



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

NEW ZEALAND ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



This document is made available by The New Zealand
Archaeological Association under the Creative Commons
Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

To view a copy of this license, visit
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/>.

NOTES AND NEWSFilekeepers

Here is the list of current Association filekeepers and their addresses (as at 1 May 1986).

NORTHLAND

Mr S. Bartlett
50 Cairnfield Road
WHANGAREI

HAWKES BAY

Mrs M. Jeal
P O Box 234
NAPIER

AUCKLAND

Dr S. Bulmer
C/- Dept. of Anthropology
University of Auckland
Private Bag
AUCKLAND

WANGANUI/MANAWATU

Mr D. Weston
46 Burns Avenue
PALMERSTON NORTH

WAIKATO

Mr N. Laurie
C/- Waikato Museum of Art
and History
Private Bag
HAMILTON

WELLINGTON

Mr I. Keyes
12 Parnell Street
LOWER HUTT

NELSON

Mr A.S. Bagley
29 William Street
RICHMOND

BAY OF PLENTY

Mr R. Regnault
P O Box 1798
ROTORUA

MARLBOROUGH

Mr N.L. Mathews
14 Waikura Street
BLENHEIM

TAUPO

Mr P. Fletcher
P O Box 512
TAUPO

CANTERBURY

Mrs B. McCulloch
21 Norwich Street
CHRISTCHURCH

EAST COAST

Ms P. Bain
9 Magnolia Street
GISBORNE

WEST COAST

Mr R. Lawn
66 Tudor Street
HOKITIKA

TARANAKI

Dr A.G. Buist
57 Tate Road
R.D. 42
WAITARA

OTAGO

Mr N. Ritchie
Clutha Valley Development
Ministry of Works and
Development
Private Bag
CROMWELL

INLAND PATEA

Mr R.A.L. Batley
The Homestead
Moawhango
TAIHAPE

SOUTHLAND

Mr K. Gillies
 Southland Museum &
 Art Gallery
 P O Box 1012
 INVERCARGILL

OFFSHORE ISLANDS

Dr B.F. Leach
 Department of Anthropology
 University of Otago
 P O Box 56
 DUNEDIN

Recently your Council invited regional filekeepers to give a brief report of their file, current workload and other aspects of being filekeeper. The following replies will be of interest to members. In this issue there is also a report by Tony Walton on the current state of the site recording scheme and the central file.

Waikato. The filekeeper for the last eight years, Steve Edson, resigned last year and I have taken over the job on a very part-time basis - mostly for a few hours every Tuesday morning. The files are still housed in the Waikato Museum of Art and History building and space has been allowed for them in the museum's dramatic new building, sloping down to the edge of Waikato River and due to be opened next year. The museum director and staff are very co-operative and I think the system should work very well.

I have been a member of the local Archaeological Society for many years and that society is still active in investigating sites. Janet Leatherby, who has spent a year here reporting on past and likely future damage to archaeological sites has also produced some new records, as has Peter Morgan, working along the riverbanks between Ngaruawahia and Cambridge. Another important area of work here is still the field checking of the dozens of sites located by Steve Edson from his study of the early aerial photos.

As far as the file-keeping role goes. I find the main problem is working in the old inch-to-the-mile and new metric systems, with two sets of maps and two filing indexes and the sooner the old system is fully incorporated into the new, the better. And as far as site investigations are concerned, the district is badly in need of a full-time archaeologist, responsible, say, to the main local bodies in the area, to the Waikato Museum, to the N.Z. Historic Places Trust and the government departments (Lands & Survey, Energy, Works & Development, the new Department of Conservation, etc.) to ensure that the locating, recording and, most importantly, preservation of sites is being carried out.

Neil Laurie

Bay of Plenty. There has been considerable work done in the Tauranga County and Whakatane Districts in the last few years by Trust archaeologists Bruce McFadgen, Kevin Jones and Mike

Hurst, by Jill Pierce, C. Barnett and Debbie Foster for different afforestation companies and by David Nevin for the state forest areas. There have also been site record forms submitted by members and non-members of the Association.

The formation of a separate Taupo file under Perry Fletcher saw the loss of sheets N.Z.M.S.l. N93, N94, N102, N103, N104 from the Bay of Plenty file.

Contact with the Rotorua Bottle Club has sorted out some problems and it is hoped that they can assist in re-researching early building sites of cultural interest (e.g. stables, hotels, halls, etc.).

The 1886 Tarawera eruption buried many sites, particularly valley and plateau sites which tend to leave large blanks on our maps, giving the false impression that there was no human activity there.

The changing of site record form numbers from the Imperial to Metric is proceeding at a steady pace with nearly 80% now renumbered and refiled. Our present file now holds 5929 site records.

Bob Regnault

East Coast. Two major fieldwork projects carried out by Trust archaeologist Kevin Jones at Tolaga Bay and the Waipaoa River, Gisborne, have accounted for the majority of sites added to the file over the past few years. I have also carried out recording at East Cape and coastal Gisborne.

The Gisborne file has been partially converted to metric and a total of 84 sites in the district have been registered. A number of sites from Tolaga Bay, East Cape and coastal Gisborne are awaiting processing.

Public awareness relating to archaeological sites in the district has increased greatly over the last two years due to public talks and displays by Kevin and through the presence of an archaeologist working for the Department of Lands and Survey. Due to demand from the public I am at present conducting a course on the prehistory of New Zealand at the Tairāwhiti Community College. A field trip will concentrate on site recording and therefore hopefully help others to develop the skills and interest in recording sites.

The East Coast file is held in the Gisborne Museum and I am grateful for their help and co-operation and that of the Regional Committee of the Historic Places Trust.

Pamela Bain

Inland Patea. There has been little activity in the Inland Patea file during the past year, except for an assessment of archaeological sites in the Hawkes Bay Ranger District for the N.Z. Forest Service which was conducted by Louise Furey. I have been engaged in work on a project which has prevented me from carrying out any local site recording. As was noted 12 months previously, the loss of a sheet to the new Taupo filing district drastically reduced the number of sites in the Inland Patea filing district. With the production of metric maps (NZMS 260) almost completed for the Inland Patea area consideration must be given to the future of the filing district. Should the metric sheet T19 be allocated to the Taupo file, I would recommend the closure of the Inland Patea file with sheets N19 and U19 going to Taupo, and the balance T20, T21, T22, U20 and U21 going to the Wanganui-Manawatu file.

Tony Batley

West Coast. This file was opened in August 1977, prior to this being handled by Canterbury, Nelson and Otago, but largely by the former. My records show 514 site records in file, with 192 numbers allocated for site records yet to come in, mainly for N.Z. Forest Service surveys being done and in various stages of completion, and a few for site records not yet completed by me.

Mining applications take up a good deal of my time on this file. Such applications were not referred to me prior to February 1980. Since that date, applications have come in at the rate of two to ten a week. Action on these includes,

1. Checking the plan and location, and where necessary the file record. Fortunately as a Coaster I know, with my own knowledge of the West Coast over a long period, if sites are present, and what they are. In a few cases I have had to inspect. Otherwise without the local knowledge, don't know how long each application would have taken!
2. Make out the stencil form, get this copied. If sites are present, make two copies, one to send to the Trust with my monthly report. (Prior to the stencil I made out my own form).
3. Addressing envelopes and post out. Some call here and discuss, when the form is made out right away. Eight volumes of applications and plans held. Where sites are present and I send my report to the Trust on each such application there is little feed back nor are any operations inspected to see if sites are being protected. Needs some follow up in this respect, i.e. someone to monitor all operations where sites are present.

Work involved on receipt of site records includes checking the form, signing the record, and placing the original

in the file, then sending the copy to the Trust with the two monthly report. Most of the recording is done by Forest Service, some Lands and Survey, a few local and some by me. Records are checked for local bodies on request and site summaries sent by post. Some enquiries by other bona fide agencies are also dealt with.

Bob Lawn

Association appointments

In its August meeting Council made a number of appointments for the 1986-87 year. They are: New Zealand Journal of Archaeology: Editor Janet Davidson and Business Manager Foss Leach; New Zealand Archaeological Association Newsletter: Editor Nigel Prickett; Sales Manager Moira White; Radiocarbon Committee Foss Leach and Anne Leahy.

Janet Davidson D.Sc.

In May this year Janet Davidson was awarded a Doctor of Science degree from the University of Otago. This is only the third D.Sc. to go to an archaeologist, the other two going to H.D. Skinner and Roger Duff.

Janet is at pains to point out that it is not an honorary award but an academic degree given for submitted recent work, notably The Prehistory of New Zealand; and that the Doctor of Science degree is now comparatively rare because of the rise in number of people completing Ph.D. doctorates instead. For all that Janet, congratulations!

Recent publications

Since I missed noting recent publications in the last issue some of those noted here are no longer so recent.

In The Journal of the Polynesian Society for March 1986 (Volume 95 Number 1) are two important articles of New Zealand interest.

Patrick Kirch, Rethinking East Polynesian prehistory (pp.9-40).

Kirch questions the currently accepted time scale and settlement history of East Polynesia. It is the kind of

article that comes along once in a while to focus growing misgivings and to raise more exciting opportunities and ideas than are allowed by current thinking on the subject.

Atholl Anderson, "Makeshift structures of little importance": a reconsideration of Maori round huts (pp.91-114).

This article draws on archaeological and historical evidence to urge the importance of round huts and houses in southern New Zealand.

Kevin Jones, A Guide to Wellington's Maori History: Ngo Korero Mua o Te Upoko o Te Ika. Wellington. Regional Committee of the New Zealand Historic Places Trust, 1985. 24 pp. \$2.00.

This is a most attractive little publication in the same handy, pocket-sized format as the same regional committee's "Katherine Mansfield's Wellington". With its high quality newsletter and monograph series (taken up almost entirely by matters of architectural interest) Wellington has a publications programme second to none among regional committees.

"A Guide to Wellington's Maori History" is in two parts: first there is a very brief outline of Maori history in the region, then there are described some places to visit. The latter includes a motorist's guide to Maori sites of the Miramar Peninsula (Te Motu Kairangi) and a walker's guide to sites in the Makara district. The booklet is very well illustrated with early sketches and photographs and informative maps. There is a small list of further reading.

Kathryn Rountree, Nga Tupuna: Life in Maori Communities 1200-1769. Longman Paul, Auckland, 1985. 39pp.

This booklet for school social studies follows a series by the same author reported in the September 1984 Newsletter. It is well illustrated in an attractive, simple format.

But making a complicated story simple is a considerable art: there are many statements in "Nga Tupuna" to which archaeologists will take exception. Examples are: "Greenstone was first used about A.D. 1500" (p.15) and, "The Moriori were seen by only a few Europeans before they died out" (p.18). The author is to be congratulated for her publications for schools which fill a big gap, but it may be best not to popularise apparently simple stories of the past, however strong the demand from school teachers.

Volume 3 (1985) of The Australian Journal of Historical Archaeology is now out. In it are some articles of New Zealand interest or interest to New Zealanders and a good review section.

Edward Higginbotham, Excavation techniques in historical archaeology (pp.8-14).

Michael Pearson, Additions to the bibliography of historical archaeology in Australia (pp.15-23).

This includes New Zealand publications and is a valuable record of work done.

Peter Coutts, Towards the development of colonial archaeology in New Zealand. Part 2: early settlement patterns in southern New Zealand (pp.31-42).

- - - - -

Newsletter back issues

As a service to members Council has arranged to reprint early issues of the Newsletter which have been unavailable, in some cases for many years. This is not cheap at today's costs, however, and as we cannot afford to have stocks sitting about, the reprinting will be done to order only. The per issue price has been fixed to cover costs of an average length issue. The price for commercial xeroxing is 16 c with stiff cover and stapling thrown in. Volume 1 totals only 19 pages so that will count as one issue. The per issue cost is \$4 plus G.S.T., plus postage.

The following is the list of back issues, currently out of print, which are available for this opportunity.

Volume/Number

| | |
|-----------|------------|
| 1/1-4 | 13/1 |
| 2/1 2 3 4 | 16/1 2 3 4 |
| 3/1 2 3 4 | 17/1 2 3 4 |
| 4/1 2 3 4 | 18/1 3 |
| 6/1 2 3 4 | 19/1 2 |
| 7/1 2 3 4 | 20/1 2 3 4 |
| 8/1 2 | 21/1 |
| 9/1 | 22/1 |
| 11/1 | |

Orders must be sent in to the Sales Manager, N.Z.A.A., c/- Auckland Museum, Private Bag, Auckland by 30 November 1986. Production and despatch will be carried out next year. You will be billed with your order.

- - - - -

Archaeology in Canterbury

Beverley McCulloch writes,

"Archaeology is still alive and well in Canterbury even if some of us don't seem to have very much time to spend on it these days.

In January the usual group of volunteers made its annual, week-long, pilgrimage to the Fyffe Moa Hunter site at Kaikoura to continue salvage operations. Nothing new turned up this year but we are accumulating a considerable amount of material which is going to mean a lot of work in the future. Whenever anyone asks me what I'm going to do when I retire, I can just point to the growing pile of Fyffe material in the corner of the moa bone store.

In February, Michael Trotter spent a week excavating at Onawe Pa in Akaroa Harbour. The whole of Onawe Peninsula has become a Lands and Survey reserve and they are anxious to have restored some of the pa's earthworks, which were destroyed by farming, in order to make the site more meaningful to the public. To this end it is hoped to carry out several exploratory excavations in an attempt to determine as accurately as possible the original construction. This is particularly important where the defended gateways of this musket pa have been disturbed.

Lands and Survey covered the expenses of the work done this year, which was carried out by the usual Association members with the enthusiastic and very competent assistance of Lands and Survey rangers.

From my own point of view the really exciting result of the Onawe dig was that it confirmed something I have been jumping up and down and saying for years - that the visible earthworks etc. on Onawe represent two quite different phases of occupation, the musket pa destroyed by 1832 by Te Rauparaha, and one dating back to an earlier period. More about this when I find time to do some writing up.

Kaitorete Spit, which extends for a little over 20 km between Lake Ellesmere and the sea is a source of anxiety to us all at present. It contains hundreds of undescribed and uninvestigated early archaeological sites as well as unique geology, zoology and botany. Sand mining has been carried out there, rather informally, for many years and the firm concerned now wish to extend their area.

John Palmer has been able to show that many sites have already been destroyed - and many more will be threatened if the mining goes ahead. The hearing looms ahead of us - objections have been lodged by Michael Trotter, Lyn Williams and myself (representing the Canterbury Museum, the Association and the Canterbury Regional Committee of the Historic Places Trust respectively) as well as Lands and Survey and a whole slew of geology/geography/zoology/botany types.

On a more cheerful note, in the last year I have received great co-operation in matters archaeological, from the Canterbury Regional Committee of the Trust. Since I joined the committee over a year ago several archaeological matters have arisen, and, as a body, they could not have been more supportive. This really is a step forward in Canterbury and I note here my wholehearted thanks and appreciation of that support.

I have also been asked for assistance on several occasions by the South Canterbury, and Marlborough Regional Committees of the Trust. Mostly just to look at things, and give an opinion, when I'm in the area on museum business. Two of the sites examined, a very old lime kiln at Ward, and a possible very early grave in the Marlborough Sounds, warrant archaeological investigation and I hope to find time to do this later this year.

Lyn Williams reports that she hasn't done anything special in the last few months - mostly routine visiting of sites as reported to the museum. However, she intends to make Banks Peninsula a special project and this will be an important contribution to Canterbury archaeology. The Peninsula is rich in sites but has been largely neglected by earlier workers.

Sally Burrage has taken several groups around the area to visit sites, including a Maori Studies Group out to the Taumutu area and a weekend visit to Kaikoura for the Sumner/Redcliffs Historical Society.

Finally, we have been most fortunate to have made for us by Mrs Te Aue Davis, with the assistance of Mr Bill Solomon and Mr John Stirling, a replica of the Broken River back-pack (see Newsletter, Vol.27, No.3). This very handsome piece of work is at present on display at Canterbury Museum and will eventually be placed on the Takahanga Marae. Michael Trotter has written a comprehensive paper on the back-pack and its publication awaits only the results of the identification of some of the plant materials."

- - - - -

Filekeepers newsletter

The following items are abstracted from the excellent Historic Places Trust newsletter for Association filekeepers which is prepared by Tony Walton.

Registration. As at 21 May 1986 the N.Z. Register of Archaeological Sites contained 543 records. This is an increase of 47 on the last figure reported.

focus was on the environment, notably the beach ridges and how the position of the coast had changed, and on the stone rows - three of which were excavated in places. Further work was done, particularly the detailed mapping of the stone rows, by the University of Otago/Trust field school.

A report has been received on the 1983 excavations at Ackers cottage on Stewart Island. Building on the site goes back to the 1830s, although excavation generally recovered information relating to much later use.

Williams, L. 1986 Report to the New Zealand Historic Places Trust on the Archaeological Investigation of Ackers Cottage, Stewart Island. 11 pp. plus illustrations and appendix.

Other reports recently received are:

Coates J. 1984 Archaeological Investigations at Site N38/8 Shakespear Regional Park. N.Z. Historic Places Trust, Auckland, 1984/5. 10 pp. plus figures.

A brief investigation to ascertain the extent and nature of the defences of pa N38/8 on the Whangaparaoa Peninsula, Auckland. Planned building encroaching on site.

Best, S. 1986 Pollen Brickworks and Potteries Site R11/1509. Initial Archaeological Investigation. N.Z. Historic Places Trust, Auckland, 1986/2. 19 pp. plus illustrations.

Exploratory work on an early brickworks and pottery site on the Whau Creek, west Auckland.

Foster, R. 1986 Test Excavations at Site R11/343 Pine Harbour Marina. N.Z. Historic Places Trust, Auckland 1986/4, 9 pp. plus figures.

Smith, I. 1986 Gardening, Gum Digging and Silviculture in the Waipoua River Valley: Preliminary Report on Excavations at N18/186 and N18/179. 10 pp. plus figures.

Results of excavations in December 1985. Ian Smith has also completed a paper on the significance of the archaeological sites of Waipoua.

Smith, I. 1986 Archaeological sites of the Waipoua region: an assessment of their significance and recommendations for future action. 9 pp.

National Research Advisory Committee - Science and Technology Reviews 1985. The N.R.A.C.'s Science and Technology Reviews is composed of discussion papers and is part of Government science and technology planning. The 1984 review contained a paper on "problems, priorities and needs in archaeology". In 1985 review there is a paper by Evelyn Stokes on "Maori research and development - a discussion document", which may be of interest to archaeologists. Topics covered include Maori attitudes to research, why Maori research is needed, Maori attitudes to knowledge, and who should do Maori research. Maori research is defined as "activity undertaken to increase knowledge of topics and issues relevant to and of concern to Maori people".

County inventories. Recently completed inventories include Tauranga County; Ashburton, Mackenzie, Strathallan, and Waimate Counties (including Ashburton, Geraldine, Temuka and Waimate Boroughs and Timaru City); and Waitaki County (including Oamaru Borough).

- - - - -

Coromandel excavation

Excavations will be carried out at Whangapoua, Coromandel Peninsula 17 November - 6 December this year on small terrace sites threatened by forestry development. If you would like to help please contact.

Louise Furey,
N.Z. Forest Service
Auckland Conservancy
P O Box 39
Auckland.

- - - - -

Copies of Helen Leach's book 1000 Years of Gardening in New Zealand are available for \$5.00 plus p&p. Orders to the Sales Manager, N.Z. Archaeological Assn, c/- Auckland Museum, Private Bag, Auckland.