



NEW ZEALAND
ARCHAEOLOGICAL
ASSOCIATION

ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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NOTES AND NEWSConference 1988

The annual conference of the New Zealand Archaeological Association will be held at the University of Auckland in the week of 9-14 May. Three and a half days of papers (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday morning) have been organised as a workshop addressing the following issues: When did people first arrive in New Zealand? Where did they come from? Was there single or multiple colonisation of New Zealand? Was there return prehistoric migration from New Zealand to tropical Polynesia.

Wednesday is set aside for fieldtrips, and the the Friday afternoon sessions will concentrate on historic archaeology. Friday evening at 7.30 pm there will be a public lecture by Roger Green on "Changes over time: recent advances in the dating of the first human settlement of the Pacific basin". On the Saturday there will be a field trip to one of the historic sites being excavated within greater Auckland at present.

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Department of Conservation/N.Z. Historic Places Trust

The organisation of archaeology in DoC/NZHPT continues to be a matter of concern to Association members. Since 1 April 1987, the Trust's Archaeology Section has been part of DoC's Directorate of Science and Research. The staff make up a large part of that Directorate's Human Ecology Unit, the Central Office component of which works out of the Conservation Sciences Centre in Tory Street, Wellington. The Human Ecology Unit is responsible for, amongst other things, providing the archaeological expertise required by both the Trust and DoC. The Unit is headed by Brian Sheppard and consists of Kevin Jones, Bruce McFadgen, Geoff Park, and Tony Walton (all Central Office); and Sue Bulmer and Neville Ritchie (based in the regions).

In Auckland the contract archaeologists formerly employed by the Trust, Lands and Survey, and the Forest Service form a Regional Archaeological Unit under Sue Bulmer. The Unit is responsible, through the Regional Manager, for servicing the requirements of the Trust and DoC in the DoC Auckland Region. Similar arrangements will apply in the Waikato Region, where Neville Ritchie is Regional Archaeologist, and in the Eastern Region, where a Regional Archaeologist position is to replace the Wellington-based

position formerly held by Jim McKinlay (see job vacancy notice below).

Most of the servicing for the other functions of the Trust will be provided by Recreation, Tourism, and Historic Resources Directorate staff who will continue to work out of Antrim House. Many DoC staff, both in the Central Office and in the regions, will in future contribute in some way to the servicing of the Trust.

The Trust Board has responded to the new circumstances by adopting a new committee structure. Decisions on archaeological matters will be made by the Historic Sites Committee, which will also consider matters involving industrial archaeological sites and traditional sites, the latter on recommendation from the Maori Programmes Committee. The Historic Sites Committee is composed of the following Board members: Atholl Anderson (Chairman), Dave McKerchar, Allan Talbot, and Keith Thompson. Further members of the committee have yet to be appointed.

All enquiries relating to administration of the Historic Places Act (including permits) should continue to be addressed to: N.Z. Historic Places Trust, P.O.Box 2629, Wellington. (Note the new postal address.)

The address for DoC's Central Office archaeologists is: Directorate of Science and Research, Department of Conservation, P.O.Box 10-420, Wellington. Attention: (name).

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Job Vacancy: Regional Archaeologist

An experienced archaeologist is required for the Department of Conservation's Eastern region, based in Rotorua. The appointee will provide a local science information, liaison and research capability for matters relating to the protection, management and understanding of archaeological sites in the Eastern region.

For further information write to: Director (Science & Research), Department of Conservation, P.O.Box 10-420, Wellington, marked for the attention of Brian Sheppard.

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The Site Recording Scheme

As noted above, the former Trust archaeological staff have moved to the Conservation Sciences Centre in Tory Street. The NZAA Central File has moved with them. Council

is preparing a document setting out the understanding between NZAA and DoC on the use of the Central File. This will replace the previous agreement with the Trust.

The advent of DoC brings a significant change in the availability of the site information held on computer. The information will soon be available in the regions through the Department's computer network (DoCnet). (This is not without its dangers as many potential users will not have the background necessary to evaluate the information they retrieve.) Access will be for retrieval of information only; updates and additions to the file will continue to be done only at Central Office.

Bob Lawn, West Coast filekeeper since the file was set up in 1977, has resigned. Council has appointed Ray Hooker as the new filekeeper. Ray's address is C/- Department of Conservation, Private Bag, Hokitika.

Council has confirmed the boundaries of the new Coromandel file. The file consists of sheets S9-S10, T10-T13, U10-U13. The filekeeper is Louise Furey, 3 Burnley Terrace, Mt Eden, Auckland.

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Recent publications

The 1987 New Zealand Journal of Archaeology (Vol. 9) is now available. It contains the following articles:

Harry Allen, Moa-hunters and Maoris: a critical discussion of the work of Roger Duff and later commentators (pp. 5-23).

Genevieve Le Moine, The loss of pottery in Polynesia (pp. 25-32).

Helen Leach and Dan Witter, Tataga-Matau "rediscovered" (pp. 33-54).

Yvonne Marshall, Maori mass capture of freshwater eels: an ethnoarchaeological reconstruction of prehistoric subsistence and social behaviour (pp. 55-79).

Kevin Jones and Garry Law, Prehistoric population estimates for the Tolaga Bay vicinity, East Coast, North Island, New Zealand (pp. 81-114).

Louise Furey, Archaeological investigations in the Brier Block, Coromandel Harbour (pp. 115-134).

Doug Sutton, A paradigmatic shift in Polynesian prehistory:

implications for New Zealand (pp. 135-155).

Rod Wallace, A critique of McFadgen's use of landsnail analysis (pp. 157-159).

In the recent Journal of the Royal Society of New Zealand (Vol. 17, Number 4, 1987) is:

Bruce McFadgen, Beach ridges, breakers and bones: late Holocene geology and archaeology of the Fyffe site, S49/46, Kaikoura Peninsula, New Zealand (pp. 381-394).

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Recent site survey reports

A large site survey project in the Wairoa area, Hawkes Bay, has been done by Dave Nevin and Brendon Jones for DoC. The most common types of site encountered were pit sites and pa.

Reports recently received at DoC/NZHPT Central Office:

Albert, H 1987 Archaeological survey of a volcanic field at Cryers Road, East Tamaki. N.Z.H.P.T. 221 pp.

Detailed two phase survey of area scheduled for development.

Chester, P. 1987 Archaeological survey of Sulky Creek site S44/44, Westland. N.Z.H.P.T. 84 pp.

Survey of an old gold mining area threatened by renewed gold mining. Tail races, stacked tailings, and other features representing several episodes of mining.

Foster, R. 1988 Archaeological survey of the remnant of Wiri Mountain (Matukutururu), Manukau City. Auckland Regional Archaeological Unit, DoC. 22 pp.

Detailed mapping of the two areas on Wiri Mt. which still contain archaeological features. Features suggesting habitation found in one area, and gardening in the other.

Frederickson, C. 1987 Archaeological survey of site R11/1387, Oakley Psychiatric Hospital grounds, Mt Albert. N.Z.H.P.T. 28 pp.

Test-pitting and detailed mapping of archaeological features.

Furey, L. 1986 Archaeological site survey report:

Holzgang Block (Cpt 10), Whangapoua
Forest. N.Z.F.S. 23 pp.

A summary of archaeological site survey information and
management proposals.

Maingay, J. 1987 Archaeological assessment of a
subdivision on the North Head of
Ngunguru Harbour. N.Z.H.P.T. 9 pp.

Survey of a subdivision. One previously recorded site
re-visited. Site is largely in the part of subdivision to be
designated as reserve.

McGovern-Wilson, R.
1985 Fiordland National Park. Gazetteer of
historic and archaeological sites.
Department of Lands and Survey.

A revised and enlarged edition of a report first produced by
Neville Ritchie in 1979 as a working document for park staff.

Nevin, D. 1987 Archaeological site survey of planting
areas in the Whangarei and Dargaville
districts. N.Z.H.P.T. 71 pp.

Survey of 21 blocks belonging to N.Z. Forest Products. No
sites found on 7 of the blocks; 21 were recorded on the
other 14. Recommendations concerning management.

Smith, I. 1987 Archaeological inspection: Motukorea.
April 1987. Hauraki Gulf Maritime
Park Board/DoC. 35 pp.

A detailed re-survey of Motukorea (Brown's Island) for
management purposes.

Twohill, N. 1987 Waiorongomai Valley industrial
archaeological site survey report.
N.Z.F.S. 319 pp.

Survey of gold mining remains in part of the Kaimai-Mamaku
State Forest Park. 186 sites recorded including stamper
batteries, portals (adits), and water races.

Wellington Archaeological Society
1987 Fitzroy Bay: a further archaeological
survey. W.A.S. 11 pp.

Synthesis of previous work, together with the results of a
further survey.

Recent excavations and excavation reports

A number of excavations have taken place in recent months.

Late last year Pam Chester investigated a small part of old Wellington town on a demolition site in central Wellington. A cellar, believed to be part of Alzdorf's Hotel, was uncovered. Alzdorf's Hotel was badly damaged by the 1848 earthquake, and the replacement building suffered similarly in the 1855 earthquake.

Simon Best and Reg Clough have been excavating at the Pollen Brickworks and Potteries (R11/1509) at Whau Creek in West Auckland.

Des Kahotea directed salvage excavations on a pa (U15/35) near Rotorua in early January. The site will be destroyed when the road is re-aligned and the excavation was a condition of the authority.

Nigel Prickett returned to Raupa (T13/13) near Paeroa for a four week season in late January - early February. An Auckland University field school was again held in conjunction with the Raupa dig and the previous year's investigation of the adjacent Waiwhau site (T13/756) was continued.

Towards the end of January Beverley McCulloch directed excavations at Cheviot in North Canterbury. The site is a natural deposit of moa bones and has been described as the best preserved find of moa bones since Pyramid Valley in the 1930s.

Atholl Anderson has directed some initial test excavations at the Shag River mouth site (J43/2). This was the first stage of a proposed major investigation.

Excavation reports recently received by DoC/NZHPT:

Best, S. 1987 Augustus Terrace site R11/1558: a preliminary report. Auckland Regional Archaeological Unit, DoC. 8 pp.

Monitoring arising from the re-development in the old part of Auckland. Some remains associated with the Southern Cross Galvanised Iron Company Ltd (c1894 - c1965) found.

Maingay, J. 1987 A 19th century tannery in the Bay of Islands: interim report on an excavation

at Pompallier House, Russell.
N.Z.H.P.T. Auckland. 23 pp.

Excavation of two brick-lined pits at the rear of Pompallier House. Pits likely to have been constructed by James Callaghan, a tanner, who bought the property in 1856.

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OBITUARIES

Keith Raymond Cairns (1925-1987)

Keith Cairns Q.S.M. of Masterton died on 19 November 1987. Keith was a long standing member of the N.Z. Archaeological Association, having joined soon after it was formed in the 1950s. He was also a member of the Polynesian Society, and served on its Council for 15 years.

Born in Masterton in 1925 Keith attended St Patrick's School and Wairarapa College before joining the Post Office and subsequently the R.N.Z.A.F, where he was responsible for specialist instrument repair work. He later worked as a jeweller, and in the insurance industry. He lived most of his life in the Wairarapa and was held in high regard by the local Maori community, both for his knowledge of the history of the area and for his community work. He was awarded the Queen's Service Medal in the 1984 New Year's honours list for community service. Keith was married with five children.

Keith was extremely well known in the Wairarapa for his interest in archaeology, and he was regularly called upon to give talks. In 1958 he published a study of "Hakikino hill pa" in the Journal of the Polynesian Society (67:330-4), and over the years he contributed a number of papers to the Newsletter. In the early 1960s he conducted a postal archaeological survey in which farmers throughout the Wairarapa were asked to report sites on their properties. His more recent projects have included the excavation of N159/18 at Okau. (Radiocarbon dates for the site were reported in the Newsletter (23 (4):269) in 1980.) Keith had intended to write up his material during his retirement. His papers have been donated by his family to the Alexander Turnbull Library.

Cyril Maude

Pam Bain writes:

"With the death of Mr Cyril Maude in 1987, the Association has lost an extremely enthusiastic member who

possessed a detailed knowledge of the North Otago rock drawings.

Mr Maude spent more than 20 years searching for and recording Maori rock art sites found in the limestone area of North Otago. Due primarily to his enthusiasm, the North Otago Scientific and Historical Society undertook a massive recording venture in the 1960s.

Right up until his death, Mr Maude's knowledge was called upon regularly by those involved in the protection of these sites. He offered his time and support freely to those who were interested in the drawings and the survival of a number of sites in North Otago is attributable to his work with landowners and the general public.

Mr Maude's detailed and invaluable collection of tracings, information and scale drawings has been donated by Mrs Maude to the North Otago Museum, and stands as a memorial to him."

Sir Charles Alexander Fleming (1916-1987)

Ian Keyes writes:

"The death occurred of Charles Alexander Fleming at his home in Wellington on 11 September 1987, aged 71 years. With his passing, New Zealand lost one of its most distinguished scientists and a person of considerable reputation, influence and international stature.

Sir Charles was perhaps best known for his career position as Chief Palentologist of the NZ Geological Survey (1940-1977), and as President of the Royal Society of New Zealand (for 2 terms, 1962-1966). His scientific interests were very broad however, and he contributed a great many original and impressive publications in the fields of geology, palentology, biogeography, ornithology, entomology, conservation and history of science. For these contributions he earned many local and international honours throughout his career, some of which have only rarely been awarded to New Zealanders previously, and in some cases he was a first recipient. He received a K.B.E. in 1977.

Sir Charles always liked to regard himself as a 'naturalist' in the best sense of the term, having a keen eye for the natural world around him and wide-ranging interests in the broad field of the natural sciences. He also followed with interest the growth and development of archaeological studies in New Zealand and the light they have been able to shed on New Zealand prehistory.

His special interest in the geological history of New Zealand and its fauna and flora, led, in more recent years, to a pioneering concern and commitment to the field of conservation. He realised that New Zealand, through its isolation, has preserved as a 'living museum' a unique biota dating back at least 70 million years to the time when it was part of the great southern continent of Gondwanaland. This is an exceptional biological heritage that is worth fighting to conserve and he worked hard to promote this cause in New Zealand.

Sir Charles leaves behind an immense bibliography that can list over 560 items, covering the many fields in which he specialised. The last work he published, just before his death, was 'Science, Settlers and Scholars: the centennial history of the Royal Society of New Zealand' (Royal Soc. NZ Bull. 25:353p). Sadly, New Zealand has lost a highly respected scientist and a kindly friend of many. No short biography can ever hope to cover the breadth of his scientific career and his contribution to science and its organisation in New Zealand, but his publications and influence will remain as an outstanding memorial to his life and career. (A full obituary under preparation by N de B Hornibrook, will appear in the Proceedings of the Royal Society of New Zealand, Vol. 116, (1988).)"

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World Archaeological Congress

The 1986 World Archaeological Congress, held in Southampton from 1-6 September 1986, was to have been the 11th Congress of the Union Internationale des Sciences Prehistoriques et Protohistoriques (UISPP). The Congress was disowned by UISPP when the organisers banned South African based scholars from participation in the Congress. The ban arose, ironically, from the determination of the organisers to make the Congress more representative by attracting people not normally present at such gatherings. The rights and wrongs of the ban have been vehemently argued in the press overseas, as well as in journals such as Antiquity and Nature. The Congress highlighted dissatisfaction with the lack of representativeness of UISPP, and its domination by European and North American interests.

Attempts to resolve some of these differences with UISPP have failed and the Congress is to continue in existence. It is now seeking members. Application forms are held by Archaeology in New Zealand, and copies will be passed on to anyone requesting them. The annual subscription is US\$20.

As it stands now, the Congress is concerned with the

practical and moral consequences of archaeology. Future conferences will concentrate on topics in regional prehistory and the following:

- education about the past
- ownership and conservation of the archaeological heritage
- role of archaeology in creating national or group identity
- human remains
- effects of archaeology on host communities
- ethics of archaeological enquiry

The Congress believes that: "While recognising the essential role of the past to group identities of many peoples and 'ethnic groups' who have moved, for whatever reasons, from land to land, the ...Congress considers that it is the quality of traditional ownership of the land by indigenous peoples which forges an indissoluble link with archaeology, and representatives of these groups have therefore been assigned an effective role, as of right, on the World Archaeology Congress's Executive and Council."

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People

Congratulations to Sally Burrage on the award of a Q.S.M. for community service in the New Year's honours list.