



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



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NOTES AND NEWSThe New Plymouth conference

The biennial 'mini conference' was held this year at the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery in New Plymouth over Queen's Birthday weekend. Attendance was up on recent years with 80-90 people at most sessions. The weather was bitterly cold throughout and there was an unseemly rush after each break to get somewhere near the heaters! The warmth was provided by the reunion of old friends and the excellent soup provided each lunch time by the Friends of Taranaki Museum.

Some papers were presented to a symposium on "West Coast Dunes Studies", the remainder were on a very wide variety of other topics. Among symposium papers: David Butts discussed Manawatu shell middens; Richard Cassels, the south Taranaki sites; Roger Fyfe, excavations at N128/20, Opunake; Kevin Jones, Rangī Point, Hokianga; Tony Walton, sites at the mouth of the Whangāehu River and Brian Sheppard, eel channels in Horowhenua. John Coster presented some of the results and site surveying experience of his work in the north.

Historical archaeology has grown enormously in popularity in recent years: many papers in the general sessions were more or less concerned with aspects of recent work. From the team working in the Clutha valley, Anna Harrison presented an analysis of opium smoking and associated artefacts from Chinese sites in Central Otago, and Dimitri Anson gave a typology and seriation of matchboxes from historic sites in the region. Bruce Hayward gave an outline of historical and archaeological aspects of kauri gum digging, and presented the results of a recent 'dig' at a kauri bushmen's hut of the 1870s (reported in this Newsletter). Ray Hooker discussed some of his fascinating recent work on mining and other historical sites in south Westland. Beverley McCulloch talked about her most unusual dig aimed at recovering remains from a decommissioned cemetery at Withells Road, Christchurch, and Robyn Oliver showed slides of the summer's work at the Brunner coke ovens.

Papers given on other topics included Sue Bulmer's discussion of 1982 rescue work at Maungāwhau (Mt Eden), and Aileen Fox's 'salvage' of an excavation at Maioro near Waiuku (south Auckland) which was carried out in 1965-66. Other Auckland work was reported by Louise Furey who gave a paper on her 'rescue' excavation at Westfield. Kelvin Day gave us a look at the exciting new find of a pataka door from Okato, Taranaki, Ian Lawlor presented something of his excavations of kumara pits at Kawerau, and Kevin Jones

looked at the distribution of pa in the Whirinaki and Waiotahi valleys, Bay of Plenty, and the strategy which might lie behind their situations. Ian Smith reviewed localised extinctions of sea mammals in New Zealand, and Doug Sutton outlined his proposed research in the inland Bay of Islands (reported in this Newsletter). Neville Ritchie gave us a view of recent archaeological work in the United States and pointed to some implications for New Zealand. Phil Moore spoke of the Geological Survey's involvement in archaeology.

In a session on Sunday morning John Daniels, Jim McKinlay and Brian Sheppard outlined for Association members recent activity and policy of the Historic Places Trust. There were some discussion and questions from the floor but it was clear that the subject was not exhausted.

On Saturday evening Nigel Prickett gave a public lecture on Taranaki archaeology at the Art Gallery. This was followed by a 'social' at the Museum. The next evening was the turn of the Annual General Meeting where interest in the activity and problems of the Trust in regard to archaeology again surfaced.

The conference was mostly organised by Roger Fyfe to whom everyone who was there owes a big vote of thanks for a most successful weekend. The Friends of the Taranaki Museum provided lunch, while Ron Lambert, Director of the museum, lent the museum's support and provided a venue for the 'social'. The conference as a whole was 'kicked off' by the Mayor of New Plymouth, Mr David Lean.

Before Queen's Birthday Weekend there was a Field School in Taranaki archaeology organised by Roger Fyfe and Nigel Prickett with considerable help from Robyn Oliver, Alastair Buist and Kelvin Day. In this issue there is a report on the Field School by one of the participants (see also the cover and plates).

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The Council

As a result of nominations for officers and an election for Council members the incoming Council of the Association is as follows:

President:	Garry Law
Vice-Presidents:	Aileen Fox Helen Leach
Secretary:	David Butts
Treasurer:	Anne Leahy

Council: Richard Cassels
 Roger Fyfe
 Jill Hamel
 Mary Jeal
 Bruce McFadgen
 John Palmer

Ex Officio members of Council are Stan Bartlett, Site Recording Co-ordinator, Michael Trotter, Immediate Past President, and Nigel Prickett, Newsletter Editor.

Members may be interested to know of other Association officers who do a great deal of work for us. Janet Davidson and Jill Hamel are co-editors of the New Zealand Journal of Archaeology, Foss Leach is the Journal's Business Manager. Aileen Fox is Sales Manager, Louise Furey has recently taken over the arduous job of Membership Secretary, and the Radiocarbon Committee comprises Foss Leach and Garry Law.

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Site recording co-ordinator's report 1981-82

The number of sites recorded in the scheme increased by 2447 or 9.27% in the past year (1980-81 - 15.7%).

The figures below were supplied by Tony Walton, N.Z.H.P.T.

	<u>1981</u>	<u>1982</u>
Northland	4,583	4,923
Auckland	6,566	7,325
Waikato	1,735	1,877
Bay of Plenty	2,405	2,643
East Coast	929	952
Taranaki	1,195	1,182
Inland Patea	261	261
Hawkes Bay	528	553
Wanganui	267	348
Wellington	745	750
Nelson	901	932
Marlborough	321	322
West Coast	217	254
Canterbury	1,024	1,139
Otago	1,904	1,980
Central Otago	1,227	1,810
Southland	859	861
Offshore Islands	730	730
	<u>26,395</u>	<u>28,842</u>

Not unexpectedly, the figures show that regions where Trust archaeologists are stationed registered the largest increases.

Metric file conversion. A proposal by the Trust that metric re-ordering of the NZMS 1 file be postponed indefinitely (or dropped) did not meet with Council approval. Further discussion on this matter is scheduled to take place at conference.

Metric file keeping boundaries. After long delays the adjustments to these have been mutually agreed on by filekeepers involved, and approved by Council.

Workload of filekeepers. Queries have been received from filekeepers concerning payment for time expended in filekeeping duties. It was pointed out that filekeeping has been regarded as a voluntary task with any out of pocket expenses being met by N.Z.A.A. or the Trust. Employing bodies and institutions which house N.Z.A.A. files have been generous in the past in allowing time for staff to carry out filekeeping work. It is now apparent that in some localities a "sinking lid" employment policy and the economic situation is changing this outlook. This will be a matter of increasing concern.

Filekeeping changes during the year. Canterbury. Michael Trotter resigned 30 May 1981. Replaced by Sally Burrage, Canterbury Museum, Christchurch.

Otago. Wendy Harsant resigned 30 November 1981. Replaced by Jill Hamel, 42 Ann Street, Dunedin.

Wanganui/Manawatu. David Butts resigned 20 March 1982. Replaced by J. Lundy, C/- Manawatu Museum, Palmerston North.

Stan Bartlett
Site Recording Co-ordinator

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Bay of Islands fieldwork

"There will be a group of people mapping and excavating sites at Pouerua, near Kaikohe in the inland Bay of Islands, from late November until the middle of February.

In the period before Christmas we will try to complete the 1979 site survey of the area around Pouerua undertaken by Richard Cassels, Caroline Phillips and Mike Hilton, finish mapping the ancillary pa sites there and begin mapping horticultural evidence within rectangular sample areas of each of the four or five differ-

ent soil types which occur near the cone. After Christmas we will continue the excavation of horticultural evidence which was begun in July 1982 and dig one open settlement site.

A field team of 15 is being put together at present. I hope to employ four experienced field workers and a larger number of people from the Kaikohe-Ohaeawai area under the Project Employment Programme. In addition to the 'work force', various other people have indicated that they will be spending some time at Pouerua this summer. They include Aileen Fox, Roger Green (who may be going to dig the open settlement site), Nigel Prickett, Anne Salmon, David and Glenys Nevin (who will probably be there from late November through until the end of the field season), Roger Fyfe and Sue Bulmer.

I hope that others will also take time to visit us. Anyone interested should write to Doug Sutton, Anthropology Department, University of Auckland, Private Bag, Auckland, or after 15 November to me c/- Peter Ludbrook, Pouerua, R.D.1 Ohaeawai, Northland."

Doug Sutton

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New publications

A major publication on New Zealand rock art has recently been published in German.

Gottfried Kreuzer and Michael Dunn, Die Felsbilder Neuseelands. Wiesbaden, Franz Steiner, 1982. 213 pp., 127 figures, 3 maps, 38 plates, bibliography, 2 page English summary.

My knowledge of German being as bad as it is I am only able to tell you that the book is well illustrated (including some new material), there is a good range of excellent photographs by Michael Dunn (20 of which are in colour), but that the distribution map of North Island art sites falls short of that in Trotter and McCulloch's work which has itself been overtaken by new finds in recent years.

An article by Doug Sutton sums up a major theoretical aspect of recent work in the Chatham Islands, as well as being a useful summary of subsistence and settlement on the island group. Published in Current Anthropology it is given the "CA*" treatment with criticism from a number of interested archaeologists followed by a reply..

Douglas Sutton, Towards the recognition of convergent adaptation in the Subantarctic zone. Current Anthropology, 23:77-97 (1982).

Arriving on my desk as "Notes and News" is being typed up next door is the latest publication by Bruce Hayward. Members who were at the New Plymouth conference will have heard a fascinating talk by Bruce on the history and changing technology of the kauri gum industry. We now have the book.

Bruce Hayward, Kauri Gum and the Gumdiggers. Auckland, Lodestar Press, 1982. 48 pp.

The book follows the excellent little format of Lodestar Press (price is not yet fixed but may be about \$3.00). It is extensively illustrated with a range of photographs showing all phases of the gumdigging industry, through its various periods of development and from gum field to the Auckland warehouses and wharves. Archaeologists who are interested in the north, especially those involved in site surveying, will find the book of great value. It should also interest anyone concerned more widely in New Zealand social history and landscape history.

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Public archaeology symposium

An initial circular and call for papers has arrived for a public archaeology symposium at the XV Pacific Science Congress, Dunedin, New Zealand, 1-11 February 1983.

Graeme Ward writes,

"It is proposed to convene a symposium on the subject of Public Archaeology in the Pacific (Pacific Rim as well as Pacific Island).

Dates set aside are	Wednesday	2 February	am
	Thursday	3 February	am and pm
	Friday	4 February	am

Several topics have so far been suggested for discussion:

1. Role of indigenous communities in applied research and management.
2. Evaluation of site significance.
3. Integration of research objectives, applied and pure.
4. Ownership of research results and report copyright.
5. Archaeological sites and educational aspects of visitor information and control.

It would be valuable to have your reaction to these suggestions and any further topics that you would like to see discussed either at formal or informal sessions. Offers of short papers/discussions need to be made now since the deadline for finalisation of the programmes and for initial registration is close."

If you are interested please write to

Graeme Ward
c/- Australian Institute of Aboriginal Studies
PO Box 553
Canberra City. ACT. 2601
Australia.

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The Bulletin of the Institute of Maritime Archaeology

John Campbell writes,

"Maritime archaeology has come of age in Australia. The Institute of Maritime Archaeology was formed earlier this year in order to promote and further the study and practice of maritime archaeology in Australia and overseas. The classes of membership are, individual \$15, institutional \$30, associate (i.e., a member of another recognised association) \$7.50 and student \$7.50. Initially the Institute will be based at the Western Australian Museum and one of its first jobs will be to develop a code of ethics for maritime archaeology.

Its publications will include a bi-annual Bulletin, the first of which has been produced. It is labelled Vol.5 as the Bulletin follows on from No. 4 of a newsletter circulated amongst maritime archaeologists. This first issue consists of a typical assemblage of papers including site surveying reports, excavation reports, conservation problems, archaeological techniques and historical work. The only difference compared with standard archaeology is that these sites are invariably under a drop of the old briny, lake or river mate.

A report on the 1980 excavation of the Hadda site in the Houtman Abrolhos.

Survey of Morning Reef, Wallibi Group, Houtman Abrolhos.

A method for taking the "lines" of a vessel.

Drawing of archaeological artefacts.

Considerations in the conservation of the Albany whale chasers.

The 1980/81 survey of the Abemama.

Educational opportunities in maritime archaeology in the U.S.A.

The development of the Australian pearling lugger.

The identification of the shipwreck at Point Cloates, W.A.

The underwater display case.

Vergulde Draeck excavation 1981.

List of contents in other journals related to marine archaeology.

The underwater display case describes how the ten known wreck sites around Rottneest Island are now marked, both on land and under water with information plaques. The local museum has a display relevant to the wrecks, sells a pamphlet on the wrecks and is preparing a booklet on the history of each wreck. This is a concept that could easily be copied in New Zealand in an enclosed area (such as Wellington Harbour) given the interest of a local museum and local divers.

The Bulletin has just one defect. The affiliations or addresses of the authors is not given. I suspect that C/- W.A. Museum would find them all.

I thoroughly recommend this Bulletin to all interested persons and institutions in New Zealand. Contact: Mr. Jeremy Green, Department of Maritime Archaeology, Western Australian Maritime Museum, Cliff Street, Fremantle, WA 6160."

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Newsletters for sale

Volume 2 (1) to Volume 25 (2). Price - \$1.00 each copy, collection must be bought complete. Write to:

Mr A. Hutson
90 Korokoro Road
Petone.

This is a good buy so don't waste time, write immediately.

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