

## ARCHAEOLOGY IN NEW ZEALAND



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### NOTES AND NEWS

### Conference, Wellington, 2-4 June 1990

The 1990 Conference was held in Wellington over the Queen's Birthday Weekend. The Conference was organised by the Archaeology Section of the Wellington Branch of the Royal Society of New Zealand and was held at the Royal Society's Science Centre in Thorndon. The conference was well attended, with nearly ninety people registering.

The first paper was given by Bruce Hayward and concerned the prehistoric archaeology of some northern offshore islands. This was followed by Geoff Irwin on "Recent fieldwork on Ponui Is" and Sue Bulmer on "Concentric settlement on the volcanic cones of Tamaaki Makaurau and their relationship to the ancestral settlement patterns in Polynesia".

After morning tea Doug Sutton discussed "Pouerua and the origins of Nga Puhi" and Kevin Jones dealt with "The emergence of Rongowhakaata from prehistory". Brian Allingham described his excavations at Tumbledown Bay, on Banks Peninsula and Mark Allen followed with some results of his recent fieldwork in Hawkes Bay.

After lunch Ian Smith gave the first of nine papers on historical archaeology. His subject was "Historical Archaeology - retrospect and prospect". Rob Brassey & Sarah McCready gave details of the history of the Victoria Hotel (1841-65) in Auckland and discussed the results of their excavation. I then briefly reviewed Wellington's fortifications of the 1880s to the 1940s.

The final session began with a paper by Pam Chester on the archaeological palynology of Mana Island. Two papers dealing with 1886 Tarawera eruption followed: Neville Ritchie on "Changing landscapes - Tarawera before and after the eruption", and Alexy Simmons on "Excavations at the Buried Village, U16/108".

The public lecture on "Two Worlds - the first meetings of Maori and Pakeha" was given by Dr Anne Salmond, CBE, Associate Professor of Anthropology, University of Auckland, to a capacity audience. Dr Salmond spoke on the work undertaken during her tenure of the Captain James Cook Research Fellow with the Royal Society of New Zealand. Later in the evening members enjoyed the conference dinner and an after dinner talk by Dr James Belich.

Sunday began with a session on "Changes in legislation affecting archaeological site protection". This was organised

by Kevin Jones and included contributions by Kevin, Harry Allen, John Coster, John Daniels, and Wayne Devine.

After morning tea Bruce McFadgen spoke on "Radiocarbon dates from the Coromandel", Ray Hooker on "Recent work in Jackson Bay", and Michelle Horwood and Reg Nichol on "Excavations on Mana Island".

The afternoon was taken up with a field trip to the Pauatahanui Inlet and Porirua Museum. This included visits to Rangihaeata's pa at Pautahanui (now the site of St Albans Church) and the Paremata moahunter site and barracks.

The evening the Institute of New Zealand Archaeologists held their AGM and this was followed by the Association's AGM.

Monday's programme began with a paper by Roger Green on the biological origin of the Polynesians and other speakers of Oceanic Austronesian languages. This was followed by Caradoc Peters on landscape change and human settlement on Rarotonga, Southern Cook Islands, in the last 5000 years, Prof. R.P. Soejono on "Developments in Indonesian prehistory", and Chris Jacomb on "Hafting polish on adzes".

After morning tea the conference returned to historical archaeological topics with Rod Clough on "The copper industry on Kawau Island", Bev McCulloch on "Pegasus House excavations", and Debbie Foster on "Pegasus House material culture". Mary O'Keeffe gave the final paper. It was entitled "Native gardens to Noah's Ark: the changing face of Wellington" and dealt with early survey plans.

#### Annual Conference 1991

The 1991 conference will be held in Invercargill. The venue is the Southland Museum and Art Gallery. The conference will run from Monday to Friday, 6 to 10 May. The programme is now open for offers of papers. There is no restriction on topics but the maximum time limit is 25 minutes. Two field trips are planned - one to the prehistoric quarry of Colyers Island, the other to be notified later. For submission of papers and further details, please contact Karl Gillies, Southland Museum and Art Gallery, P.O. Box 1012, Invercargill.

#### Council 1990-91

The Association's Council for 1990-91 is:

President: Vice-President: Louise Furey (Auckland) Ray Hooker (Hokitika) Secretary: Treasurer: Council: Moira White (Dunedin)
Rick McGovern-Wilson (Dunedin)
Brian Allingham (Dunedin)
Rod Clough (Auckland)
Chris Jacomb (Christchurch)
Ian Smith (Dunedin)

The Immediate Past President is Neville Ritchie (Hamilton).

President's Report presented to the A.G.M., Wellington, 3 June 1990.

Before writing the President's report this year I looked over the address I gave two years ago at the A.G.M. in Auckland at the outset of my presidency. I flagged a number of issues then which I believe should be of concern to the Association's membership.

I don't believe the lot of the Association or archaeology in general in this country has markedly improved in the intervening two years, although it has not been for lack of effort by the Council and the many members of the Association who have actively responded to the issues of the moment, and the day to day task of running the Association's affairs.

With government funding cuts, continuing changes in government departments, local body amalgamation, on-going DoC restructuring, N.Z.H.P.T. restructuring, and considerable uncertainty still with regard to the final form of the revised Historic Places, Antiquities, and Resource Management legislation, it has to some extent been a case of 'wait and see', then reassess the situation, and proceed from there. This, of course, particularly applies to the legislative changes. We have made submissions and have to hope that both Council's and individual members' submissions have had some constructive influence on the final products.

With regard to the Historic Places legislation, if the blanket protection provision is scrapped, as seems likely judging from the Coad Committee's recommendations, we are likely to end up with significantly weaker and more time consuming site protection legislation than exists at present.

Similarly, some of the trends apparent in the Antiquities Act review are a matter of concern. Janet Davidson, Tony Walton and myself (representing archaeological interests) have attended three meetings in Wellington at the invitation of Internal Affairs to discuss their proposals for the new Portable Cultural Property Bill. While there is general agreement on the procedures for controlling the removal of items from N.Z., we were presented with a number of virtually 'non-negotiable givens' with regard to the proposed procedures

for determining ownership of Maori artefacts (taonga tukuiho). Internal Affairs has adopted a policy that this and other matters are exclusively Maori business, and it seems that the opinions of the rest of the nation's population count for little. If present thinking is adopted, both archaeologists and iwi personnel will be confronted with very time consuming procedures before and after excavations, and for documenting casual finds. However, its not over yet, neither Bill may go through Parliament before the election, and there will be another opportunity for comment at the Select Committee hearings. I think it is vital that the Association is represented at the Select Committee hearings on both bills.

John Coster, Ray Hooker, Rick McGovern-Wilson, & Poma Palmer have analysed the Resource Management Law Reform Bill and made submissions on the Association's behalf. Recently John attended a Select Committee hearing in Auckland. As most of the membership is probably aware the R.M.L.R. bill is a major piece of legislation aimed at rationalising the control and management of a wide range of resources in New Zealand. Our beef is that mention of historic resources has been deliberately excluded in all sections of the draft bill, and there appears to be no clear interactive link with the proposed Historic places legislation.

On the public archaeology front, perhaps the area where the Association can or should have some influence, there have been some welcome additions to the network of public archaeologists in the regions as a result of DoC's latest restructuring which has given the Regional Conservator's the right to appoint the staff they consider they need to achieve the Department's objectives. As a result there are (or DoC has approved the employment of) three fulltime archaeologists in Whangarei, c.8 in Auckland (5 in cost recovery), 1 in Waikato, 1 in Rotorua, 1 in Nelson, and 1 in Hokitika, as well as maintaining the core of four in Wellington (which includes Kevin Jones successor). Kevin has transferred into a new DoC Science Policy Unit so may be in a position to influence some changes. An appointment is pending in Gisborne and I understand Gill Hamel has been offered a fulltime position with DoC in Otago but has turned it down in favour of contracting to them. So things are looking up; there are now public archaeologists in places where they should have been years ago, but there are still some obvious gaps in the network.

Another area where the Association has some influence is via its nominee on the Historic Places Trust Board, presently Dr H. Allen. The position is unusual in that the nominee does not directly represent the Association's views or lobby on the Association's behalf and at times is unaware of the Association's stance on particular matters. At Harry's initiative, I have recently had some discussions with him on

the latter matter, and it is something the new Council will have to address especially in light of the pending restructuring of the Trust, and its probable greater independence from DoC. These changes may result in the Trust employing one or more of its own archaeologists.

The site recording scheme remains one of the Association's main endeavours and continues to grow albeit more slowly than in the past. I will address file-related matters in my File Co-ordinator's report.

This past year the Council has had several discussions on where the Association's going and how best to proceed from here, with a view to developing 'a course of action' or strategy for the 90s. The immediate outcome of these deliberations will be a questionnaire which will be distributed to all members shortly. The objects of the exercise are to obtain a more objective measure of the composition, interests, and skills of our membership, to gain insights as to how members would like to see the Association develop, how we should go about achieving those ends, and what services, publications etc members would like to see the Association maintain or provide. For example, are the Association's objectives as stated inside the Newsletter cover still relevant (I for one think they need to be revamped). I urge you all to complete the questionnaire and return it to Council by the nominated date. It may have a considerable influence on the Association's activities in future.

One item in the questionnaire concerns the Association's public profile. As the only organisation representing all archaeological groups in New Zealand should we be taking a more politically active role in lobbying government, local authorities, big businesses etc for more resources or emphasis on site recording, assessment, management, conservation, research, advocacy, or interpretation of archaeological sites? In 1988 only 4% of DoC's total budget was spent on historic resource management. I doubt if the percentage is much different now despite the new appointments. Admittedly in the past two years it has been difficult to lobby for more archaeological resources in a time of retrenchment and cost cutting in government expenditure but that should not prevent the Association from assessing the situation and planning to improve it.

The Association's media profile and its use of the media (to achieve archaeological goals) are other aspects which need to be reviewed. Should we develop a more politically active stance (like most of the other conservation organisations) who regularly cajole government and government departments to achieve the ends they want? (and with remarkable success). The idea needs to be worked through further and we welcome comments

on this matter when you return the questionnaire. Obviously media spokespersons for the Association would have to be free to criticise government policies as they pertain to archaeological resource management without fear of retribution (that counts out the DoC archaeologists for a start).

Finally I have enjoyed my term as President of the Association (although I didn't achieve all I had hoped to). I would like to thank all the members of the outgoing Council for their efforts and camaraderie, and all those who have served the Association in some formal capacity- especially the editors, the business and sales managers, those involved in the legislative reviews, and those who keep the site recording scheme going. I wish the new Council every success. There are some big challenges ahead for us as an organisation in the 1990s. We can choose to cruise along or tackle them head on.

#### Neville A Ritchie

Treasurer's Report for the 1989 Financial Year presented to the A.G.M., Wellington, 3 June 1990.

In spite of a very successful year in 1988, the momentum was unable to be sustained and, as a result, 1989 was a quiet year for the Association and saw the accumulated funds drop by approximately \$1500. Members need not be alarmed by this figure as we are still doing very well for an organisation that is essentially non-profit making.

Most of the drop in funds occurred in the General Account, which is the account used for the day to day running of the Association. Income from Search Fees seems to have dropped away, perhaps as a result of the down-turn in the financial market where mining is no longer as profitable as it once was. The return on the 1988 Conference was a one-off high which we can not hope to realise every year. Across the board expenditure has seen a substantial increase, due to increasing costs associated with the Newsletter, and returns to Filekeepers. On a promising note, however, last year the General Account registered for GST and the effect of this will flow on into following years. As a note of interest, the return for the last 6 months was \$820 to NZAA.

Both the Publications and Journal Accounts had markedly lower incomes for 1989 because neither released a publication. Monograph 17 was published at the beginning of this year, and it is likely that Monograph 18 will be ready for publication later this year. The Publications Manager continues to sell a steady number of back-issues of both monographs and Newsletters, and there is a large balance of stock.

The Journal Account continued to strengthen its operation with the purchase of an optical scanner to be used in conjunction with the computer for the production of the Journal. This allows line drawings and typed manuscripts to be fed into the computer so making it easier to compile papers. This brings the Association's assets in computer orientated hardware to \$11,500.

As a concluding note, the members will note I have asked for an increase in subscriptions so that we can meet the increased cost of running the Association through our membership. While every effort is made to keep expenditure at a minimum there comes a time when we have to have an increase.

Rick McGovern-Wilson

### Filekeepers' Conference

A Filekeepers' Conference was held in Wellington on 4-5 June and a range of issues related to the Site Recording Scheme were discussed. The role of filekeepers and their relationship to DoC and NZHPT was one matter of concern. Another was the potential proliferation of inventories as other organisations set up databases to service their own special needs. It was thought that the proliferation of such inventories would adversely affect the Site Recording Scheme and site protection programmes.

More mundane problems also received attention. The problem of recorders reserving numbers for their own use and then failing to supply the promised Site Record Forms is a perennial one. Suggestions for dealing with the problem include refusing large blocks of numbers to people in high risk categories (particularly postgraduate students), imposing a strict time limit for the completion of the records, publishing the names of the defaulters, formally repudiating site numbers used in theses or publications where the promised Site Record Forms have not been supplied, and so on.

# Recent reports and publications

Coates, J. 1990. <u>Soil phosphate analysis as an indicator of archaeological deposits</u>. Department of Conservation Science and Research Internal Report 69. 26p.

A pilot study using soil phosphate analysis as a means of identifying the presence of subsurface archaeological deposits. Project undertaken at the Cryers Road site (R11/1519) and results tested by excavation and machine stripping.

Gumbley, W. 1990. Report on archaeological site survey of the Foveaux Strait coast, Toetoes' Harbour to Waikawa Harbour. 6p.

Survey covered some 50 km of coast and numbers of sites, mostly midden, were recorded or re-recorded.

Jeal, M. and M. Jeal 1990. An archaeological survey of Portland Island - Waikawa. Report to N.Z. Historic Places Trust. 24p.

Survey of Portland Island. Fourteen sites, mostly midden, being recorded. Nine sites on Mahia peninsula revisited. This completes survey work begun in 1982, and continued in 1984 and 1986.

Watt, J. 1989. <u>Kaipipi Shipyard and the Ross Sea Whalers</u>. Privately published. 272p.

Between 1923 and 1933 the Ross Sea Whaling Company of Sandefjord, Norway, made nine expeditions to the Ross Sea, using an overwintering and repair base located in Paterson Inlet, Stewart Island. The book is available from Jim Watt, 41 Chambers Street, Havelock North at a cost of \$52.50 (includes GST, packing, and posting).

## Interpretation of archaeological sites, Whangarei City

A restart project in Whangarei has resulted in a number of sites being interpreted for the benefit of visitors. The work was carried out by G. Nevin over a twelve month period beginning in June 1989. Three Restart labourers were employed to assist with the work.

Seven sites were identified as part of the project: Parahaki pa complex (N20/101), Craft Trust pa (N20/379), Kauika pa complex (N20/98, 120), Hurupaki pa (N20/5), Maunu reserve pa (N20/343), Ruarangi pa (N20/41) and the Whau Valley coalmines (N20/366). The first three were particularly suitable for public presentation, being in bush covered scenic reserves close to the city. The proposed Whau Valley project was replaced by work on Limestone Island to be used in the management plan.

Plans at a scale of 1:250 and with 1 m contours were produced. These plans, together with historical research, formed the basis for public presentation. The project was undertaken with the approval of N.Z. Historic Places Trust and the Whangarei Maori Elders Executive Committee.

N20/101 is a 2 km long bush covered site and, on completion of the survey, a small area was chosen for public presentation. It highlights domestic use of pa, showing house floors with stone hearths. The area is a 15 minute walk from the summit where directional signs point the way. An extension to the existing track was cut forming a loop and a interpretive signboard erected. Wooden steps were built over features to aid access. The first public tour of Parahaki, organised by the YMCA, took place in May. At N20/379 a track was formed through the bush, steps constructed, and streams bridged. Directional signs were installed and a signboard was erected on the site itself. Pamphlets were sent to schools and local interest groups.

Pamphlets encouraging use of the walks are available at the Whangarei Visitors Bureau and the Northland Craft Trust. The Whangarei Public Library occasionally displays a poster.

The work has been documented in two reports:

- Nevin, G. 1990. Te Pa O Parihaka (N20/101) archaeological survey and interpretation. Whangarei District Council.
- ---- 1990. Contour survey of six archaeological sites in Whangarei City. Whangarei District Council.

These reports are available from Whangarei District Council (Private Bag, Whangarei) at \$15.50 and \$11.50 respectively.

# Archaeology in Israel

A listing of archaeological investigations in Israel accepting volunteers is maintained by the Israel Antiquities Authority. General enquiries may be made to Harriet Menahem, Israel Antiquities Authority, P.O.Box 586, 91 004 Jerusalem, Israel.

### Follow-up

Ron Scarlett reports that the sealers' song mentioned by the St Clairs in their account of the structure on Taumaka Island (in the last issue) is on page 5 of New Zealand Folk Songs by Neil Colquhoun. He notes that archaeologists often sang it around the camp fires at night in the days when fieldwork generally meant camping out.

### Obituary: Robert G.W. Jolly, 1906-1990

Robert Jolly (universally known as Bob), a long standing member of the Association, died at Papakura in June.

Bob was born in London and came to New Zealand with his family when he was seven years old. After a brief initial spell in Ponsonby, the family moved to Takapuna, where Bob attended Takapuna Primary School. Although he completed Matriculation he did not win a Junior Free Place for further schooling, and his parents therefore insisted that he join them on the small dairy farm at Karaka, South Auckland, to which they had moved six months before Bob finished school. For more than 30 years, beginning in 1919, Bob was a dairy farmer. never lost the habit of early rising, as those who dug with him are well aware. He married his wife Beryl in 1938, and their children, Margaret and David, spent their early years on the farm. However, Bob never really enjoyed farming and in the early 1950s he became an agent for the Government Life Office, covering a wide area of south Auckland. When this new way of life proved successful the family moved to Papakura, where Beryl became the local agent for what was then the State Fire Office.

Bob had developed an early interest in Maori artefacts and culture, and particularly in the craftmanship and technical skills of the pre-European Maori. During his travels as an insurance salesman in rural areas, he often found this interest a useful talking point, and accumulated a great fund of knowledge about sites and private collections on the farms he visited. It was while he was on the job that he picked up a hitch hiker who told him that a meeting was shortly to be held in Auckland with a view to forming an association of people interested in archaeology. Bob went to the meeting, met Jack Golson, joined the Association, and thus began an involvement with archaeology that lasted until his death. The Association introduced him to a wide range of people, both those he considered academic types, and the more down to earth sorts, such as Pat Murdock, farmer and collector from Hikutaia near Thames, who became a firm friend. Bob had a great respect for what he considered proper behaviour and was concerned by what he called the antics of the more bohemian members of the archaeological community. Nonetheless, he enjoyed his association with them.

Bob took part in Jack Golson's excavations at Sarah's Gully, and this stimulated his great interest in the archaeology of the Coromandel Peninsula, especially the Archaic beach middens. Beryl had acquired a bach at Whangamata, which served as a base both for family holidays and for archaeological expeditions. Bob was one of the first to buy a section from Skipper Chapman at Opito, on which he erected his



Bob Jolly and Bert Costar (farmer) with ko from drain - Waikato. 30 September 1982.

"whare", and for a while he and Beryl also had a bach at nearby Otama. Many archaeologists, both from New Zealand and overseas, enjoyed the hospitality of the Jollys at one or more of these places.

Bob was also very generous with his time and his car, taking people to visit or look for sites. He escorted Roger Green on his early survey of beach middens on the Coromandel and took part in the search for a suitable site for Jack Golson's last excavation in New Zealand.

During the 1960s, particularly, Bob carried out his own excavations at Opito, Whitipirorua (now Onemana), Wheritoa and Whangamata. However, he was well aware of his own shortcomings as an archaeologist, and he constantly tried to involve senior students, university lecturers or museum staff in his projects, to ensure they were "done properly". Thus Jack Golson, Roger Green, Wilfred Shawcross, Eleanor Crosby, Molly Nichols, Elizabeth Shaw, Garry Law and myself were at one time or another drawn into Bob's projects. He was deeply concerned by the destruction of sites, and if he sometimes failed to appreciate that archaeologists have more to do than simply rushing off for the weekend to rescue artefacts, we also failed to perceive the full extent of the threat to important sites that he recognised, particularly on the Coromandel Peninsula, during the 1960s.

Bob's great contribution to New Zealand archaeology was his ability to recognise and draw to the attention of the "professionals" a wide variety of important sites, not only the Archaic beach middens that were his great love. His numerous contacts with farmers through his work, and with a variety of other people through his long involvement in the Papakura Rotary Club, put him in a unique position to learn about sites, artefacts, and threats. It was Bob who got to know the Brambley family and their amazing collection from the Matatuahu Site near the Manukau South Head, and persuaded Jack Golson and Wal Ambrose to carry out a rescue dig there. It was Bob who discovered the existence and significance of the Tahanga Quarry after none of the other archaeologists had bothered to check out the vague local stories about it during several seasons at Sarah's Gully and Opito. It was during a yachting trip arranged by Bob that Wilfred Shawcross and John Terrell discovered the Galatea Bay site on Ponui Island. It was Bob, through his friendship with Geoff Dreadon, who first interested archaeologists in the stone fields around McLaughlins Mountain, although he was disappointed at the direction the investigations took. In the days when there was no legislative protection of sites, it was Bob who arranged for me to carry out a site survey of the land to be affected by the newly established Steel Mill at Glenbrook.

When Bob retired from the Government Life Office he and Beryl took a world trip. Although Bob was initially reluctant to go, he enjoyed it greatly. Through his contacts with American archaeologists such as Robert Bell and Stuart Scott who had visited New Zealand he was able to see sites and collections in North America, but he also managed to talk his way behind the scenes at the Museum fur Volkerkunde in Vienna with no appointment or letter of introduction, and this was one of the high points of his trip.

Bob gave the bulk of his archaeological collection to the Auckland Museum during the late 1960s and 1970s, retaining only a relatively small selection of special pieces, which he bequeathed to the Museum. Among his most significant finds were the Archaic adze cache from Wheritoa, and a cache of "baroque" fishhook points from Opito. The adzes went to the Museum long ago, but the fishhooks reposed for some years in a bank vault. He always refused to tell exactly where he had found them, insisting, however, that it was not a site as such and a most unlikely place for such a find. I implored him to ensure that the spot was recorded, and was touched but not unduly surprised to find that with them, when they came to the Museum after his death, was a precise description of the find spot, complete with photographs. In this as in other matters he wanted to do things properly.

Janet Davidson