



NEW ZEALAND
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NOTES AND NEWSConferences

Annual Conference, Wellington, 1990. The 1990 Conference will be held at Science Centre, Turnbull Street, Wellington over Queen's Birthday Weekend, 2-4 July. People wishing to offer papers should contact: NZAA 1990, C/- P.O. Box 3085, Wellington. The Conference's public lecture will be given by Dr Anne Salmond.

Australian Society of Historical Archaeology Conference. The annual conference of the Australian Society for Historical Archaeology will be held in Auckland on 28-30 September 1990. The convenor is Dr Neville Ritchie, Regional Archaeologist, Department of Conservation, Private Bag, Hamilton (Phone (071) 383-363). Papers will be accepted on any aspect of historic and industrial archaeology but priority will be given to papers presenting the results of archaeological research, and papers highlighting early trade and other links between Australia and New Zealand.

Fourth Australian Archaeometry Conference. The Fourth Australian Archaeometry Conference will be held at the Australian National University, Canberra, 11-14 February 1991. The programme will be aimed at highlighting recent developments in Australia and overseas which are opening new approaches to prehistory and palaeosciences. Conference topics will include applications to archaeology of: biological techniques and microscopic remains, DNA studies, chronology, provenance studies, materials analysis, computer applications and authenticity studies. The committee organising the Conference would be pleased to accept suggestions, papers, or indications of interest as soon as possible. The address is: Archaeometry Conference, Prehistory Department, RSPacS, Australian National University, GPO Box 4, Canberra ACT 2601.

Current fieldwork

Alexy Simmons carried out excavations at the Buried Village (Te Wairoa site, U16/108) during January 1990. The investigation centred on the former Rotomahana Hotel site and a whare of similar antiquity (c.1865-1886). Both structures were buried under volcanic ash during the Tarawera eruption (June 1886) and abandoned. A paper on the results of the excavation will be presented at the NZAA 1990 conference. Neville Ritchie and Alexy Simmons are currently undertaking a site mapping and survey project of the structures of the former settlement of Te Wairoa and also those of a small adjacent settlement, Te Mu.

In Wellington Pam Chester has been excavating behind the mid-19th century Nairn Street Cottage. The investigation aims to locate a privy which shows in a turn of the century photo, and check for a domestic rubbish dump. Michelle Horwood has spent three weeks during February investigating a midden on Mana Island.

A team from Canterbury Museum spent 5 days in January investigating the Huirapa gateway of Kaiapohia pa (S76/2).

Finally, as *patu onewa* are notoriously hard to find in archaeological sites it is appropriate to note here a report by Peter Gathercole documenting the discovery of one in an excavation in 1978. It was found in a dumped layer of material, deposited in the late 19th century or later, at Southwark in London (London Archaeologist (1989) 6:70-1).

People undertaking fieldwork are invited to provide a paragraph briefly describing their work for Notes and News.

Review of Antiquities Act 1975

The Department of Internal Affairs has released an issues paper on proposed new legislation ("Protection of Movable Cultural Properties Bill") to replace the Antiquities Act 1975. The impact of the Department's proposals on the work of archaeologists is difficult to determine as the issues paper does not address any of the matters one could reasonably expect it to. A very short time was allowed for preparing submissions.

Recent publication

The Association's most recent monograph Saying So Don't Make It So is available to members at a special price of \$20.00 plus packing and postage. For details see back cover.

Follow Up

Ngati Paoa are understood to have challenged the decision of Minister of Conservation to allow modification of a site in the Mt. Wellington-Otahuhu area (reported last issue) and to have forced a re-consideration of the case.

The Department of Conservation, as reported last issue, is hoping to move towards conservancy based servicing of its historic resources responsibilities. Recent developments include the appointment of an archaeologist (Steve Bagley) in the Nelson Conservancy, advertisement of a similar position for the Bay of Plenty, with an East Coast position to follow.