



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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NEWS

Garry Law

NZAA Council has finalised our submissions to the Select Committee of the House of Representatives which is to consider the Antiquities Bill and the Historic Places Trust Amendment Bill. While these submissions in general support the bills they offer some criticism over some aspects and suggestions for changes on others. With the House now in recess these bills cannot now get assent before about the middle of next year.

Within the next year it is proposed to hold a meeting of NZAA members to discuss the future shape of New Zealand Archaeology, in particular, the identification of people professionally qualified to practise archaeology, the management of archaeological resources, and the communication of results. As an adjunct to this, council is hoping to set up a forum where a communication of ideas and opinion to and from the Maori community can take place.

Conference in 1975 will be in May at Wellington. This will be the biennial long conference, and will be organised by Jim McKinlay. The field trip will be to Palliser Bay and a one day session on its prehistory will be held. Foss and Helen Leach are the conveners for this session. Michael Trotter is convener for a half-day session on C₁₄ dating, Agnes Sullivan for a full day on prehistoric agriculture, and a further session will be held on rock identification and the exchange relationships this has revealed. Offers of papers can be made now to Jim.

The New Zealand Historic Places Trust is to strengthen its archaeological committee by co-opting Lady Fox and Stewart Park as additional members. They join present members Roger Green, Michael Hitchings and Doctors Duff and Dell.

A district planning scheme objection initiated by Stewart Park and followed up by Doug Sutton during Stewart's absence overseas has resulted in Waitaki County Council scheduling 180 sites under its District Scheme. This list is almost all the known sites in the County. This is a precedent of considerable value and all those involved are to be congratulated. Any members who may know of unrecorded sites in the County can write to the County Clerk at P.O. Box 108, Oamaru with some hope of their inclusion.

Sir Gilbert Archey died during October. While not a member of the Association, his contributions on Polynesian art and the natural history of moa will be known to many. His achievements in building up the Auckland Museum is one from which Pacific archaeology has had much benefit. The report Sir Gilbert and Bill Delph published on Piraunui Pa in the Museum Records of 1930 stands as one of the few pieces of systematic field archaeology of the period. Regrettably Bill too died this same month. A foundation member of the association, Bill was a delightful character and no mean natural scientist.

Michael Trotter is currently away on field work to Niue undertaking a basic archaeological survey. The project arose from a request by the new Government of Niue who are concerned over recent site destruction in development projects.

A survey of the route of the Maui field pipe-line is underway this summer. A grant from the Ministry of Works is being administered by NZHPT and used to employ Auckland post-graduate students to survey the northern end of the line and Nigel and Kathy Prickett to undertake the Taranaki end of the survey.

Geoff Irwin has been appointed to the Anthropology Department at Auckland University. Geoff is an M.A. graduate of Auckland and is currently completing his doctorate with Australian National University. While he has undertaken his post-graduate research in Melanesia and hopes to continue in that field, Geoff retains a strong interest in New Zealand prehistory.

Wayne Orchiston, Research Fellow, Dept. of History, University of Melbourne writes: "You may be surprised to know that Melbourne now has a little collection of New Zealand prehistorians second only in number to those congregated in Canberra. The State Aboriginal and Archaeological Relics Office head Dr Peter Coutts has acquired two Aucklanders as Site Recording Officers: Denis Byrne and Mark Clendon. Mark Jurisich, an anthropology graduate (in prehistory) from Otago is with B.H.P.

The University of Melbourne will next year offer a full-year first year course entitled 'Prehistoric Archaeology.' This is being mounted by Bill Culican and myself".

The second volume of "Archaeology in Western Samoa" edited by Roger Green and Janet Davidson is now available and can be purchased from the Auckland Institute and Museum, Private Bag, Auckland 1, for \$10.00. Volume I is still in print and can be ordered for \$7.50. Purchases of both volumes qualify for a discount price of \$15.00. Canterbury Museum Bulletin No. 6, "Prehistory of the Southern Cook Islands" edited by Michael Trotter is another new publication. It can be ordered at \$10.00 from the Canterbury Museum, Rolleston Ave., Christchurch.

A report Michael Trotter produced on his initial work in the Sounds National Park, entitled "Marlborough Sounds Archaeological Survey 1974" quickly went out of print. NZAA has subsidised a reprinting. Copies are available at a very reasonable 25c. (non-members 50c.) from Neville Matthews, 14 Waikura St, Blenheim. Purchasers should enclose a stamped and addressed "Newsletter"-sized envelope.

A once essential part of Auckland University's excavation equipment was a cricket bat. The tradition is not yet dead. We are reliably informed a meeting between Messrs. Groube and McKinlay on a village green on a recent English summer afternoon was thus celebrated.

NZAA Monograph No. 6 MAORI FORTIFICATIONS

This will be published in 1975 and will be a profusely illustrated adaptation of Lady Fox's McMillan Brown Lectures given in Auckland this year. In cost it is expected to be less than eight dollars. A prepublication order list is being compiled. Members wishing to be included should apply (stating no. of copies required) to Professor R.C. Green, Anthropology Dept, Auckland University, Private Bag, Auckland. Please send no money meantime.

Submission of C₁₄ Samples for Dating by NZDSIR

Articles in the latest two Newsletters have detailed the new submission forms now being used by the DSIR, and the procedure used for reporting dates and assigning NZ numbers. In brief this involves use of a new submission form and a two-stage reporting of results. Initially only an unreferenced date will be reported to the submitter and this date is not for citation. When the submitter returns the result card with his comments on its significance added, and the DSIR is satisfied with its documentation, the date will be checked and an NZ number issued. Only then will the date be available for citation. The new submission form supersedes the NZAA form.

Partly in response to a suggestion from Dr Rafter, Council has appointed two members to act as a liaison with the Institute of Nuclear Sciences. They are:

Garry Law c/o 9 Waiata Ave., Auckland 5

Foss Leach Anthropology Dept., University of Otago,
Box 56, Dunedin.

Mr L. Lockerbie of the Otago Museum will continue as the NZAA Radiocarbon Committee member and aid the Institute in the selection of samples. Supplies of the new forms will be available from the above and through Geological Survey, Lower Hutt. Samples and forms should be sent direct to the Institute. People with proposals for large dating programmes or special problems are urged to establish a person to person relationship with Institute staff members but the aforementioned Association members will be happy to give any advice or assistance required on more routine sample submission and interpretation of results, or any other matters of concern.