



NEW ZEALAND
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ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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NOTES AND NEWSGuest Editorials/Articles

This issue contains the first of a series of occasional guest editorials or articles written for Archaeology in New Zealand. The first contribution has been written by Dr Harry Allen. Harry was recently appointed, on the nomination of NZAA, to the Board of the N.Z. Historic Places Trust and in his article (pp 142-152) he discusses "public archaeology: choices for the 1990s".

Other contributions, either articles or shorter pieces for the Notes and News section, are always welcome. The Notes and News section is open to any item of interest to readers. People undertaking projects, particularly site recording or excavation, are invited to provide a brief summary of what they are doing, where, and when. Please don't wait to be asked to contribute. Archaeology in New Zealand is one of the quickest means of getting information into the hands of other people interested in archaeology.

1989 NZAA Conference

The 1989 Conference will be held at the Hokitika Multicultural Centre, Hokitika, between 8 and 12 May 1989. As the venue is a bit out of the way it has been decided to make it a five day conference in order to encourage people to make the trip. The suggested themes, bearing in mind the West Coast venue, are "settlement in adversity" and "trade". Two field trips are planned: one a full day trip, the other a half day.

The organiser is Ray Hooker, Department of Conservation, Private Bag, Hokitika. Further details will be available in the next issue.

Recent Site Survey Reports

Reports recently received at DoC/NZHPT Central Office:

Fredericksen, C. 1988. A preliminary historical and archaeological survey of the Waitangi National Reserve. Internal Report 25, Directorate of Science and Research, DoC. 33pp.

Survey undertaken to provide information for the management plan. 37 sites, mostly midden, recorded.

Johnson, L. 1988. Archaeological site survey of the Ratcliffe

residential subdivision, Whangaroa. Internal Report 17, Directorate of Science and Research, DoC. 26pp.

Archaeological survey of a subdivision on the upper Whangaroa Harbour, Northland. 26 sites recorded including a pa, 5 terraces/midden sites, and 16 middens.

Maingay, J. 1988. Motiti Island: its historic significance and archaeological potential. DoC. 17pp.

Report on Motiti island in Hokianga Harbour. Island was occupied by a pa in the 1830s and there is a drawing by Earle of the settlement.

Ritchie, N. 1988. Event K281 1987-88 Ross Island historic huts: report on archaeological work and management recommendations. Internal Report 15, Directorate of Science and Research, DoC. 35pp.

Report on a further period of fieldwork in Antarctica.

Taylor, M. and A. Sutton 1988. Waipoua Archaeological Project Stages II and III: management and research undertaken during 1985-87. DoC.

A further report on management and research work in Waipoua Forest.

At the editor's request, Peter Bristow supplied the following note on his recent survey in South Taranaki:

"From March to May this year I carried out a site survey in the Waverley-Whenuakura area. I was assisted for part of this period by Marcus Grant (Colorado) and Mary O'Keefe. The survey was organised by Chris Jacomb of the Wanganui Regional Museum and was funded by a grant from the Lottery Board. The project was aimed at sampling the environmental zones available to the prehistoric inhabitants: the coastal strip and lakes, as well as an interior lake, and the Whenuakura river valley. The survey yielded over 150 new sites. The sites were primarily pit sites but numerous freshwater mussel middens were found along the shores of Lake Moumahaki (a lake on the fringes of the rugged hill country) and an extensive garden site was also located. Perhaps more significantly the location of the Johnston site was re-established. This site is potentially of great importance for New Zealand prehistory as a whole as excavations there in the 1930s yielded wooden artefacts from the swampy margins of a small lake. These artefacts are of an unusual, and presumably early, style (Downes 1932a, 1932b)".

Downes, T. 1932a. Old native stone-cut artifacts from Waverley. Jnl Polyn. Soc. 41:50-58.

----- 1932b. Additional stone-cut artifacts from Waverley.
Jnl Polyn. Soc. 41:312-316.

In August a small party led by Chris Jacomb undertook three days of exploratory excavations to test the Johnston site, and to investigate some of the other features identified during the course of site survey.

Recent Excavation Reports

Reports recently received at DoC/NZHPT Central Office:

Best, S. and R. Clough 1988. Pollen Brickyard and Wright Potteries: early colonial ceramic industries of the Whau Peninsula. Internal Report 21, Directorate of Science and Research, DoC 43pp.

Preliminary excavations were carried out between 28 January and 9 February 1986. This report deals with the second excavation between 8 December 1987 and 27 January 1988. Pollen's brickworks were in production from the 1850s to the 1870s. A potter, James Wright, worked adjacent to the brickworks in the 1860s. Features associated with many of the manufacturing processes used in these industries were located.

Clough, R. 1988. The historic copper industry on Kawau Island 1840-1855: test excavations and recommendations. Internal Report 16, Directorate of Science and Research, DoC 9pp.

Report on test excavations at the ruins of the smelting house on Kawau Island. The industry operated in the 1840s and 1850s; Mansion House was originally the mine manager's house.

Kahotea, D. 1988. Tupakaria, Site U15/35, Rotorua. Interim report for the Science Directorate, DoC. 36pp.

Report on rescue excavations carried out between 16-29 January at U15/35. Work was a condition of an authority; the site was in the path of a road re-alignment.

Smith, I. 1988. Bones from Auckland's first gaol: faunal analysis at the National Bank site (R11/1595), Queen Street, Auckland. Internal Report 18, Directorate of Science and Research, DoC. 31pp.

Analysis of animal bones from the site of Auckland's first gaol (1841-1865). The material recovered included waste from the gaol kitchen, carcasses from the city dog pound, and a large sample of rubbish from fill which buried the site in 1875. Cattle, sheep and pig bones were the most common remains

recovered. The prison diet seems to have been dominated by soups and stews made from the cheapest cuts of beef. The dogs from the pound include two that may be crosses between the Maori dog and a European breed.

NZHPT Historic Sites Committee

The new Historic Sites Committee met for the first time on 23 August and discussed the composition of the committee, the relationship between the NZHPT and DoC, and the budget. Readers will be aware from news media reports of the financial and other difficulties facing DoC and the NZHPT. The Historic Sites Committee and the Directorate of Science and Research's Conservation Sciences Advisory Committee (CSAC) will between them be responsible for overseeing the archaeology programme in DoC/NZHPT.

Tapiri pa (N95/58) reconstructed

In April this year Te Tapiri pa was damaged when a controlled burn-off jumped a firebreak and a bulldozer cut through a path through the pa to contain the fire. The NZHPT asked Timberlands to restore the pa to the condition it was in prior to the bulldozing. The work was done in August, and was funded by Timberlands. The reconstruction was supervised by Kevin Jones (DoC), Chris Jenkins (DoC), and George Barry, a Ngati Manawa elder. Four Ngati Manawa from Murupara made up the work force.

The banks were laid out using untreated pine stakes according to the layout recorded on a plan done some eight years ago, and the surviving archaeological evidence. The fill was retained by brushwork of manuka laid inside the stakes, and was compacted by foot. A full report on the methods used to reconstruct the various features is being prepared.

Errata

A paragraph was inadvertently lost from Nick Twohill's paper on the Piako County Council Tramway in the June issue of Archaeology in New Zealand. The paragraph should have appeared on page 126 following the quote from Paul, and before the description of Butler's Incline. The paragraph reads:

"The tunnel's south portal is now totally collapsed. Its length is recorded as 200 feet (National Archives, MD N21/2/4 No. 1 of 25 July 1918). The partially-collapsed north portal measures 2.3 metres wide by 2.7 metres high. Beyond the tunnel, the tramway route is now used as a walking track and

kept relatively clear of undergrowth by the Department of Conservation. There are three curves, one creek crossing and a combination of side-cuttings and deep block-cuttings between the tunnel and the base of Butler's Incline. One block-cutting measures 2.7 metres wide."

There were also some typing errors that escaped detection during proof reading. At the top of page 124, in the passage quoted from Matheson's History of the Waiorongomai Goldfield, the tramway is said to have started operation in 1983 instead of 1883 and the costs were expressed in dollars instead of pounds.

Archaeology in New Zealand is prepared on a word processor so copy is now being returned to authors for final proof reading whenever possible.

Carbon Dating By Accelerator Mass Spectrometry

The Institute of Nuclear Sciences advises:

"The Institute of Nuclear Sciences is one of a small number of laboratories around the world capable of measuring the C14 isotope in very small samples using the Accelerator Mass Spectrometry (AMS) technique. Furthermore we have been at the forefront in developing methods for quick and reliable ways of preparing milligram sized samples for measurement.

Our 6MV tandem accelerator is devoted largely to AMS measurements of carbon isotopes, and although we have our own active research program we are providing a growing service of AMS measurements for scientists around the world. We welcome enquiries from NZ scientists, and are currently offering a reduced charge for radiocarbon samples that are submitted through the refereeing system used for many years in our gas counting radiocarbon work. Note the traditional gas counting method is still available, and is (so far) more precise and cheaper, but large samples are required.

For AMS radiocarbon measurements our routine sample requirements are:

- at least 2mg and preferably 4mg of carbon
- details of sample type, origin, and any pretreatment as for traditional radiocarbon samples
- sample material for which reliable carbon extraction techniques are known. This includes: wood, bone, water (dissolved inorganic carbon), shell and other sample types

For such samples we offer:

- δC^{13} measured by independent high precision conventional mass-spectrometry
- direct comparison with NBS Oxalic acid standard
- results reported within 8 weeks of receipt of sample

Our charges (subject to review in April 1989) are:

	Samples requiring CO ₂ extraction	Samples submitted as pure CO ₂ gas
Samples submitted through radiocarbon referee	NZ\$350	NZ\$250
Samples charged at full rate	NZ\$700	NZ\$600
Samples with too little carbon to be measured	NZ\$200	NZ\$100

Samples requiring special treatment or which fall outside the requirements given above, can often be accommodated. For further information and details please do not hesitate to contact Dr M.R. Manning of this Institute."

Newsletter Index

Louise Furey and Nigel Prickett, 1988. Author, Title, and Subject Index of the New Zealand Archaeological Association Newsletter Volumes 1-30, 1957-1987. NZAA Monograph 16.

Now available. Orders to: The NZAA Sales Manager, C/- Auckland Institute and Museum, Private Bag, Auckland. Price: \$10.50 (members) and \$12.50 (non-members). Please add \$1.50 for post and packaging within New Zealand, and \$2.50 overseas. Multiple orders will be invoiced separately. Cheques should be made payable to: NZAA (Publications).

Filekeeper Changes

There have been two recent changes in the lineup of filekeepers. Steve Bagley has been replaced by Megan Huffadine and Alastair Buist has been replaced by Roger Fyfe.

Alastair's resignation marks the end of a long direct involvement with the Taranaki File, and the Site Recording Scheme. When the Site Recording Scheme was being set up in the

late 1950s, Alastair was appointed as the filekeeper for the Taranaki Filing District. He was also very active in the field, contributing many records to the file, and writing a monograph on his field work on pa in North Taranaki.

Regional Filekeepers: current addresses

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Response to Book Review

Near the end of the review of Archaeology As Long-Term History (Archaeology in New Zealand 31 (2):130-132) it was suggested that the book was "seriously overpriced". Tony Davies of the Cambridge University Press replies:

"The local New Zealand price is worked out by the bookseller who takes into account the country of origin retail price, the discount given to him by the publisher and the percentage markup which he needs as a bookseller ... This particular book may well find itself priced ... at around \$104 NZ including GST but the bookseller may charge more or less than this ... If the reviewer is questioning the absolute price of £25 and whether or not the book is worth it, that is another matter. However, the economics of academic publishing in the UK particularly do mean that this is the economic price for such a publication. It is a fact, unfortunately, that many worthy academic books would never be published if it were not for non-profitmaking university presses. Dwindling library and institutional funds mean lower print-runs, lower print-runs mean higher unit costs. It is almost impossible to break out of the price/print-run spiral given that paper/printing costs keep rising and that there is a finite institutional market to buy such publications ... Booksellers in New Zealand and Australia have long accepted the fact that the tyranny of distance imposes high freight charges; the relative strength of the pound at the moment is a further complication."