Coromandel Peninsula Danielle Trilford of CFG Heritage monitored remedial and upgrade works at the Ferry Landing Stone Wharf (site T11/613) in October and November 2015. The wharf was built in 1837 and is the oldest and longest serving stone wharf in New Zealand. It was originally built at high water level, but a ~ 0.8 m high structure was added in the 1930s. The recent works aimed to repair and prevent further damage caused by tidal exposure. The 1837 staircase and 1930s addition had cement removed and the original ignimbrite stones re-laid, with cement used to resurface the top of the wharf. The northern wall was rebuilt using the original blocks that were collected from the bottom of the water channel where they had fallen in a collapse some years ago.



The Ferry Landing wharf in 2016 after remedial works (Danielle Trilford).

Auckland

Matthew Campbell (CFG Heritage) assisted by Beatrice Hudson (ArchOs Archaeology) finished the excavation of the Long Bay Restaurant site in early March – this was originally reported in the last issue of AINZ. Six cultural layers were found consisting of midden separated by clean, wind-blown dune sand. There were also 23 burials that were interred in at least three phases. Analysis of the excavated material has now begun. Bone awls from one of the burials are illustrated in the frontispiece of this issue of AINZ.