



NEW ZEALAND  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL  
ASSOCIATION

**NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**



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NOTES AND NEWS

Lyn Williams, a recent M.A. graduate from Auckland, took up the position of Anthropologist at the Southland Museum, Invercargill in May. Atholl Anderson was in Canada in May to give a paper on the Scandanavian fur trade to the annual conference of the Canadian Archaeological Association. From there he flew to the ANZAAS conference at Adelaide where he spoke on Raoul Island.

The Auckland and Otago University departments which teach archaeology are enjoying the presence of a number of overseas archaeologists. At Auckland Dimitry Anson is Senior Tutor. Dimitry came to us from the University of Queensland but is enrolled at Sydney for a Ph.D. in Melanesian archaeology. At Dunedin are Pat McCoy and Barry Fankhauser. Pat comes from the Bishop Museum, Honolulu, as Visiting Lecturer. He has worked extensively in the Pacific and did his doctoral research on Easter Island. Barry is a Ph.D. student from the University of Hawaii and is working on a project which involves the setting up of a thermoluminescence laboratory in the hope of using this technique to date ovenstones and, more widely, to investigate thereby the chronology and distribution of umi ti.

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As a result of nominations and elections the new council of the Association is as follows:

President:	Michael Trotter, Christchurch
Vice Presidents:	Stuart Park, Auckland Garry Law, Auckland
Secretary:	Richard Cassels, Auckland
Treasurer:	John Mihaljevic, Auckland
Council:	Susan Bulmer, Auckland John Campbell, Christchurch John Coster, Auckland Jill Hamel, Dunedin Mary Jeal, Napier Bruce McFadgen, Wellington

Ex officio members of council are Stan Bartlett, immediate past-president and site recording co-ordinator, and Nigel Prickett who is Newsletter editor.

Other officers of the Association who have been re-appointed by the incoming council are Aileen Fox, Sales Manager, Jill Hamel, Editor of the New Zealand Journal of Archaeology and Foss Leach, Business Manager

for the Journal. Members may be interested to know of other current Association appointments and representation on their behalf. Richard Cassels is our representative on the Council of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust and as such is also a member of the Trust's Archaeology Committee. Mary Jeal is the Association's direct nomination to the Trust's Archaeology Committee. John Campbell is our representative on the Okains Bay Museum Trust Board. Members of the Association's C14 screening committee are Garry Law and Foss Leach.

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The Association's mini-conference held at Palmerston North over Queen's Birthday weekend was a most enjoyable affair. Members who attended will, I am sure, join in thanking David Butts and his team of local helpers for the effort they put into organisation, catering and generally making things run smoothly. Members who were not there missed out on a treat.

Papers were presented which covered a wide range of topics. Among the most interesting were those given by Manawatu archaeologists on aspects of local work. Jim Lundy spoke on Rangitikei redoubts, while Ian Matheson gave two papers on the identification of flax mill sites and the island pa of Lake Horowhenua. David Butts reported on activity in the Wanganui - Manawatu file district.

Papers on topics just a little further afield included Diane Foley speaking on recent work on the remarkable bird bone assemblage from Kaupokonui, South Taranaki; Tony Walton on archaeological sites along the Wanganui River; Tony Batley on the archaeology of the Ngatarua block, inland Patea; and Ruka Broughton on archaeological sites of the Nga Rauru area.

Reports on recent excavations were given by Sue Bulmer who spoke on work on Maungakiekie (One Tree Hill), Auckland; Ian Lawlor, Puhinui excavations, south Auckland; Neville Ritchie, Cromwell's 'Chinatown'; Michael Trotter, Takahanga excavations, Kaikoura, and Bruce McFadgen on Ruahihi. Brian Vincent discussed his recent survey of the lower Waitaki River valley.

Other papers presenting the results of recent fieldwork were given by Phil Moore who spoke on obsidian sources in the Cook Beach - Hahei area, Coromandel Peninsula and on a basalt quarry near Maketu in the Bay of Plenty; and John Coster on features of Coromandel settlement pattern.

A group of papers discussed aspects of the administration of antiquities legislation in New Zealand and overseas. Jim McKinlay spoke on using the law to protect archaeological sites; Bob Cater outlined recent changes in the administration of the Antiquities Act 1975; and John Daniels introduced the subject of the organisation of public archaeology in Britain.

Papers on more theoretical aspects of archaeology were given by Agnes Sullivan, "Oral tradition and archaeology"; Roger Green "Culture history: what is it, is it bad?"; Gordon Lewthwaite, a geographer who spoke on mapping Maori cultural regions and Jill Hamel who spoke on the importance of zoological taxonomy to archaeology. Other papers were given by Garry Law who introduced recent attempts to classify Classic adzes by statistical techniques requiring the use of a computer; Ron Scarlett on bird bones; and Mary Jeal on her work as Hawkes Bay filekeeper.

Bruce McFadgen gave an evening public lecture on the prehistory of Manawatu.

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Changes of filekeepers and file districts were recently approved by Council. The Auckland file is brought together again, after a period during which it was split between Anne Leahy and Sue Bulmer. The file is now housed at the Anthropology Department, Human Sciences Building, University of Auckland, where Sue is filekeeper.

The Otago file is now split. Neville Ritchie at Cromwell is filekeeper for a new Central Otago file consisting of NZMS1 sheets 107, 108, 113, 114, 115, 116, 122, 123, 124, 125, 132, 133, 134, 143, 144. The remainder of the Otago file stays with Wendy Harsant at the Otago Museum. Lyn Williams has been appointed Southland filekeeper.

In the report of the Site Recording Co-ordinator the number of recorded sites shows an increase of 20% for the year 1980 - 81. The total number of sites recorded is now almost 23,000. Filing districts which show the biggest increases in recorded sites are Northland (now over 4,000), Auckland (5,600), Bay of Plenty (2,200), East Coast, Wanganui - Manawatu, Otago (2,300) and Offshore (that is, outlying islands) which now has 100 sites recorded.

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Next year's week long Association Conference is to be held at Christchurch in May. Convenors are Michael Trotter, Beverley McCulloch and John Campbell.

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Important decisions regarding the administration of the Antiquities Act were made at a meeting in Wellington on 28 March 1980. Attending were archaeologists, museum people and Internal Affairs Department representatives who are responsible for administration of the Act. Decisions made at the meeting vitally effect the archaeological community.

The most important decision is that in future one National Registration Number ('Z' number) will be allocated to excavated or other archaeological assemblages. This is a vast improvement over the system which previously seemed to be emerging of one 'Z' number per artefact or group of similar artefacts. For excavated collections a 'Z' number will be allocated at the same time as the Trust permit to excavate is issued. For surface collections one 'Z' number per site will be allocated after notification of the finding of the artefacts.

Where a single 'Z' number has been allocated to an assemblage, artefacts within that collection may be labelled, for example, Z1234/1, /2 etc., as identification or removal of material for sourcing or analysis requires. A collection of flakes within an assemblage, however, may be referred to by a single 'Z' number - Z1234 (or Z1234/1 etc) as the situation requires.

Excavated assemblages may be notified to the Department of Internal Affairs on a single 'Z' form with a list of material attached including relevant administrative and archaeological details. A single notification form may also be attached to material surface collected from separate but geographically related sites within a limited time period, i.e. as a single research or recording effort. Details of sites, artefacts, etc. must be given.

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Five articles of interest to archaeologists have appeared in the latest volume of Records of the Auckland Institute and Museum (Volume 16, 1979).

D.R. Simmons (editor), "Maori Place Names" by George Graham (pp.1-10).  
D.R. Simmons, George Graham's Maori place names of Auckland, (pp.11-39).  
S. Edson, A radiocarbon date for the Archaic burial context (N44/97) at Hahei (pp.41-43).  
Aileen Fox, The pa on Mount Roskill, Auckland (N42/11): dating evidence from the 1961 excavations (pp.45-61).  
Garry Law, Regional variations in Maori greenstone pendants of the kuru style (pp.63-75).

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Volume 2 of the Association's New Zealand Journal of Archaeology is now out and is full of good things. Members who do not get the Journal should send off their subscriptions immediately. The contents of Volume 2 are as follows:

Atholl Anderson, Towards an explanation of protohistoric social organisation and settlement patterns amongst the southern Ngai Tahu (pp.3-23).  
D.G. Sutton and Y.H. Marshall, Coastal hunting in the Subantarctic Zone (pp.25-49).

Stephen Black, Demographic models and island colonisation in the Pacific (pp.51-64).

Simon Best, Oruarangi Pa: past and present investigations (pp.65-91)

R.K. Nichol, Analysis of shell material from Oruarangi, N49/28 (pp.93-98).

Helen M. Leach and B.F. Leach, The Riverton site: an Archaic adze manufactory in Western Southland, New Zealand (pp.99-140).

R.K. Nichol and L.J. Williams, Screen size and sample stratification in efficient shell midden analysis (pp.141-149).

M.A.L. Phillipps, An estimation of fertility in prehistoric New Zealanders (pp.149-167).

Jill Hamel, the Journal editor, reports that a small profit was made on Volume 1 and is also expected for Volume 2. The Journal goes to about 330 subscribers.

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The Historic Places Bill was reported back to the House from the Lands and Agriculture Committee on 23 May. A number of changes have been made to the original Bill.

The important new concept of 'Historic area' is now defined as "an area which contains an inter-related group of pre-historic or historic features which have historical value as a group even though some or all of the features may have little historical value individually". An area in which Trust contract work, for example site surveying, appeared in the original Bill to come under the control of the State Services Commission has been changed in line with Association submissions; the Trust will retain freedom of action in contracts not exceeding three months. Greater flexibility is introduced to the concept of 'traditional site' by an alteration which removes the exclusive definition of 'archaeological sites' in relation to 'traditional sites'. A 'traditional' site may now also be an 'archaeological' site as defined by the Act.